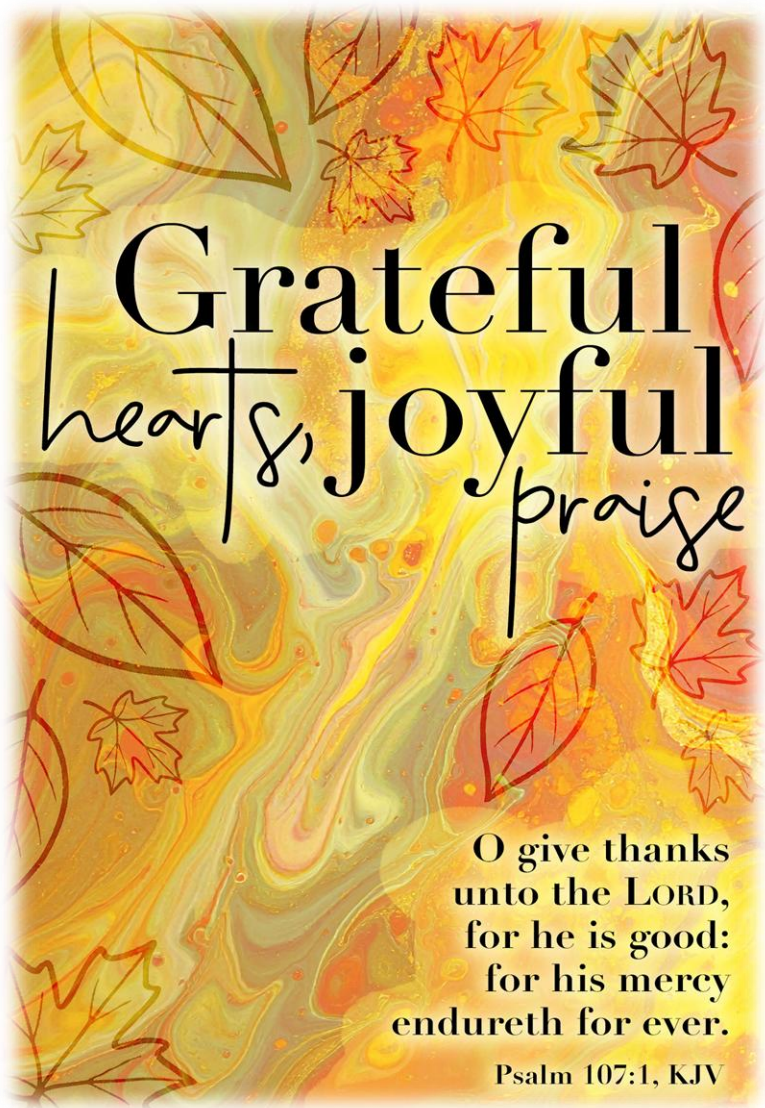




FAITH & ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, October 5, 2025
8:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
Monday, October 6, 2025
6:30 p.m.

Luke 17:10 – “So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’” We can never put God in our debt. Even if we lived in perfect compliance with the Law, we would still only be unworthy servants. Our giving to the Lord’s work in the church is a sign that we recognize our role as servants. Furthermore, we give because we recognize our own need for that work of the Lord in the church. And what a blessing it is to give to the church so that the ministry of His Word and Sacraments may reach all in our community.



WELCOME VISITORS:

We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors today. We pray that your worship with us is rewarding. Please be sure

to sign your name and address in our guest register, located in the narthex. If you are looking for a church home we would like to invite you to be a part of our Bible Based Church family.

RECEIVING THE HOLY SACRAMENT

In deep Christian love and commitment to the Word of God we continue to hold to the Biblical and Ancient practice of closed communion. We believe that those who commune together must confess the same faith, and recognize the great power and real presence of the body and blood Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine. (*1 Corinthians 10:16-18; 11:23-29; Romans 16:17*). Likewise, since one’s membership helps promote that church’s major teachings we ask that only those commune who are confirmed and communicant members of the LCMS, and who are not under church discipline. Thank you for respecting our beliefs and practices. Please pray with us for honest unity around the Word of God. If you have any question please contact Pastor Love. *NOTE: Gluten free wafers are now available at the Lord’s Table. Please let Pastor know before worship service that you would like the gluten free wafers.*"



ORDER OF WORSHIP
DIVINE SERVICE IV
LSB page 203

Opening Hymn
“Holy Spirit, Light Divine”

LSB #496

Invocation

*The sign of the cross may be made by all
in remembrance of their Baptism.*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** who made heaven and earth.

Confession and Absolution

- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P** Almighty God, in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I

therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

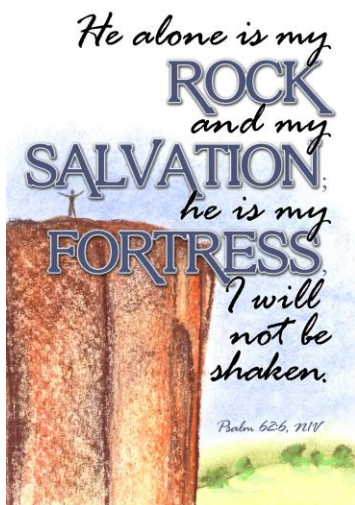
Psalm 62

P ¹For God alone my soul waits in silence;
from him comes my salvation.

C ²**He only is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress;
I shall not be greatly shaken.**

P ³How long will all of you attack a man
to batter him,
like a leaning wall, a tottering fence?

C ⁴**They only plan to thrust him down from his high
position.
They take pleasure in falsehood.
They bless with their mouths,
but inwardly they curse.**



P ⁵For God alone, O my soul,
wait in silence,
for my hope is from him.

C ⁶**He only is my rock and my
salvation,
my fortress;
I shall not be shaken.**

P ⁷On God rests my salvation
and my glory;
my mighty rock, my refuge is
God.

C ⁸**Trust in him at all times,
O people;
pour out your heart before**

him;
God is a refuge for us.

P ⁹Those of low estate are but a breath;
those of high estate are a delusion;
in the balances they go up;
they are together lighter than a breath.

C ¹⁰**Put no trust in extortion;
set no vain hopes on robbery;
if riches increase, set not your heart on them.**

P ¹¹Once God has spoken;
twice have I heard this:
that power belongs to God,

C ¹²**and that to you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love.
For you will render to a man
according to his work.**

Kyrie

LSB 204

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, by Your grace hear the prayers of Your Church. Grant that those things which we ask in faith we may receive through Your bountiful mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Catechism Review

P *The Lord's Prayer: The Introduction
Our Father who art in heaven.*

C Our Father in heaven.

P *What does this mean?*

C With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

Old Testament Reading

Habakkuk 1:1–4; 2:1–4

¹The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw.

²O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not hear?
Or cry to you “Violence!”
and you will not save?

³Why do you make me see iniquity,
and why do you idly look at wrong?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.

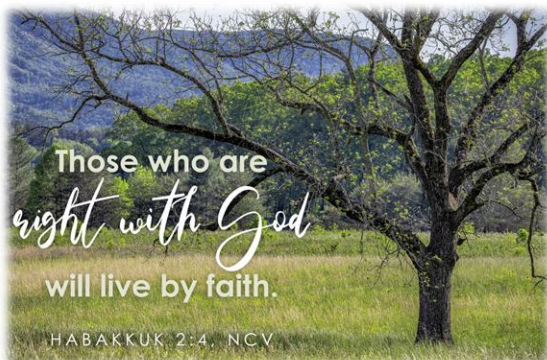
⁴So the law is paralyzed,
and justice never goes forth.
For the wicked surround the righteous;
so justice goes forth perverted.

¹I will take my stand at my watchpost
and station myself on the tower,
and look out to see what he will say to me,
and what I will answer concerning my complaint.

²And the LORD answered me:

“Write the vision;
make it plain
on tablets,
so he may
run who reads it.

³For still the
vision awaits its
appointed time;
it hastens to
the end—it will
not lie.



If it seems slow, wait for it;
it will surely come; it will not delay.

⁴“Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him,
but the righteous shall live by his faith.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

2 Timothy 1:1–14

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as

well. ⁶For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

⁸Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony

about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, ¹²which is why I suffer as I do. But I



am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me. ¹³Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205

Holy Gospel

Luke 17:1–10

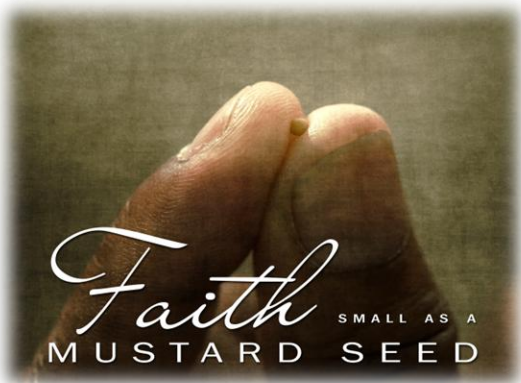
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus] said to his disciples, “Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! ²It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. ³Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, ⁴and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive him.”

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶And the Lord said, “If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

⁷“Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has



come in from the field, 'Come at once and recline at table'?
⁸Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink'? ⁹Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon Hymn

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

LSB #850

Sermon

Prayers of the Church

Offering

Offertory Hymn

LSB #781 sts. 1–2

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

Distribution

Distribution Hymns

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

LSB #633

“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”

LSB #637

“O Lord, We Praise Thee”

LSB #617

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Closing Hymn

“The Lord, My God, Be Praised”

LSB #794

Acknowledgments Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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***A BIG ROUND OF APPLAUSE to
the Evangelism and
Stewardship Board for their
dedication and
organization and
preparation skills for
planning the special POLKA
SERVICE AND FUNDASER***

EVENT for the Klade family. What a great day for fun,
food and fellowship for all!

***Also SPECIAL THANKS to the Polish Cowboys - Carl Uttech,
John Uttecht and Tom Mielke - for their music in last
weekend's Polka Service. What a great way to praise and
serve the Lord!***



CONFIRMATION CLASS

Wednesdays from 5:30 - 7:00
p.m. at Faith

COMMUNITY BIBLE CLASS on

Thursdays from 10:30 – 11:30
a.m. at St. John-Hamburg.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday: Deuteronomy 5:1-21;
Matthew 8:18-34

Monday: Deuteronomy 5:22 – 6:9;
Matthew 9:1-17

Tuesday: Deuteronomy 6:10-25;
Matthew 9:18-38

Wednesday: Deuteronomy 7:1-19; Matthew 10:1-23

Thursday: Deuteronomy 8:1-20; Matthew 10:24-42

Friday: Deuteronomy 9:1-22; Matthew 11:1-19

Saturday: Deuteronomy 9:23 – 10:22; Matthew 11:20-30



FAITH and ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES

**Please remember the following in
your prayers:**

Gary Baumann Joe Calmes
David Czech Rodney Dahlke
Alice Fromm Christopher Emmerich
Wallace Emmerich
Duane Grunenwald
Gerhard Hanneman

Angie Harkner Dale Janisch

Cecelia & Lucille Klade Lorraine Kleinschmidt
Rob Koebe Kim Love Bob Meyer Gene Mootz
Debbie Olson Mark Pester Bob Porath Marge Radenz
Karen Rajek Jo Schedler Audrey Steckling
Lorraine Steckling Carl Uttech Deb Wiederhoeft
Florence Williamson Susie and Ellie Zastrow



CHOIR AT FAITH will
resume tomorrow, Monday,
October 6 at 5:30 p.m. *New
members are always
welcome.*



CHURCH CALENDAR **ST. JOHN'S and FAITH**

Sunday, October 5

8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at St. John's

Sunday School during the sermon at

St. John's

9:15 a.m. Sunday School at Faith

10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Faith

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

Monday, October 6

5:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal at Faith

6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Faith

Tuesday, October 7

6:30 p.m. Women of Faith

Wednesday, October 8

10:00 a.m. Ablelight

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

Thursday, October 9

10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's

Saturday, October 11

9:00 a.m. LWML Zone 6 Fall Rally at Trinity-Merrill

Sunday, October 12

8:30 a.m. Worship at St. John's

Sunday School during the sermon at St. John's

9:15 a.m. Sunday School at Faith

10:15 a.m. Worship at Faith

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

Monday, October 13

5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

6:30 p.m. Worship at Faith

7:30 p.m. Church Council at Faith



PANCAKE DINNER Sign up sheets on the Scrip Table in the Narthex of the church

LWML FALL RALLY Registration sheets on the Scrip Table in the Narthex of the church



Immanuel Lutheran Church, Merrill

Sunday, October 12

Beginning at 10:00 a.m. Baked goods and craft items. Lunch from 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

St. John Lutheran Church, Merrill

Wednesday, October 15

Beginning at 9 a.m. Craft and Bake Sale. Lunch 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Soup and sandwiches, home baked pies

UPCOMING *Events*

+ St. John's is in need of candy donations for their **TRUNK AND TREAT EVENT** on October 25 in St. John's Parking lot starting at 2:00 p.m.

Please donate candies that would not promote anything scary or supernatural.

+ Special Church **VETERANS DAY SERVICE** and Breakfast November 9. *Everyone is welcome.*

+ Old but Useable **GUITARS**. Do you have an old but usable guitar that you would be willing to donate? *Pastor Love will be offering free guitar lessons on Thursday afternoons at St. John's - Hamburg.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You for your generous sacrificial offerings to the Lord, to help us keep our ministry going. You can also mail your offerings to Our Churches at

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

15425 County Road K South, Merrill, WI 54452

or

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

134058 County Road L, Athens, WI 54411

(Please do not send hard cash through the mail)

Please help us spread the Word. Visit us online at Pastor's (Don Love) Facebook Page, or Faith Lutheran Merrill Facebook Page <https://faithmerrill.webs.com/>



Circuit Lock Out

Event Timing: October 10

Event Dropoff: St John,
Merrill, 1104 E 3rd St,

Merrill, WI 54452 Pickup Address: (Les and Jim's
bowling alley, 1208 N Center Ave, Merrill, WI

54452 Event Time: 6pm - 11pm

Contact us at youthgroup@stjohnmerrill.org

The Circuit Youth will be in Merrill doing a lock-out event! We will be starting the night off at the church, followed by a movie, pizza and bowling at Les and Jim's, pick up will be at Les and Jim's. You **must** be registered for this event in order to attend so we can properly rent enough seats and lanes.

Name* _____

What Grade are you currently in?* _____

Phone Number _____

Parent/Guardian Phone Number* _____

Home Church _____

Who will be picking you up?* _____

Dietary restrictions

None

Vegetarian

Vegan

Kosher

Gluten-free

Other:

I understand that I will need \$20 for this event, if desired bring extra money for snack*



TICKETS ARE
AVAILABLE
on the Scrip Table
in the Narthex

All You Can Eat
PANCAKE DINNER and BAKE SALE

Sunday, November 2
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

*Homemade Potato Pancakes and Buttermilk
Pancakes served with Scrambled Eggs and
Breakfast Sausage*

Adults - \$10 Children 6-12 - \$5
5 years old and under – Free
Carryouts available

Faith Lutheran Church

15425 Highway K South - Merrill



***Circuit 6 Feed My Starving
Children
and Mall of America trip
November 15, 2025***

Saturday, November 15th

- 7:30 a.m. Loading @ Faith – Merrill
7:45 a.m. Depart Faith – Merrill
8:30 a.m. Pick-up @ Zion – Colby
We will do a break stop @ Kwik Trip – Baldwin Exit
11:30-11:45 a.m. Arrival time @ Feed My Starving
Children – Eagan, MN
12:00 – 1:45 p.m. Feed My Starving Children
2:15 p.m. Arrival time @ Mall of America
5:30 p.m. Departure time from Mall of America
***We will travel straight through going
home, so you will either want to eat while
you are at the mall or bring your food onto
the coach to eat on the way home.*
8:00 p.m. Est. return time to Zion – Colby
8:45 p.m. Est. return time to Faith – Merrill

****Cost is \$40.00 per person to cover the cost of the motorcoach transportation.**

****All ages are welcome at Feed My Starving Children – youth under the age of 14 need to be with an adult unless other arrangements have been made with their individual church group.**

****While at the Mall of America anyone under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult beginning at 3:00 p.m. – everyone must be able to show proof of identification with either a State Issued Driver's License or a State Issued ID Card. School I.D.'s are not accepted.**



Christmas Stars A Christmas Spectacular Saturday, December 6th

Enjoy a day away! We will travel via Progressive Travel motorcoach to the Appleton area. **Departure from Faith Lutheran Church - Merrill - will be at 8:00 a.m.** to arrive at the **Fox River Mall** for a little shopping time and lunch on your own. Our next stop is at the **Xavier Fine Arts Center** to see the Christmas Stars production of “**A Christmas Spectacular**”! Get ready to see some fantastic talent from local folks of all ages from little tots on up to senior adults. Xavier Fine Arts puts on two shows a year, All Rise! for Easter and Christmas Stars for this time of year. The show last year included over three hundred people! Enjoy a mixture of comedy, dance, singing and the full Christmas Story! On our-way home we will make a stop at **Culver’s** in St. Point with an estimate return time to Merrill at 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$80.00 per person (inc. deluxe motorcoach transportation and show ticket)

Reserve a seat today by calling or texting Bonnie Grueneberg at 715-613-0003. Deadline: November 1, 2025. Once confirmed, fill out the form below and send it along with your full payment to:



Progressive Travel, Inc.

211085 State Highway 13, Spencer, WI 54479

Attn: Bonnie

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____

Make checks payable to: Progressive Travel, Inc