



A Lasting Joy and Freedom That Can Not Be Taken Away”

John 16:22

“So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.”

In Jesus Christ we have a lasting joy and freedom that cannot be taken away. When we know that heaven is our home, when we are convinced that what is to come is infinitely larger and longer than what we have now, we can have a joy and freedom in our hearts that nothing will be able to steal away from us.

Again, by the power of the Holy Spirit working through the Word of God we know that Jesus Christ has freed us every one of our sins. By God's grace alone through faith in Jesus Christ's great, bitter suffering and death we have a freedom that cannot be wrenched away or cause to crumble and fall in time.

In 2 Corinthians 3:17 we read, *“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.”* The devil and the world can take away our earthly freedom, even our physical body, but they cannot take away our soul. Our soul belongs to God through the gift of Holy Baptism. In our Baptism we were made His. This is possible because Jesus gives lasting freedom to His disciples through His death and resurrection. Jesus said in John 10:28-29, *“I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.”*

We remind ourselves of this joy and freedom as we sing the great Reformation hymn, *“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God.”*

He's by our side upon the plain
With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth. (LSB # 656)

This truth has encouraged faithful believers throughout history, and throughout the world in different countries, even to this day.

In Hebrews 11:14-16, we read *“For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.”*

And again in Hebrews 13:14-16, *“For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”*

We use the joy and freedom that God has given to glorify God. The Holy Spirit teaches us through the Apostle Paul in Galatians 5:13-15, *“For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.”*

Again, freedom is a gift from God that He gives us to use in loving services to others as we show respect and honor. The Holy Spirit leads us through the Apostle Peter in 1 Peter 2:16-17, *“Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone.”*

Praise God for the freedom that we enjoy right now. However, we rejoice in Jesus Christ in a freedom that can never be taken away from us - the gift of the forgiveness of sins and everlasting life.

Pastor Love

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Go ... Sell All You Have?

“What must I do to inherit eternal life?” asked the rich young ruler. Jesus said, “You know the commandments.” And he replied, “All these I have kept from my youth.” And Jesus said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me” (Luke 18:18–22). When we hear this story, this question comes to mind: is Jesus speaking to us also, or only to the rich young ruler? In other words, is Jesus telling us to sell all that we have and give it to the poor?

As good Lutherans, we answer, “No!” But why? Why should we not sell all that we have and distribute it to the poor? The simplest explanation is this: if we sold everything we have, our wife and our children would be neglected. In other words, to sell everything we have and give it to the poor would ignore, even abandon, those whom God has placed in our care. Our money, everything we have, is not to be used solely for the church. But that doesn’t excuse us from using our money for the purpose God intends.

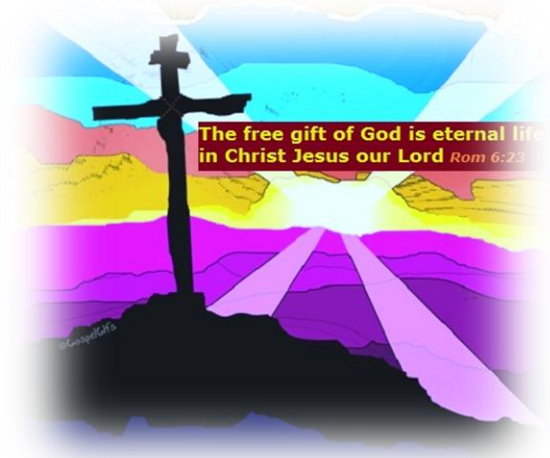
Everyone has three stations in life, three spheres in which we live and are to be of service to our neighbors. These stations are the church, the

family and society. We are members of all three of these by birth. We are born into the church by water and the Word of God, and our duties to others in the church arise from our Baptism into the church. We are born into a family, and our duties to others stem from our birth into that family. Finally, we are born into society, which is simply a further extension of our birth into our family. The duties we have toward other members of society come from either our own birth or the birth of others into the same society.

All that we have and all that we are ought to be pressed into service for the church, the family and society. If we were to sell all we have and give only to one, the other two would be neglected, and we would falter in fulfilling our duties.

So, consider your life and all that you have in light of these three stations. You pay taxes to support and help those in society. You save for college for your children, and provide food, clothing and shelter for the members of your family.

But the station that is usually thought of last is the church. Since the needs of the family and society are more immediate, the church is often given what is left over. This is not how it should be. Rather, we are to give of our first fruits, from off the

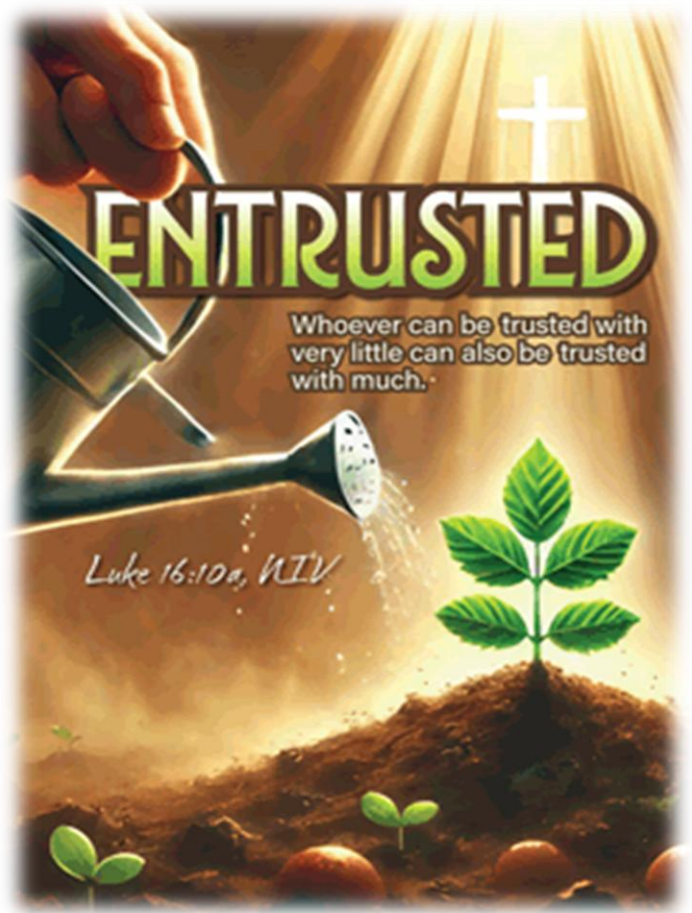


top, the best, even as Abel gave the best of his flock.

This requires forethought. It means that you sit down and make a plan of what you will give from the beginning. It means sticking to it even when it seems that there are other more immediate and pressing things.

And this is all the more necessary now as we enter into periods of time where giving is low due to high unemployment or where restrictions on meeting in church limit opportunities to give. If we love God and His gifts of forgiveness given through the Means of Grace, which we receive at church and only at church, then we will support it, just as we love our country and our family. For all that we have and all that we are is given to us by our gracious God. He spared no expense for us and our salvation. He gave up His Son to death so that our sins are forgiven, and we will live. What's more, He provides for all that we need for this body and life. And our lives in this world, among these three spheres of church, family and society are to mirror the generosity of the one who gave us life in all three at birth.

Don't let the church, your divine family, be an afterthought or even ignored. It is nurturing you, bringing you up in salvation through Word and Sacrament.



Bible Memory Verse



Week of July 5, 2026

John 5:39

You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me.

Week of July 12, 2026

Hebrews 1:1-2

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world.

Week of July 19, 2026

1 John 4:18

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.

Week of July 26, 2026

Ephesians 4:29

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

Thrivent Choice
Dollars



Thrivent clients recently directing monies to Faith through the Choice Dollars program include: Barry and Cindy Krenz, and Susan Pankow. Thank you for your generosity in helping the church to carry out our mission.



St. Paul Lutheran Church, Town of Hamburg, will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of their church building on Sunday, August 2. There will be a special worship service at 11:30 a.m. followed by an outdoor picnic. If you are interested in attending the picnic, please RSVP to Pastor Danner at pastordanner@aol.com by Monday, July 13.

Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes Monday, June 1, 2026

Present: Pastor Love, Terry Seidler (President), Brent Reinhardt (Vice-President), Yvonne Duwe (Secretary), Cindy Braatz (Treasurer), Bonnie Grueneberg (Stewardship/Evangelism), Rod Dahlke (Elders), Barry Krenz (Trustees), Becky Rajek (Education)

President, Terry Seidler, called the meeting to order. Pastor opened with a prayer and a devotion. Meeting minutes from April were read. A clarification to the minutes should indicate “jellybean book markers” instead of “jellybean markers”. A motion for approval with the noted clarification was made, seconded, and passed.

Elders – The elders will be assisting with the Vacation Bible School (VBS) program.

Treasurer – The April financial general ledger was distributed. All bills have been paid, and we have an ending balance of \$17,716.33. Motion was made to approve the report, seconded, and passed.

President – A suggestion to donate \$500 to the Build a Bed project was made. A motion was made to make the donation in the name of Faith Lutheran Church, seconded, and passed. The remainder of the council secretary term will be fulfilled by Yvonne Duwe.

Stewardship/Evangelism – The Living River concert was attended by approximately 250 people. Ice cream was served to approximately 100 people after the concert. Over 600 people have viewed the concert utilizing our You Tube channel. The quartet has contributed \$80 to Faith as a tithe offering. Plans are being made to host a concert again next year. The fifth Sunday offering was sent to Mt. Olive Church for the Ringle/Kronenwetter tornado relief fund.

Education – Appreciation gifts of a gift card and hanging flower baskets were given to Sunday School teachers.

Trustees – New blacktop aprons were installed June 1 at the main door entrance. The apron provides a safer entry by covering concrete cracks and holes. Our septic system will be pumped by Green Valley Septic. The neon light on the roof cross needs repair. The trustees will get two bids from sign companies to explore repair/replacement options. Our Church Mutual Insurance Company representative met with the board to review the policy. We are receiving workmen’s compensation policy rebates and are to advise them when major improvements are made to the building. The one-year premium is \$7,580.00. The ball diamond drag has been repaired, and a parking lot light will be replaced.

Pastor – VBS is scheduled for June 8, 9 and 10. Planning and preparations are going well. Confirmation for one confirmand will be held this week at St. John’s. Shut-in visits have been occurring and are well received. Baseball season has started with skilled teams playing.

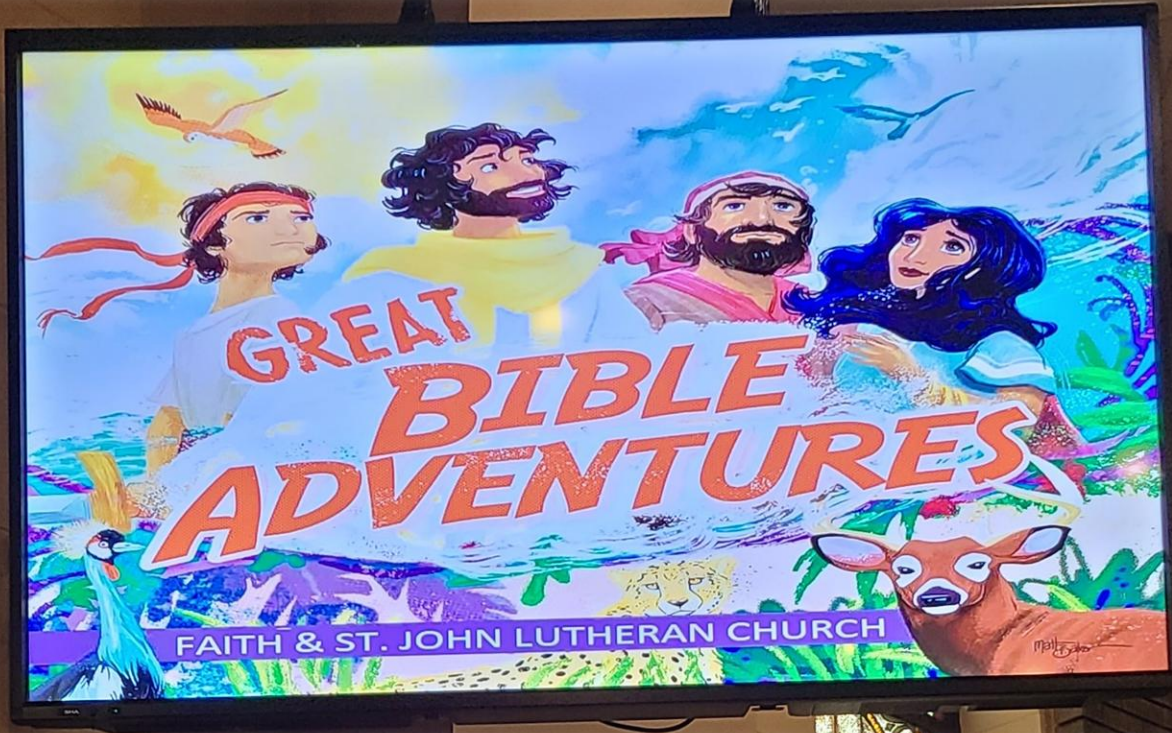
Old Business – None to discuss.

New Business – The semi-annual meeting will be held Sunday, July 26. A joint congregational meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11 at St. John’s at 6:30 p.m.

The next regular council meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 10 at 7:30 p.m.

A motion for adjournment was made, seconded, and passed. The meeting closed with a prayer from Pastor Love.

Respectfully submitted,
Yvonne Duwe, Interim Council Secretary



Vacation Bible School 2026









July 2026 Elder, Usher, Greeter, Scrip, AV Schedule

*Sunday, July 5 10:15 a.m.

Elders Joe Heisinger, Mark Porath
 Ushers Amanda Heisinger, Bernice Porath
 Greeter Amanda Heisinger
 Scrip Bernice Porath
 Audio Video Bonnie Grueneberg

Sunday, July 12 10:15 a.m.

Elders Rodney Dahlke, Travis Klug
 Ushers Karen Pagel, Carol Hein
 Greeter Gene Pagel
 Scrip Cindy Krenz
 Audio Video Evan Roubal

*Sunday, July 19 10:15 a.m.

Elders Kyle Young, Mike Bielke
 Ushers Brian and Lynn Klug
 Greeter Brian Klug
 Scrip Lynn Klug
 Audio Video Bonnie Grueneberg

Sunday, July 26 10:15 a.m.

Elders Joe Heisinger, Jeff Laabs
 Ushers Amanda Heisinger, Karen Pagel
 Greeter Gene Pagel
 Scrip Becky Rajek
 Audio Video Bonnie Grueneberg

*Sunday, August 2 10:15 a.m.

Elders Lee Pfaff, Travis Klug
 Ushers Leroy Laabs, Carol Hein
 Greeter Carol Hein
 Scrip Cindy Krenz
 Audio Video Bonnie Grueneberg

*Monday, July 6 6:30 p.m.

Elders Jeff Laabs, Mike Bielke
 Usher Chris Stogbauer
 Greeter Chris Stogbauer
 Scrip Debbie Stogbauer
 Audio Video Rod Dahlke

Monday, July 13 6:30 p.m.

Elders Lee Pfaff, Jason Westfall
 Usher Ed Stiver
 Greeter Ed Stiver
 Scrip Cindy Braatz
 Audio Video Cindy Braatz

*Monday, July 20 6:30 p.m.

Elders Joe Heisinger, Mark Porath
 Usher Amanda Heisinger
 Greeter Amanda Heisinger
 Scrip Debbie Stogbauer
 Audio Video Lee Pfaff

Monday, July 27 6:30 p.m.

Elders Jason Westfall, Rodney Dahlke
 Usher Ed Stiver
 Greeter Ed Stiver
 Scrip Debbie Stogbauer
 Audio Video Rodney Dahlke

*Monday, August 3 6:30 p.m.

Elders Mark Porath, Kyle Young
 Usher Chris Stogbauer
 Greeter Chris Stogbauer
 Scrip Debbie Stogbauer
 Audio Video Cindy Braatz

HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, July 5 10:15 a.m.
 Monday, July 6 6:30 p.m.
 Sunday, July 19 10:15 a.m..
 Monday, July 20 6:30 p.m.

ELDERS

Rodney Dahlke, chairman
 Mike Beilke, secretary
 Joe Heisinger, Jeff Laabs, Lee Pfaff,
 Mark Porath, Jason Westfall,
 Kyle Young, Travis Klug





ST. JOHN'S BIRTHDAYS

July 3 Steve Emmerich
 July 7 Lisa Stack
 July 8 Doug White
 July 11 Scott Kleinschmidt
 July 15 Michael Schulz

FAITH WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

July 3
 Nate and Sarah Blum 11 years
 July 5
 Walter & Deborah Leuenberger 56 yrs
 July 27
 Scott and Rebecca Rajek 35 years

FAITH BIRTHDAYS

July 1 Samantha Schade
 July 2 McKayla Dahlke
 July 4 Patricia Beilke
 July 5 Peggy Jennerman
 July 6 Scott Rajek
 July 7 Craig Pfaff
 July 8 Patricia Wendt
 July 9 Amy Wood
 July 10 Melissa Porath
 Ben Seidler
 July 11 Gary Baumann
 Judy Schlueter
 July 12 Sheila Klug
 July 14 Dale Janisch
 July 15 Stephanie Springborn
 Seth Wilke
 July 16 Lee Pfaff
 Elvira Saeger
 July 19 Barbara Schade
 Mikalea Koebe
 July 20 Aaron Zuelsdorff
 Jarrah Buch
 July 21 Anna Garvin
 Gloria Werner
 July 23 Jeri Raddatz
 Bradley Salzman
 Phyllis A. Buch
 July 24 LuAnn Kleinschmidt
 July 27 Andrew Evenson
 Kelvin Baumann



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Semi-Annual Meeting
Sunday, July 26
following worship service
*All committee reports should be in
 to the church office by
 Wednesday, July 15.*

*Inspired Singles
 Fellowship*

- **Sunday, July 12 12:15 p.m.**
Indoor Picnic at Faith
- **Merrill City Band Concerts,**
Wednesdays, July 1 through
August 5 at 7:00 p.m. at Normal Park,
Merrill (Meet at concession stand)

Faith Lutheran Church

15425 South County Road K

Merrill, WI 54452

Church e-mail: faithmerrillwi@gmail.com

Church website: faithlutheranmerrill.com

Pastor Donald Love

Office Phone 715-536-5443

Home Phone 715-722-0540

Cell Phone 715-350-3871

Pastor's Office Hours

Mon. and Tues: Home

Wednesday: Faith

Thursday: St. John's

Church Office Hours

Tues. and Thurs. 9 a.m.-12 noon

Mon., Wed., and Fri. varies

Emergency Contacts

Terry Seidler 715-536-9742 (home)

715-203-5736 (cell)

ALTAR GUILD JULY SCHEDULE

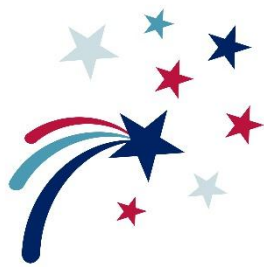
July 1 - 13 Phyllis Buch & Deb Stogbauer

July 14 - 27 Gene and Karen Pagel

June 20 - August 10 Chris Pfaff & Phyllis Beilke

July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's	3	4
5 10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Bible Class	6 6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion	7 10:00 a.m. Board of Trustees	8 10:00 a.m. Ablelight	9 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's	10	11
12 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Bible Class 12:15 p.m. Inspired Singles at Faith	13 6:30 p.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. Elders Meeting	14	15	16 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's	17	18
19 10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Bible Class	20 6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion	21	22 10:00 a.m. Ablelight	23 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's	24	25
26 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Semi- Annual Meeting	27 6:30 p.m. Worship	28	29	30 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's	31	



July

THE WORD OF God

- **July 1**
Joshua 15-16
Psalms 149:1-9
Proverbs 18:8
- **July 2**
Joshua 17-18
Psalms 150:1-6
Proverbs 18:9-10
- **July 3**
Joshua 19-20
Psalms 1:1-6
Proverbs 18:11-12
- **July 4**
Joshua 21-22
Psalms 2:1-12
Proverbs 18:13
- **July 5**
Joshua 23-24
Psalms 3:1-8
Proverbs 18:14-15
- **July 6**
Judges 1-3
Psalms 4:1-8
Proverbs 18:16-18
- **July 7**
Judges 4-5
Psalms 5:1-12
Proverbs 18:19
- **July 8**
Judges 6-8
Psalms 6:1-10
Proverbs 18:20-21
- **July 9**
Judges 9-10
Psalms 7:1-17
Proverbs 18:22
- **July 10**
Judges 11-13
Psalms 8:1-9
Proverbs 18:23-24
- **July 11**
Judges 14-16
Psalms 9:1-12
Proverbs 19:1-3
- **July 12**
Judges 17-19
Psalms 9:13-20
Proverbs 19:4-5
- **July 13**
Judges 20-21
Psalms 10:1-15
Proverbs 19:6-7
- **July 14**
Ruth 1-4
Psalms 10:16-18
Proverbs 19:8-9
- **July 15**
1 Samuel 1-3
Psalms 11:1-7
Proverbs 19:10-12
- **July 16**
1 Samuel 4-7
Psalms 12:1-8
Proverbs 19:13-14
- **July 17**
1 Samuel 8-12
Psalms 13:1-6
Proverbs 19:15-16
- **July 18**
1 Samuel 13-14
Psalms 14:1-7
Proverbs 19:17
- **July 19**
1 Samuel 15-16
Psalms 15:1-5
Proverbs 19:18-19
- **July 20**
1 Samuel 17-18
Psalms 16:1-11
Proverbs 19:20-21
- **July 21**
1 Samuel 19-21
Psalms 17:1-15
Proverbs 19:22-23
- **July 22**
1 Samuel 22-24
Psalms 18:1-15
Proverbs 19:24-25
- **July 23**
1 Samuel 25-27
Psalms 18:16-36
Proverbs 19:26
- **July 24**
1 Samuel 28-31
Psalms 18:37-50
Proverbs 19:27-29
- **July 25**
2 Samuel 1-3
Psalms 19:1-4
Proverbs 20:1
- **July 26**
2 Samuel 4-7
Psalms 20:1-9
Proverbs 20:2-3
- **July 27**
2 Samuel 8-11
Psalms 21:1-13
Proverbs 20:4-6
- **July 28**
2 Samuel 12-13
Psalms 22:1-18
Proverbs 20:7
- **July 29**
2 Samuel 14-16
Psalms 22:19-31
Proverbs 20:8-10
- **July 30**
2 Samuel 17-19
Psalms 23:1-6
Proverbs 20:11
- **July 31**
2 Samuel 20-22
Psalms 24:1-10
Proverbs 20:12



St. John's Lutheran Church

134058 County Road L

Athens, WI 54411

715-536-1810

Pastor Donald Love

Office Phone 715-536-5443
 Home Phone 715-722-0540
 Cell Phone 1-715-350-3871
 Friday Off (Family Day)

Pastor's Office Hours

Mon. & Tues. Home
 Wednesday Faith
 Thursday St. John's

Elders

Jeremy Fromm 715-574-2003
 Mike Schultz 715-539-0995
 Don Gille 715-573-8197

Elder of the Month

Mark Czech 715-409-9174
Setting the Lord's Table
 Diane Hinz

July 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's	3	4
5 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion	6	7 6:00 p.m. Church Council 7:15 p.m. Elders' Meeting	8	9 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's	10	11
12 8:30 a.m. Worship 12:15 p.m. Inspired Singles at Faith	13	14	15	16 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's	17	18
19 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion	20	21	22	23 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's	24	25
26 8:30 a.m. Worship	27	28	29	30 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's	31	



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

LUTHERAN SCHOOLS — JULY 1-15

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) School Ministry serves as a national voice for Lutheran schools, upholding the standards of Christ-centered schools that are academically strong and respectfully operated. Nationwide, there are 1,992 LCMS schools, which include 1,127 early childhood centers, 778 elementary schools and 87 high schools.

Remember God's work in Lutheran schools as you pray:

1. for the children attending Lutheran schools, that their eyes, ears, hearts and minds would be open to God's Word.

2. for Lutheran school teachers, that they would correctly divide and deliver Law and Gospel to students through real-life applications each day.

3. for Lutheran school principals, who lead people to passionately embrace the witness our schools provide to the community. Pray that pastors, principals, directors and teachers would work together in God-pleasing unity.

7. for parents who support our Lutheran schools with their time, talents and treasures. Give thanks for their dedication to the mission of the school.

8. for daily opportunities for our teachers and staff to show God's mercy, love and forgiveness both inside and outside of the classroom. Pray that God would maintain our ability to practice our faith in Lutheran schools.

9. for church members who tell the story of their Lutheran school, that their recommendation might lead more students through the school's doors.

10. for the many non-Christians and exchange students who are coming to our schools. Pray that God would work through the Gospel that they will have faith in Jesus.

11. for first-year teachers, that they may apply their gifts to demonstrate grace and mercy. Pray that God would give them strength and patience.

12. for our early childhood centers that introduce young families to the saving love of Jesus. Pray that they are a faithful witness to the littlest of God's children and their families.

13. for courageous Lutheran schools willing to take calculated risks that will result in significant rewards for students. Give the leaders of these schools wisdom in their decisions.

14. for comfort and healing for school faculty and students during times of injury, illness and loss.

15. for God to raise up wise and gifted leaders who are willing to serve in administrative roles at Lutheran schools.

JULY Pray For Us Calendar

CAMPUS MINISTRY — JULY 16–31

The challenges to Christians on our nation's college campuses are increasing exponentially. On practically every campus, objections are increasing to the biblical worldview, Christian doctrine, traditional ethics and moral practices. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's (LCMS) campus-ministry arm, LCMS U, aims to encourage, support and help students, faculty and staff in their response to these challenges so they can boldly bear witness to Christ.

Remember God's work through LCMS U as you pray:

16. for the 200-plus LCMS U chapters around the country, that they would receive the support they need to effectively reach out to America's college students.

17. that more congregations and individuals would become involved with their local LCMS U chapters or start new ones.

18. for the growth of LCMS U on urban campuses and at community colleges, two fertile mission fields. Pray that the Lord would open doors to the spread of His Word in these places.

19. for all the dedicated staff and volunteers involved in campus ministry, that God would energize them for their work and use them to plant seeds of faith that will continue to grow.

20. for students starting their first year of college, that they would find a church to attend.

Christian friends and make good decisions while living away from home for the first time.

21. for the parents of college students, especially those who have an empty nest for the first time. Pray that they would find joy and contentment in the midst of life's changes.

22. that Lutheran college students would be bold witnesses to their faith in Jesus Christ, even when faced with pressure from peers and professors.

23. that young people would hunger for the certain truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and not be deceived by the half-truths and lies of Satan.

24. for the 800,000-plus foreign students studying at American colleges and universities. Many come from countries where the Gospel is not freely preached. Pray that their time in the U.S. would provide the opportunity for them to learn about Jesus.



25. for the international students who came to faith while studying abroad. Ask the Lord to provide support so that they can continue to grow in their faith after they return home.

26. for busy college students, who are pulled in many directions with the demands of school, work, friends, family and other activities. Pray that they would make God a priority by setting aside time for worship, Bible study and Christian service.

27. for the development of campus-ministry programs at institutions of higher education around the world.

28. that God would bless and guide the work of all students

involved in mission work and volunteer opportunities both at home and abroad. Pray that this time would be a blessing to them and others.

29. with thanksgiving for a new school year. Pray that students and campus-ministry workers would return refreshed and with renewed dedication.

30. for recent college graduates, that they would find gainful employment as well as a church home where they can learn about God's holy Word in all of its truth and purity.

31. for all students, that God would protect them and provide people to share with them the Word of God.

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at lcms.org/prayforus or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.





To the VBS team and all the volunteers, we take a moment to thank you for your time and energy and all the hard

patience and loving one another." Thank you



work and expertise! Thank you for your amazing generosity and dedication to vacation Bible School. Your support of Faith and St. John's allows us to continue to fulfill our mission and serve one another and our community each year. This project is successful because of you. "Volunteers are human beings who reflect compassion, unselfish caring,

Laney Zuelsdorff, daughter of Aaron and Raegan Zuelsdorff, graduated May 9, 2026 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in Materials Science and Engineering. Prayers and God's Blessings as you continue your journey!



Summer **FREE LUNCH** **For Kids & Teens**

EVERY Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday!
thru August 28th 11:30am to 1:00pm a brown bag lunch
will be available for pick up at
Christ United Methodist Church Parking Lot (3rd and Mill Street)
Food that's 'in' when school is 'out'.

Bridging the gap for hungry children! Sponsored by Christ United Methodist Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Stephens UCC, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and St. John Lutheran Church

LIVE MUSIC

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 8TH
6:00-8:00 PM**

Normal Park
500 N Center Ave
Merrill, WI 54452

Sponsored by:
Trinity Lutheran Church
Bring your lawn chairs

Aspirus Merrill Hospital
Volunteers will be selling:
hamburgers, brats,
hot dogs, chips,
water, bakery



Rain Location:
Trinity Lutheran Church

Living River's mission is to share the love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, through music, with all we can reach, and to proclaim His gifts of salvation and eternal life.

This free community event is sponsored by Trinity Lutheran Church. Attendees are invited to bring lawn chairs and enjoy an evening of Christian music and fellowship. Aspirus Merrill Hospital Volunteers will be offering food for purchase, including hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, chips, water and bakery items.

All are welcome to enjoy an evening of faith, music, and fellowship.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
15425 South County Road K
Merrill, WI 54452

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT 44
MERRILL, WI 54452

