



The Informer

December 2025

St. John's Lutheran Church

Volume 69 Issue 12



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From Pastor's Pen:

The Church Year

Did you ever wonder why the Pastor reads the three readings he reads from the Bible. Where do those readings come from? They come from the hymnal, and you can access them at lcms.org, which is what I do on Tuesday morning to see what we're going to be talking about on Sunday. It used to be that you heard the same three readings on Sunday morning each and every year. The first reading was from the Old Testament, the second from an Epistle, and the third from one of the Gospels. You can see that one-year lectionary on page xx - xxi of Lutheran Service Book. Most churches, including most LCMS congregations, including our church, now use the three- year lectionary. The Old Testament, Epistle, and Gospel reading repeat only every three years. You can see those readings on page xiv xix in LSB. We have designated the readings for those three years as Series A, B, and C respectively. Even as we speak, we are coming to the end of a Series C year, and about to begin again with Series A. It's all the Word of God, and in preaching I focus on the Gospel reading; the actual words and acts of Jesus, and He's an interesting guy. In fact, in a way sometimes very obvious and at other times almost obscure, the Old Testament and Epistle readings generally are chosen based on the Gospel reading. There are exceptions to that general rule; not long ago we spent several Sundays in a row with Epistle readings from the Pastoral Epistles, and sometimes the Epistles will spend several weeks in a row in one book. You may have noticed that during our concluding Year C, Luke has been almost exclusively our Gospel reading, with a bit of John here and there. During the coming Year A, we will be hearing a lot from Matthew, with a bit from John, and that leaves Mark for Year B, with a bit...The hymnal also appoints readings for Feasts and Festival and Occasions (xxii - xxiii), including Saints' days. The lectionary is a great gift to our Church. Not all churches - most churches don't use regularly appointed readings from the Bible. The preacher reads what he wants to read from the Bible and preaches what he wants to preach and after not too long it all starts to sound the same. Our LCMS churches are reading the same readings, and our Pastors base their preaching on those readings. The Bible is all the Word of God, and I could stand up in the pulpit on Sunday morning and read from Chronicles and say that I've done my job of preaching the Word of God. And since we are Lutherans, I would probably throw in something about the cross and maybe take a few minutes to explain the Absolution. But I actually choose to preach on the Gospel reading every Sunday. I used to watch and listen to sports talk shows. On Friday, they talk about the upcoming games. The Old Testament is like that; they speak of the Christ Who is coming. On Monday, they talk about the results of the games. The Epistles are like that; they speak of the Christ Who has come. The Gospels are the game, and we have a front-row seat to see the works and to listen to the words of the Christ. And Jesus is a very interesting person.

In Christian Service,
Pastor Anderson

Notes from the Balcony

A Christmas hymn challenge: see if you can match the hymn name on the left with the hymn stanza that speaks of Christ's work as our Savior. Answers on page 4.

1. "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your sad and bitter cry; He will Himself your Savior be From all your sins to set you free.	A. All My Heart Again Rejoices
2. This flow'r, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air, Dispels with glorious splendor The darkness everywhere True man yet very God, From sin and death He saves us And lightens every load.	B. O Little Town of Bethlehem
3. See the Lamb, our sin once taking To the cross, Suff'ring loss Full atonement making For our life His own He tenders, And His grace All our race Fit for glory renders.	C. O Sing of Christ
4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!	D. Silent Night, Holy Night
5. What Adam lost, none could reclaim; And Paradise was barred Until the second Adam came To mend what sin had marred. For when the time was full and right God sent His only Son; He came to us as life and light And our redemption won.	E. Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
6. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light Radiant beams from Thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.	F. From Heaven Above to Earth I Come



Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!
Christine Engebrecht

Serving the Lord this Month

Ushers

Sat, Dec 6: Greg Burke, Todd Miller, Rick Newlon, & Larry Ripka
Sun, Dec 7: Brian Nielsen & The Strike Team
Sat, Dec 13: Greg Burke, Todd Miller, Rick Newlon, & Larry Ripka
Sun, Dec 14: Brian Nielsen & The Strike Team
Sat, Dec 20: Greg Burke, Todd Miller, Rick Newlon, & Larry Ripka
Sun, Dec 21: Brian Nielsen and youths
Christmas Eve: Brian Nielsen
Christmas: Brian Nielsen
Sat, Dec 27: Greg Burke, Todd Miller, Rick Newlon, & Larry Ripka
Sun, Dec 28: Brian Nielsen & The Strike Team

Communion Assistants

Dec 7: Kevin McAnally & Jonathan Schmidt
Dec 21: Kevin McAnally & Glen McMillin
Dec 24: Jim Homann & Brian Kern
Dec 25: Jim Homann
Dec. 31: Ralph Grotelueschen

Acolytes

Sun, Dec 7: Briella Churchill
Sun, Dec 14: Nathan Duffy
Sun, Dec 21: Nolan Johnson
Christmas Eve Candlelight: Henry Schmidt
Christmas Day:
Sun, Dec 28: Henry Schmidt

Greeters

Sat, Dec 6:
Sun, Dec 7: Churchill Family
Sat, Dec 13: Kathy McDowell
Sun, Dec 14:
Sat, Dec 20:
Sun, Dec 21:
Sat, Dec 27:
Sun, Dec 28:



Altar Guild

Dec. 6 & 7: Dawn Antolik
Dec 13 & 14: Diana Lackey & Marsha Boarts
Dec. 20 & 21: Flo Moore & Margie Schaefer
Dec 24: Flo Moore & Margie Schaefer
Dec 25: Marsha Boarts
Dec 27 & 28: Kathy Ahrens and Rebecca Hinman
Dec. 31: Kathy Ahrens and Rebecca Hinman

Eternal Candle

Dec 7: Larry & Sharon Ripka
Dec 14: Karen Schmidt
Dec 21: In honor of Parker Myers' baptismal birthday
Dec 28: In honor of Owen's 19th birthday



Flowers

Dec 7: Karen Schmidt
Dec 14: Mary Whipple, in memory of David Whipple
Dec 21: OPEN
Dec 28: Tim & Tamee Stone



Church News

Birthdays

3-Janet Hill & Elliott Stone	14- Theresa Bailey & Carlee Budny	26-Dennis Kelly & Wendy Rossmiller
4-Beverly Brokaw & Jared Sountris	15-Brian Kern & Michael Pierce	28-Owen Braddy & Ken Weidenbach
5- Kayley Bowman & Amanda Taets-Overtton	17-Shirley Gillies, Emme Palar & Suzannah Weber	30-Jackie Keogh
6-Susanne Soyke & Jaydin Medina	19- Wanda Cass	31-Brenda Roggendorf
8- Craig Johanson	20-Louis Hill	
9- Jonah Busch	21- Holly Belan, James Hanerhoff	
11-Hailee Fischer, Lisa Foehrkolb & Johnny Kjera	22-Brian Newlon & Alice Schmidt	
12- Cindy Hart & Cindy Kirklin	24- Kay Iwen, Scott Park, & Candace Sountris	
13- Nic Fellows	25-Carole Vrbn	



Weekly Attendance

<u>DATE</u>	<u>THIS YEAR</u>	<u>LAST YEAR</u>
10/26	133	147
11/2	150	161
11/9	90	130
11/16	128	154
11/23	145	117

Average Attendance of St. John's Members: 27%

Membership Report

Baptism:

Lillian Jo Conduff (11/26/25)

Answers to Notes from the Balcony:

1. F, 2. E, 3. A, 4. B, 5. C, 6. D

Thank You

The Board of Trustees would like to thank the following people for keeping the church's lawn cut: George Fellows, Jim Moews, Ron Whipple, Rod Hopkins, Todd Miller, Ken Weidenbach, Brian Rossmiller, Kevin Rossmiller, Ken & Janet Hill, Ron & Jonah Wilson, Brent & Zack Antolik, Greg Hart, Nick Kjera, Alan & Kathy Ahrens, Bill Girard, Tim Stone, Dave Cashion, Rick Newlon, Evan Antolik, Norm Antolik, and Larry Hipple.

Board Meetings

Reminder:

- ALL boards meet on Thursday, December 4th at 6:30pm.
- Parish planning meets on December 11th at 6:30pm
- and there is a Voter's meeting on Sunday, December 14th: regular agenda starts at 1:30pm and a special Call Meeting will follow at approximately 2:00pm.

Church News

How about sending a Christmas card to our homebound members?

Nancy Bonow 1020 38th St. Moline, IL 61265	Ingrid Hodshire 4343 Kennedy Drive 4102 Bed 2 E. Moline, IL 61244	Ann Bowman 1455 Hospital Rd. #181 Silvis, IL 61282	Carole Hodshire 1455 Hospital Rd. #137 Silvis, IL 61282
Barbara Veskauf 4610 9th St. E. Moline, IL 61244	Mary Ann Eckert 1455 Hospital Rd. #6 Silvis, IL 61282	The Fischer Family 24690 E. 1680 th St. Geneseo, IL 61254	Mary McGee PO Box 133 Rapids city, IL 61278
Chris Higgins 4055 25th Ave Rock Island, IL 61201	Lori Hopkins 325 2nd St. Apt. 705 Silvis, IL 61282	Rick & Sylvia Fauser 412 9th Ave Silvis, IL 61282	Peg Heitzman 1209 21st Ave. #B320 Rock Island, IL 61201
Nancy Smart 4046 9 ^{1/2} St. E. Moline, IL 61244	Darlene Dopson 2617 Maple Crest Rd #305 Bettendorf, IA 52722	Noreen Hopkins 39 Lilac Ct. Geneseo, IL 61254	Chuck & Bev Brokaw 2400 1st St. A Drive # 102 Moline, IL 61265
Barbara Honert 1900 10th St. # 340 Silvis, IL 61282	The Cass Family 4502 Elmore Ave. #111 Davenport, IA 52807	Terry Tipsword 424 13th Ave. A Silvis, IL 61282	<i>Temporary, following a car accident; they are without a vehicle until it's fixed</i>

How about a card for our former Vicar's...

(If there is a former Vicar you were particularly fond of, Annie would be happy to get you his current address)

Alex & Rachel Lange 3325 22nd Ave SE Albany, OR 97322	Mark & Rebecca Harriss 603 W. Illinois Steeleville, IL 62288	Joseph & Kate Warnke 7516 Watson Circle Long Grove, GA 30248	Ryan & Andie Anderson 410 Witter St. Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
Julian & Julia LaMie 28054 S Yates Ave Beecher, IL 60401	Chad & Magdalena Biar 1292 Tommy Trail Fallon, NV 89406	Michael Wilke 801 Seminary Place St. Louis, MO 63105	Jonathan & Molly Lackey 325 S. Black Branch Rd Cecilia, KY 42724
Kyle & Kayla Meollenhoff 801 Seminary Place St. Louis, MO 63105	Former Deaconess Intern Kimberly Bower 1135 Ash Street Broomfield, CO 80020		

Church News

LCMS BOWLING LEAGUE

LCMS Bowling League session 2 will be starting on December 1. There are 13 weeks (we take 2 weeks off at the end of December). We meet Mondays at Quad Cities Entertainment Center in Moline at 6:00pm. Practice bowling starts at 6:15pm, and the games begin at 6:30pm. Cost per week is \$13. Teams are made up of 3 people (men and women of all ages and abilities). Bring your own team, or we can find a team for you to join. Come join this fun league that LCMS members in the Quad Cities have been enjoying for over 50 years! If you want to learn more about how much fun we have on Monday nights see any of these St. John's bowlers: Dennis Boarts, Fred Bonow, Carrie or Aaron Homann, Judy Jennings, Brian Kern, Kevin or Kris McAnally, Aliza Murphy, Stacey Roman, and Tim Stone (as a regular sub).



2nd Friday Fellowship

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Friday, December 12, 6:30pm

Join us for fun Friday night sharing terrific treats, fun fellowship and some Christmas-themed games including Christmas Trivia, Christmas Pictionary, and Bingo. If you are able, bring a treat to share. Beverages will be provided.

Activities Room

For the month of December, the Dominos crew will only be meeting on Mondays at 1:30pm. All are welcome to come challenge them!

LWML

Join Us for Christmas Cheer. A time of fellowship and service. Brunch is served, a brief program is presented, and containers are filled with cookies for our shut-ins, local police and fire departments.

When: The fun begins on **Saturday, December 6th at 10:00 am**. There is a sign-up sheet on the sign-up counter. Please sign-up by December 1st so we will have plenty of food and seating.

Do I need to bring anything? First of all, a humble servant's heart; second, if it is possible, *please bring cookies to package*.

Poinsettias

It is time to order your Christmas poinsettias! The cost this year is \$10 per plant. We need 35 plants to fill our tree stand. You may take your poinsettias home with you after the Christmas morning service. There is a sign up sheet, envelopes, and a box at the sign-up station.



Church Decorating

Please join us on **Sunday, December 14th** after Bible study and Sunday school to beautify the Sanctuary for Christmas. Many hands make light work.

Church News

Christmas Caroling

We will be caroling to some of our homebound members on **Sunday, December 21st**. Please meet at church at 11:30am for a light lunch and then we will head out. Carpooling is available.

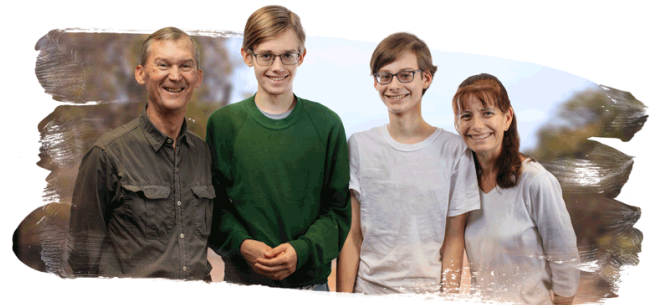
Fellowship Callers

If you would like to be a Fellowship Caller in 2026, please see Charlie Britton. It's very easy and very important. All you have to do is make a quick visit to guest worshippers to greet them and invite them back. Most of the time, you are only 'on duty' one weekend a month.

St. John's Mission Dollars at Work

At the December 2024 Voters Meeting the congregation voted to support several ministries. One of these ministries is through Lutheran Bible Translators who partner with local leaders to create translation programs for the many communities who do not have access to God's Word in their native language. Your prayers and financial gifts enable them to provide the resources, tools, and the support local leaders need to make the Word of God more accessible. Their website is <https://lbt.org>

Our mission dollars go to Rev. Dr. Tim and Lisa Beckendorf who have visited St. John's in the past. Tim and Lisa are professionally trained and equipped for cross-cultural and native Bible translation ministry.



Tim served as a volunteer missionary with the LCMS for one year in Slovakia, teaching English as a Foreign Language at the Lutheran High School of Tisovec. Lisa was born and grew up in Papua New Guinea, where her parents were missionaries. She returned to the States at age seventeen to attend college. She later served three years as a volunteer missionary in Slovakia, where she met Tim. They have two sons, Aaron and Andrew.

Tim was ordained at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Osmond, Nebraska in 2003. Since July 2005, Tim and Lisa have been working with Lutheran Bible Translators among the Khwe people of Botswana. This summer the Khwedam Bibles have been printed and arrived in Botswana and are awaiting dedication. The Beckendorfs live in Shakawe in northern Botswana. They have also been working with translators in Sierra Leone.

To learn more about their ministry and to receive their newsletter see their website <https://lbt.org/missionary/rev-dr-tim-lisa-beckendorf/>



Church News

2026 Flower Chart & Eternal Candle Instructions

If members wish to give **ALTAR FLOWERS** or **ETERNAL CANDLES** in 2026, please sign the charts located on the wall in the Narthex.

CHANCEL FLOWERS are ordered by the Altar Guild at the beginning of each month. Members are asked to write their NAME in the date they wish to give flowers and the OCCASION for giving the flowers. **Please make checks (\$25) payable to ALTAR GUILD in advance of the order and write the date you are giving the flowers.** Payment may be placed in the offering plate (*in an envelope clearly marked Altar Guild*) or in the Altar Guild mail box in the office. Members who wish to bring in their own flowers are asked to **please circle the date.** FRESH FLOWERS ONLY, PLEASE. If you wish to have flowers on a date that has already been filled, or if you are signing up for a date in the current month, please contact the church office. If you have questions please feel free to call the office (792-0755)

ETERNAL CANDLE Members are asked to write their NAME and the OCCASION in the date. **Please make checks (\$6) payable to ALTAR GUILD and write the date you are giving the eternal candle.** Payment may be placed in the offering box in the Narthex (*in an envelope clearly marked Altar Guild*) or in the Altar Guild mail box in the office.

Advent Schedule



Light suppers are served at 5:30pm. Worship follows at 6:30pm
Dec. 3rd– Served by the Merritt family and students from Quad Cities Christian School
Dec. 10th– Walking tacos served by the Executive Board and the Board of Elders
Dec. 17th–Breakfast for Dinner served by the Board of Youth and Family

Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve Candlelight with Communion—8:00pm;
beautiful preservice music begins at 7:30

Christmas Morning with Communion—9:00am



New Years Eve

Worship with Communion– 6:30pm

Church News

Food Pantry

As we prepare our final boxes for the record shattering 2025 year, we thank everyone in the congregation for their continued support of our mission to bring food to those in need in our community. Your donations, both monetary and of products, is such a blessing we can't say 'THANK YOU' enough! Our final donation request for this year, is items you would want to see at a Christmas dinner– anything you enjoy or prepare for your family, we would love to see!



Food Pantry Christmas Boxes

The Board of Human Care is now preparing to pack their annual Christmas boxes.

If you know of a family that would be blessed to receive a basket, please fill out the slip and

- Return to the office by: Sunday, December 14th at noon.
- Pick up will be on Monday, December 22nd from 10am-12noon.

CHRISTMAS BOX REQUEST

Name of member: _____

Name of nominated family: _____

Size of household: _____

Nominated family will pick up _____ Church member will deliver _____

(If the nominated family will be picking it up, please provide contact info so we know who is expected, and can contact them if needed)

Phone number for nominated family: _____

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION.

RETURN TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY Sunday, December 14th at noon.

LCMS News

“There’s an App for That!”

Whether you’re leading a meeting, teaching a class, or taking your own time to reflect on God’s Word, the Connected by LHM mobile app has everything you need. Short but deeply meaningful devotions are just seconds away for reading aloud with a group or listening and reflecting quietly on your own. Every devotion comes in both written and audio formats for ease of use and accessibility.

Even more, The Lutheran Hour® is also in the Connected app, accessible wherever you go for high-quality, engaging, biblical messages that will always help you embrace the Good News of the Gospel.



Coming up soon is Advent and Christmastide. The Connected app will feature all of our Advent Devotions in just one place. The Incarnation of God’s Son is one of the most deeply moving mysteries of our faith, and it reveals how great His love is for us. Our Advent Devotions will enrich your season with family, friends, parishioners, or on your own.

Get started reading or listening today by grabbing the Connected by LHM app on your Apple or Android device, putting everything you need to daily nurture your faith right at your fingertips.

Rev. Dr. Chad Lakies
VP, Ministry Engagement
Lutheran Hour Ministries

The Lutheran Hour®

The Lutheran Hour is a radio broadcasted sermon presented each week by Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Join him on Sunday mornings as he dives into sections of Scripture that tell the story of our Savior. Available where you listen to podcasts and on the Connected by LHM app.

Daily Devotions

Daily Devotions from LHM will help strengthen and encourage your faith as you do the same for others. Have them delivered right to your inbox, podcast the audio devotional, access them on your mobile device through the FREE app, or listen with Spotify, iHeartRadio, Alexa, or Google Home. Seasonal Devotions for Advent and Lent are also available in both English and Spanish.

Video-Based Bible Studies

More than 30 video-based Bible studies tackle relevant issues from a biblical perspective and are perfect for large or small group study. Each multi-session study is supported with a discussion guide and additional resource links. Some titles are also available with Spanish subtitles.

LHM Learn

Lutheran Hour Ministries offers equipping resources to help you reach out with the love and Good News of Jesus Christ in your everyday life. These online courses will cover five faith-strengthening categories and use an array of multimedia elements to help you gain a hearing for the Gospel message.

LCMS News

LCMS Foundation

Have you participated in any high school class reunions? Some classes are great at getting together. Other classmates have been thrown to the wind across the country, even the world, and rarely connect. Maybe you have someone from your class that shares old pictures on social media. It's fun to reminisce. But maybe in the midst of that remembering also comes a certain amount of regret, as you think about the wide-eyed enthusiasm you used to have about what you would accomplish in the future, and now it feels like you are just wrapping up.

For some, working on their estate plan may actually feel like giving up, as if most of the living is complete in life. But there is another way to think of it. A Christian estate plan is one of anticipation, as the Lord Jesus will lead us to the glory that He has prepared for us. St. Paul once said, "Nothing can compare to the glory that is about to be revealed in us." (Romans 8) An estate plan looks at physical things, and recognizes they have belonged to the Lord all along. And now we get to put a plan in place, in how our family will be blessed in inheritance and how we can support the work of God's Kingdom in the ministry of the Church. There is no end here, but bright prospects.

Sometimes we need a little help and encouragement to maintain that kind of positive perspective. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help. Contact Scott Radden @ 618-977-4049 or scott.radden@lfnd.org

God's Mission Here

Where is God's mission? God's mission is everywhere. Yes, it's far away. But it's also very near. As near as your congregation and school, your neighborhood, your family and friends, even as near as your home.

Wherever you are, God's mission is in that place. Through His mission, Christ is bringing forgiveness, life, and salvation to people everywhere. Even here. Right where you are. God's Mission Here. Learn more at lcms.org/nationalmission.



The God's Mission Here podcast spotlights the work that God is doing through His people, and this work is closer to home than you might expect. Listen as we chat with some very down-to-earth people who aren't afraid to get their hands dirty in God's mission field. Get inspired. Be encouraged. Get involved!

Provided by our podcasting partner, [KFUO Radio](#).

Listen on your favorite platform



FROM THE CID

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

"We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves" (1 Thess. 5:12-13).

Have you finished your Christmas shopping yet? Do you have a person or two on your list that you just don't know what to give them? While I know you are running short of ideas...dad doesn't really want another tie, and your kid's teacher doesn't need another coffee mug. It can be nothing short of maddening to try to figure things out in the middle of this busy season!

As stewards of all of life and life's resources, we know that life is more than giving gifts. We stewards never want to take anything the Lord provides for granted. During this season of Advent and Christmas, it is a great idea to do whatever you can to be a faithful steward of your pastor. Even more so than the rest of the year, the demands on their time, their presence and their stewardship of the Gospel in the congregation become heightened.

The demands on pastors can wear them down and wear them out. How does the steward in the congregation serve as a faithful steward of the treasure that is their pastor? Here are a few ideas:

Put them at the top of your prayer list. – Pray that the Lord guards them against the weariness that makes them susceptible to the work of the devil.

Make worship a priority – St. Paul admonishes the Thessalonians and us to respect those who labor among us. There is no greater way to steward your pastor than to respect him enough to show up and receive what he has been sent to offer in the proclamation of the Gospel and administration of the Holy Sacraments.

Be receptive to his work – If your pastor is tasked with calling you to repentance or encouraging you to be in worship, know that he is only caring for your soul.

Esteem him highly – Take the time to thank him for his faithful service to Christ, the congregation and your family.

Be at peace – This is an easy time for even minor annoyances to get blown out of proportion and become full-blown conflict. This not only spoils the season of Advent and Christmas, but it also spoils our stewardship of the Gospel and those who serve us in that Gospel. Remember that Jesus came into the world to be the Prince of Peace. This is an act of grace and mercy. The steward seeks to reflect this toward their pastor and their brothers and sisters in Christ.

Stewardship at Christmas can be a challenge. Stewardship of your pastor during this time of the year is critical to our shared stewardship of the Gospel at a time of year when many are more open to hear and receive it.

FROM THE CID

As the days grow shorter and the air turns colder, November brings with it a natural pause. The calendar year is winding down and so is the church year, which ends with a final, resounding reminder: Christ still rules over all. Psalm 95 gives us this invitation: "Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! God invites us to enter His presence with thanksgiving, not out of duty, but out of joy. Not because everything has gone right, but because God remains faithful. He is still the rock of your salvation. He still rules over all. So whether with a full heart or a weary one, come into His presence. He welcomes your song. He receives your thanks. And His grace and mercy endures, now and forever.

Pastor Patrick Gumz – Central IL District Missions

Current Dollar For Mission Project

Project: Replace original kitchen equipment in the sexton's apartment at Immanuel Lutheran Student Center, Macomb

Immanuel Lutheran Student Center in Macomb was dedicated in 1969, but some kitchen equipment in the apartment for the live-in student who takes care of the student center (the sexton) has not been replaced since then. DFM funds would be used to replace the original kitchen equipment.

Amount to be funded: \$11,000.00

Central Illinois Church Extension Fund Investment Rate

at 3.75% for 11 Months!

Even though the Federal Reserve just cut interest rates, the CID-CEF is still offering its 11-month investment at 3.75%. This is a limited-time offer, so please take advantage of this opportunity to assist our churches and schools in financing the expansion of their ministries. At the same time, you receive the added blessing of a great interest rate!

LCMS Family Ministry

Blood may be thicker than water...as the saying goes about the strength of family ties. But what if that water is no ordinary water? What if that water is combined with the Word of God in Holy Baptism, whereby God's holy name is conferred upon a person, adopting them into the family of believers? Baptismal water — not bloodline — gives strength to all family ties. That is why "Family Ministry" is a ministry to all peoples within the church; because we are all members of the same family through one Lord, one faith and one baptism. Family Ministry includes widows, singles, the elderly, barren couples and households filled with children — biological or adopted. "Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. God settles the solitary in a home" (Psalm 68:5-6). That home is the ark of the church and that family is the eternal assembly of believers — past, present and future. Thanks be to God — we are family! Join in the mission of LCMS Family Ministry at lcms.org/family.

FROM THE CID

LCMS Worker Wellness

Church workers serve best when they are supported, encouraged and cared for in body and soul by the very people whom they are called to serve. As a member in a church and/or LCMS school, you are in an ideal position to notice when your church workers may need additional support and then step in on their behalf. Simple actions can be a great help to them:

Ask them how they are doing and seek to discern their needs. *"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Gal. 6:2).*

Celebrate their accomplishments. *"Love one another with brotherly affection" (Rom. 12:10).*

Tell them you are praying for them. *"They are keeping watch over your souls... Let them do this with joy and not with groaning" (Heb. 13:17).*

Encourage them to use wellness resources from the Synod and your district. *"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing" (1 Thess. 5:11).*

Visit lcms.org/wellness to learn more!

SAVE THE DATE:

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

- * Joyful Hearts Christmas on December 12-13, 2025
- * Volunteers are needed to assist campers with disabilities. Receive free food and lodging for the night and have an experience you won't forget serving God's beloved children.

www.cilca.org/summer-camp

MEN

Save the Date: February 27- 28, 2026

- * ACT LIKE MEN WOODCUTTERS' RETREAT
- * Work hard and grow in God's Word.

www.cilca.org/act-like-men-woodcutters-retreat

End of the Year Donations

- * Do you want to support the work done at Camp CILCA and bless children with a beautiful outdoor space to hear and grow in God's Word?

www.cilca.org/supportdonate

Camp CILCA exists to strengthen and foster faith in Jesus Christ and relationships with others in a unique outdoor setting. Find out more at www.cilca.org

Summer Camp 2026 registration is OPEN!

- * Register before April 1, 2026 and save with the Early Bird Discount!
- * Register today to save your spot. Space is limited!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9am - Worship 10:15am - Bible Study / 30	1:30pm - Activities Room 6pm - Cherub Chimers 6:30pm - Heavenly 1	10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam 2	9am - TOPS 10am - Women's Bible 4:30pm - Fellowship 5:30pm - Advent 3	All Boards Meet in Prep 6:30pm - Board Meetings 4	5	8am - Men's Bible study 9:30am - Choir rehearsal 10am - LWML Christmas 5pm - Worship w/ 6
9am - Worship w/ 10:15am - Bible Study / 10:30am - Confirmation 7	1:30pm - Activities Room 6pm - Cherub Chimers 6:30pm - Heavenly 8	10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam 9	9am - TOPS 10am - Women's Bible 5:30pm - Advent 10	6:30pm - Parish Planning 11	6:30pm - 2nd Friday 12	8am - Men's Bible study 9:30am - Choir rehearsal 5pm - Worship 13
9am - Worship 10:30am - Confirmation 1:30pm - Voter's Meeting 14	Informers Deadline 1:30pm - Activities Room 6pm - Cherub Chimers 6:30pm - Heavenly 15	10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam 16	9am - TOPS 10am - Women's Bible 5:30pm - Advent 17	11:30am - Ladies 1pm - LWML 18	19	8am - Men's Bible study 9:30am - Choir rehearsal 11am - Whipple party 5pm - Worship w/ 20
9am - Worship w/ 10:15am - Bible Study / 10:30am - Confirmation 11:30am - Christmas 21	1:30pm - Activities Room 6:30pm - Heavenly 22	10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam 23	9am - TOPS 8pm - Christmas Eve 24	9am - Worship w/ Comm. 25	26	8am - Men's Bible study 9:30am - Choir rehearsal 5pm - Worship 27
9am - Worship 10:15am - Bible Study / 28	1:30pm - Activities Room 6:30pm - Heavenly 29	10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam 30	9am - TOPS 6:30pm - NYE Worship 31	6:30pm - Board Meetings 1	2	8am - Men's Bible study 9:30am - Choir rehearsal 5pm - Worship w/ 3



**St. John's Lutheran
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See The Informer
IN COLOR
On Our Website

Walking in the Light of Christ!

Worship Schedule:

Saturday worship– 5:00pm

Sunday worship- 9:00am

Sunday School & Bible Study-10:15am

Christmas Eve Candlelight– 8:00pm

Christmas morning– 9:00am

New Year's Eve– 6:30pm

Office Hours:

Monday – Wednesday 8:30am– 2:00pm

Closed for lunch from 12-1pm

Thursdays 8:30am-12:00pm

Holiday Hours

From Monday, December 22nd-Friday

***January 2nd, the office will only be open
8:30am-12:00pm***

The Office will be closed on:

Thursday, December 25th &

Thursday, January 1st

