

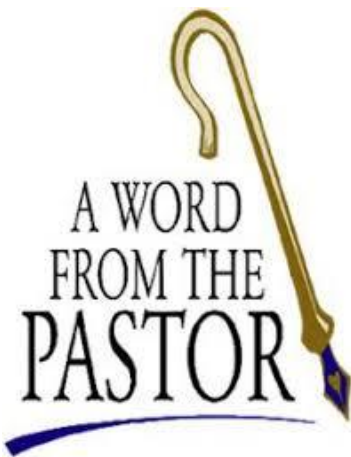
APRIL 2025

The Good & News

Monthly Newsletter for St. John's Lutheran and Faith Lutheran Churches

Your Story Is Never Over

"Better is the end of a thing than its beginning, and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit." Ecclesiastes 7:8



As Christians, we must understand that each one of us has *personal stories that are never really over*. My father came from a highly dysfunctional family. Both his mother and father were addicted to alcohol. Neglect was a normal part of his family life. When he was six years old, his mother abandoned the family. He spent years bouncing from different relatives, some of which were also alcoholics themselves, as well as foster homes, and an orphanage. When he was 17, he joined the Navy. His first marriage with three children ended in divorce. Because of his history, alcoholism was not the problem; however, skills in long-term relationships were a definite problem. Sometime later, he met my mother. In

her family upbringing including going to church habitually was high priority. Nevertheless, this marriage, which produced two boys, was also headed toward divorce. Church life was nominally present but not deeply dedicated as God wanted it to be. Yet another Military Base closer, forced the family to move again. Financial stress and other factors drove another family to reach the breaking point. But the story was not over. Something had to be done. With the influence of my mother, both of them agreed to honestly start getting back into a dedicated relationship with Jesus Christ, a relationship with His Word, and with His Church. While not smooth or perfect through the year's, family life saw a collection of better family moments. Those collections of better actions and reactions accumulated into a better family life. A life of which I never thought could happen. Because of these changes, with the influence of my mother and others, I was encouraged to go into the ministry.

One day while a seminary student, I received a phone call. It was a voice that I never heard before. It was strangely familiar. It sounded like a different version of my Dad. It was my older half-brother Bill. He had become a dedicated Christian and wanted my help in starting a better relationship with his father. To make a long story short, all the children had become dedicated Christians even my father's ex-wife. Matters had progressed in such a healthy direction of Christian love that before his ex-wife's passing of cancer, she requested that my mother would look after her three children as her own. *But the story is still not over*. I do not have the space to get into how it all happened. It was not completely pretty or perfect but my father had

the chance to meet and say a prayer with his own biological mother, the one who had abandoned him when he was six, on her deathbed. Thank You, Almighty Gracious God!

All our stories still go on. In a sin-broken world, there certainly will be chapters of our stories that are not at all perfect, but deeply painful and difficult. The devil, the world, and sinful nature will always be battling with us and within us until we are called to our Heavenly Home. However, in the Lenten season, we remember all that Jesus' certainly deeply difficult and painful reality He lived for us. He suffered, died and was buried for the forgiveness of each and every, yes every sin. *Nevertheless, it was not over!* It was just beginning. Christ Jesus' resurrection shattered the chains of death, sin and the devil. Jesus Christ life, death, and resurrection from the grave has assured the forgiveness of your sin, and amazing grace and strength for each of your days. Be patient and persistent in your own personal story. Strive to write each day as a page of your life that is deeply dedicated to God. To do this, make sure that you are dedicated to pages of His Holy Word.

Remember that your story will still go on. Receive Jesus Christ's forgiveness and keep writing your own story until he takes you to glory. As Christians, we look forward to eternal life. A life where the effects of sin does not separate us, but where the love of God in Jesus Christ unites us in a way that goes beyond our comprehension.

My father, by God's grace, is now in heaven. His story is just beginning. May we all keep the faith and continue to look forward because of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ *Your Story is never over.* In Jesus' High, Holy and Forgiving Name. Amen.

Pastor Love



From the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod – Stewardship Ministry

Cherish What God Has Given

In the Small Catechism, Luther follows a pattern when explaining the Ten Commandments. With each commandment, there is something prohibited, and something commanded. There is something wrong which must be avoided, and there is something right which must be done.

The one time this pattern is not followed is with the Sixth Commandment.

“You shall not commit adultery. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other” (SC I).

Here, the catechism focuses solely on the positive: we should live in a chaste and decent manner in both word and deed, and husbands and wives should cherish and honor one another.

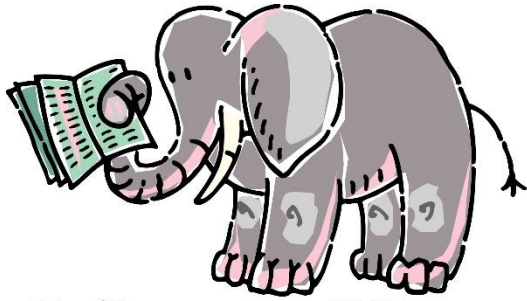
Keeping this commandment, and all of the commandments, is a lot easier if you see

your chastity and your spouse as a gift from God that is to be protected and cherished. In the same way, you will find keeping the Fourth Commandment easier if you see your parents and other authorities as a gift from God, given to you for your blessing.

This is the key stewardship insight that runs through all of the Christian life: Everything that we have has been given to us by God. We deserve none of it. All of it comes to us by God's fatherly kindness and open-handed generosity. If I know that everything I have — every possession, every relationship, every ability — is a gift from God, then my perspective changes. All of these things are both gifts to be cherished, and things that I should direct towards God's purposes. My possessions should be shared generously according to how God has called me in my family, church and community. My spouse should be cherished, loved and encouraged in faith. My children are on loan from my own Heavenly Father, and I have but a brief time to show them the path of righteousness. My neighbor is a gift from God so that I can imitate His kindness toward me.

No matter the gift, everything has been given to me by God so that I may participate in His own goodness and open-handed generosity.





Memory Verse

Week of April 6, 2025

Galatians 6:14

But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Week of April 13, 2025

Romans 5:8

God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Week of April 20, 2025

Job 19:25-27

For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!

Week of April 27, 2025

Romans 6:8-9

Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

memorials & gifts

In memory of **BERNICE SCHULZ**, a gift to the Home Purposes Fund from Ed and Connie Stiver

In memory of **RANDY BRAATZ**, a gift to the Special Purposes Fund from Keith and Pat Wendt

In memory of **VERJEAN SCHMIDT**, a gift to the New Building Fund from Ed and Connie Stiver

In memory of **LUANN RUHBUSCH**, a gift to the Altar Fund from Rev William Ruhbusch

In memory of **RANDY BRAATZ**, a gift to the New Building Fund from Barry and Cindy Krenz, Karen Olson, Susan Pankow, Sharon Goetsch, Don and Beth Gille, Leon and Beth Bartelt, Lorraine Kleinschmidt, Ellie and Susie Zastrow, Don and Sharon Voight, Troy and Sandy Pagel, Dan and Sue Krueger

BOW THE KNEE

Dramatic
Musical
for Easter

Saturday
April 5th
7:00 PM
&
Sunday
April 6th
2:30 PM



Bring a friend

Come, follow Anthony, a Roman centurion,
Journey down the streets of Jerusalem,
Spend time in the garden's dark night,
Hear the cries of "crucify, crucify",
Climb the hill to Calvary.
Rejoice in the Risen Savior!

Trinity Lutheran Church

501 Stewart Av Wausau, WI 715-842-0769

Admission -Free

Additional 2025 dates- April 12th 7:00 PM & 13th 2:30 PM

Zion Lutheran Church

238145 Star Rd Aniwa, WI 54408 715-845-2014

(12 miles east of Wausau, just off Hwy 52)

Thrivent Choice®

Making generosity easy

thrivent

Donate or Direct →



Supporting the work of the church, March Thrivent Choice gifts from **Phyllis Beilke, Phyllis Buch, Sheila Klug, LeRoy Laabs, Kathy Schult, and Joe Zuelsdorff.**

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 1-815-922-0397

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)

715-203-5733 (cell)

ALTAR GUILD APRIL SCHEDULE

April 1 – April 7 Chris Pfaff and Phyllis Beilke

April 8 – April 21 Keith and Pat Wendt

April 22 – May 5 Susan Pankow and Karen Olson

April 2025

				Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30 p.m. Women of Faith	2 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at Faith 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship	3 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship at St. John's	4	5
6 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship w/Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Bible Study 12:15 p.m. Evangelism and Stewardship Meeting	7 NO MONDAY WORSHIP 6:30 p.m. Circuit Youth Leadership Meeting at Faith	8	9 10:00 a.m. Ablelight 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at Faith 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship	10 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship at St. John's	11	12 FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN and Mall of America
13 Last Day of Sunday School at Faith 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship w/Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Bible Study	14 NO MONDAY WORSHIP 6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting	15	16 MAUNDY THURSDAY 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship w/Holy Communion 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at Faith 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship w/Holy Communion	17 MAUNDY THURSDAY 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship w/Holy Communion at St. John's	18 GOOD FRIDAY 1:00 p.m. Worship at Faith 6:30 p.m. Worship at St. John's	19
20 EASTER SUNDAY 10:15 a.m. Worship w/Holy Communion	21 NO MONDAY WORSHIP	22	23 10:00 am. Ablelight 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	24	25	26 LWML Spring Rally at St. John-Merrill
27 RECOGNITION SUNDAY at Faith 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Potluck Luncheon	28 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at Faith 6:30 p.m. Worship	29	30 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	CONFIRMATION Sunday, May 18 at Faith		

April Schedule for Elders, Ushers, Greeters and Scrip

Wednesday April 2 11:00am

Elders Rodney Dahlke, Keith Wendt
 Ushers Leon and Beth Bartelt
 Greeter Leon Bartelt
 Scrip Cindy Krenz

Wednesday, April 2 6:30pm

Elders Jeff Laabs, Mark Porath
 Ushers Chris Stogbauer
 Greeter Chris Stogbauer
 Scrip Debbie Stogbauer

*Sunday, April 6 10:15 a.m.

Elders Mike Bielke, Kyle Young
 Ushers Brian and Lynn Klug
 Greeter Brian Klug
 Scrip Lynn Klug

Wednesday, April 9 11:00am

Elders Lee Pfaff, Keith Wendt
 Ushers Leroy Laabs
 Greeter Leroy Laabs
 Scrip Cindy Krenz

Wednesday, April 9 6:30pm

Elders Joe Heisinger, Jason Westfall
 Ushers Amanda Heisinger
 Greeter Amanda Heisinger
 Scrip Debbie Stogbauer

Sunday, April 13 10:15 a.m.

Elders Jeff Laabs, Mark Porath
 Ushers Bob and Bernice Porath
 Greeter Bob Porath
 Scrip Bernice Porath

*Wednesday, April 16 11:00am

Elders Rodney Dahlke, Lee Pfaff
 Ushers Leon and Beth Bartelt
 Greeter Leon Bartelt
 Scrip Cindy Krenz

*Wednesday, April 16 6:30pm

Elders Mike Bielke, Kyle Young
 Ushers Ed Stiver, Joe Heisinger
 Greeter Ed Stiver
 Scrip Debbie Stogbauer

Friday, April 18 1:00pm

Elders Keith Wendt, Lee Pfaff
 Ushers Leroy Laabs
 Greeter Leroy Laabs
 Scrip Cindy Krenz

*Sunday, April 20 10:15 a.m.

Elders Joe Heisinger, Jeff Laabs
 Ushers Amanda Heisinger, Carol Hein
 Greeter Amanda Heisinger
 Scrip Becky Rajek

Sunday, April 27 10:15 a.m.

Elders Mark Porath, Mike Bielke
 Ushers Brian and Lynn Klug
 Greeter Brian Klug
 Scrip Lynn Klug

Monday, April 28 6:30 p.m.

Elders Kyle Young, Joe Heisinger
 Ushers Amanda Heisinger
 Greeter Amanda Heisinger
 Scrip Debbie Stogbauer

*Sunday, May 4 10:15 a.m.

Elders Rodney Dahlke, Lee Pfaff
 Ushers Leroy Laabs, Jim Bielke
 Greeter Leroy Laabs
 Scrip Cindy Krenz

*Monday, May 5 6:30 p.m.

Elders Keith Wendt, Jason Westfall
 Ushers Ed Stiver
 Greeter Ed Stiver
 Scrip Debbie Stogbauer



KEY DATES

April 13th Palm Sunday
 April 16th Maundy Thursday
 April 18th Good Friday
 April 20th Easter Sunday

ELDERS

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



Easter Lilies

In the beauty and celebration of Easter, we are decorating the FaithSanctuary and Narthex with Easter lilies this year. Donations for the EASTER FLOWERS will be taken through Sunday, April 6. Forms and envelopes are on the Scrip table in the back of church. Drop your envelope in the basket on the back table or leave in the church office,

The form needs to be returned by Sunday, April 6



JUNE 9-10-11

VBS "Celebrate the Savior, Jesus Gives Us Joy"

Meals hosted by Women of Faith, St.

John's and Elders of

Faith and St. John's

MAY 18

CONFIRMATION at Faith



APRIL 12

Feed My Starving Children and Mall of America

APRIL 13

Last Day of Sunday School at Faith

APRIL 26

LWML Spring Rally at St. John – Merrill

APRIL 27

RECOGNITION SUNDAY at Faith
Worship Service followed by a

potluck meal. *Recognizing new members, baptisms, confirmands, weddings in 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025. Hosted by Evangelism and Stewardship*



LENTEN ORGAN MEDITATIONS

at St. John the Baptist Episcopal
330 McClellan St.

Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Fridays from 12:15 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Come for a time of meditation and music during the lunch hour

March 28—Lee Riecki

April 4—Bryan Higgins-Moe

April 11—Irene Beethe

Sponsored by the Wisconsin River Chapter
American Guild of Organists

website: agohq.org/chapters/wisconsinriver
Facebook.com/AGO-Wisconsin-River-Chapter-154526781226983

Free Will Offering

APRIL

Birthdays and Anniversaries

ST. JOHN'S ANNIVERSARIES

April 15
Dave & Barb Czech 42 years

FAITH ANNIVERSARIES

April 10
Steven & Laurie Goetsch 26 years
April 20
Kelvin & Tammy Baumann 40 years
April 21
Ryan & Jessica Baguhn 18 years
April 22
Mark & Pamela Pester 26 years
April 26
Rodney & Cheryl Dahlke 39 years

ST. JOHN'S BIRTHDAYS

April 1 Jen Seliger
Isabella Zastrow
April 2 Nancee Emmerich
April 6 Kathy Marquardt
April 18 Ken Marquardt
April 30 Steve Kleinschmidt

FAITH BIRTHDAYS

April 4 Dean Schlag
Joseph Calmes
April 5 Robert Porath
April 8 Jody Maulson
April 9 Bruce Krenz
Cole Rajek
Molli Wicke
April 10 Joe Heisinger
Lynn Klug
Mikayla Klade
LeeAnn Pfaff
April 12 Khloe Olson
Koi Olson
April 14 Jessica Schade

April 15 Kevin Goetsch
April 16 Emma Anderson
Karen Olson
April 17 Vickie Bartelt
Cassidy Reinhardt
April 18 Katherine Stoeckmann
Keith Williams
April 19 McCoy Klug
Marjorie Radenz
Ann Stoeckmann
Mollie Pester
April 24 Michael Baumann
April 25 Brian Grueneberg
Leon Bartelt
April 26 Loyd Kleinschmidt
April 28 Colton Bartelt
Brian Schade
April 30 Audrey Steckling

AUDIO VIDEO SCHEDULE APRIL 2025

Wed., April 2 (11 a.m.) Lee Pfaff
Wed., April 2 (6:30 p.m.) Joe and Amanda Heisinger
Sun., April 6 (10:15 a.m.) Bonnie Grueneberg
Wed., April 9 (11 a.m.) Rodney Dahlke
Wed., April 9 (6:30 p.m.) Bonnie Grueneberg
Sun., April 13 (10:15 a.m.) Bonnie Grueneberg
Wed., April 16 (11 a.m.) Gene Mootz
Wed., April 16 (6:30 p.m.) Bonnie Grueneberg
Fri., April 18 (1 p.m.) Bonnie Grueneberg
Sun., April 20 (10:15 a.m.) Bonnie Grueneberg
Sun., April 27 (10:15 a.m.) Bonnie Grueneberg
Mon., April 28 (6:30 p.m.) Gene Mootz
Sun., May 4 (10:15 a.m.) Bonnie Grueneberg
Mon., May 5 (6:30 p.m.) Lee Pfaff

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 1-815-922-0397

Pastor's Office Hours

Mon. & Tues. Home
Wednesday Faith
Thursday St. John's
Friday Off (Family Day)

Elders

Don Gille 715-573-8197
Bob Burish 715-573-7078
Mike Schultz 715-539-0995
Jeremy Fromm 715-574-2003

Christian Day Care

Patti Beilke 715-539-8120

Elder of the Month

Mark Czech 715-409-9174

Setting the Lord's Table

Joy Free

April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship at Faith 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship at Faith	3 6:00 p.m. Meal at St. John's 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship at St. John's 7:15 p.m. Mary Martha Guild	4	5
6 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School during Worship	7 6:30 p.m. Circuit Youth Leadership Meeting at Faith	8 6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m. Elders' Meeting	9 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship at Faith 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship at Faith	10 6:00 p.m. Meal at St. John's 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship at St. John's	11	12 FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN and Mall of America
13 8:30 a.m. Worship Sunday School during Worship	14	15	16 MAUNDY THURSDAY 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship w/Holy Communion at Faith 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship w/Holy Communion at Faith	17 MAUNDY THURSDAY 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship w/Holy Communion at St. John's	18 GOOD FRIDAY 1:00 p.m. Worship at Faith 6:30 p.m. Worship at St. John's	19
20 EASTER SUNDAY 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion	21	22	23 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	24	25	26 LWML Spring Rally at St. John - Merrill
27 8:30 a.m. Worship Sunday School during Sermon	28	29	30 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	SUNDAY, APRIL 27 Disaster Response Sunday		



North WI District Disaster Response

*Gospel centered
care for both body
and soul in times
of tragedy.*



**1 JOHN
4:19 WE LOVE BECAUSE
HE FIRST LOVED US.**



DISASTER RESPONSE SUNDAY

Tornadoes. Fires. Floods. When disaster strikes, immediate response is often crucial. But where to start? How should volunteers be managed? What training is needed for good-intentioned groups wanting to serve? The North WI District has a Disaster Response Coordinator to help congregations manage a disaster in their location and support the disaster response of congregations looking to serve. Sunday April 27th is simply a day to become more aware of and support NWD Disaster Response.

DISASTER RESPONSE OPPORTUNITIES



TRAIN



SUPPORT



NETWORK

DISASTER RESPONSE
COORDINATOR
PR. ANDY WEDEN

715-345-6510
aweden@uwsp.edu

NWD LCMS
3103 Seymour Lane
Wausau, WI 54401



Train

- *Lutheran Early Response Training (LERT)*



Support

- *Spiritual*
- *Supplies*
- *Equipment*



Network

- *Regional*
- *National*
- *Synod*

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- *Pray for people suffering through disasters.*
- *Consider your congregation's plan to serve those in need.*
- *Donate to the NWD Disaster Response ministry*

**CONTACT
PASTOR
ANDY
WEDEN
715-345-6510**



APRIL

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

TEACHING THE FAITH — APRIL 1-15

This month, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod celebrates the many ways that God's children are instructed, encouraged and strengthened in the faith. By teaching the faith, we nurture the faithful and reach the lost.

Remember how God works to strengthen the faith of His people as you pray:

- 1.** *with thanksgiving for the gift of faith received at Baptism.* Ask the Lord to continue to strengthen that faith — and the budding faith of our children — until we depart this life and are united with the Lord.
- 2.** *with thanksgiving to God for the gift of His holy and inspired Word, the Sacred Scriptures; and for the Book of Concord and the many teaching aids that help us understand that Word aright and rejoice in its consolation.*

3. *for Christian families, that the Lord would provide the assistance and tools necessary to overcome every challenge — big or small — that might drive them apart.*

4. *for strong Christian marriages, that husbands and wives would cling to each other in the Lord, despite life's challenges, and raise their children to walk in the way of the Lord.*

5. *for Christian parents, that they would make teaching the faith to their children a priority. Pray that they set aside time to worship together, talk about faith issues, study the Bible and have family devotions.*

6. *that family members would treat each other with kindness and patience, so that each member might be built up in the family of God.*

7. *for our children and young people, who face daily assaults on their Christian beliefs, that God would strengthen and encourage them to stand firm while sharing the Gospel.*

8. *for our churches, that they would provide useful education and programs to help equip people at every stage of life — teens, husbands and wives, parents, caretakers of aging parents and more.*

9. *that God would continue to provide faithful church workers to serve as role models and teach people about their identity as a baptized child of God.*

10. *that church members would eagerly volunteer their time and talents to support the congregation's educational programs, such as vacation Bible school, Sunday school and groups for young families.*

11. *that LCMS members would eagerly participate in Bible studies, small-group discussions and private study.*

12. *with thanksgiving for faithful parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers and other role models who help to "train up a child in the way he should go" (Prov. 22:6).*

13. *for the Concordia University System and the Synod's two seminaries, that the Lord would bless their work in training new generations of workers to serve the Church.*

14. *for the Synod's directors of Family Life Ministry, that God would bless their efforts to support healthy relationships in the families of our congregations.*

15. *that we might have hearts that are willing and eager to serve the Lord in every way.*

APRIL Pray For Us Calendar

MINISTRY TO THE ARMED FORCES — APRIL 16-30

Since the Civil War, LCMS pastors have served as military chaplains. Today, the Synod's Ministry to the Armed Forces (MAF) supports active duty, reserves, National Guard and Civil Air Patrol chaplains, MAF recruits, interviews and endorses all military chaplains and supports them throughout their careers. MAF also provides a network of care for our nation's military members, families and veterans through Operation Barnabas.

Remember God's work through LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces (MAF) as you pray:

- 16.** that God would bless and guide the work of the MAF director and assistant director.
- 17.** for the President of the United States. Ask God to guide our commander in chief to lead with wisdom for the protection of the innocent against evil.
- 18.** for LCMS military chaplains serving on active duty for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.
- 19.** for our LCMS Reserve and National Guard chaplains, especially those who have been mobilized stateside or overseas and taken from their parishes to extended active duty assignments, for those deployed, their families and their home parishes.
- 20.** for Operation Barnabas, which is designed to meet the needs of congregations in the event their pastor/chaplain is mobilized. Operation Barnabas also seeks to assist veterans and military families during and after deployment.
- 21.** for all congregations that reach out to members of our military through Operation Barnabas, that they would uphold them in prayer as they help to meet their physical, psychological and spiritual needs through the training they have received and the Lord's provision.
- 22.** for increasing opportunities for LCMS chaplains to spread Christ's message of salvation, hope and restoration to those they serve.
- 23.** for all chaplains returning home, that they would receive a hero's welcome for their

sacrifice to this country so that in freedom we can continue to openly worship the one true God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

- 24.** for those who suffer from battle stress and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Pray that God would bring healing and renewal to those who have served or who are currently serving.
- 25.** for all chaplains who are sick or have sick family members, that the Father of all mercies and the God of all comfort would look with favor upon them, and as it pleases Him, restore them to health or give them the grace to accept this tribulation with courage and hope.
- 26.** for all chaplains in harm's way, that God would not let their hearts despair nor their faith fail them, but sustain, guide and comfort them.
- 27.** for all members of the military who were disabled during their duty, that our heavenly Father would mercifully guide, aid and strengthen all

those with physical disabilities, enabling them to find fulfillment in their lives and encouragement for all their endeavors.

- 28.** with thanksgiving to God for providing LCMS chaplains to serve members of the armed forces. Please pray that military chaplains would have every opportunity to share the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ with members of the military and anyone with whom they work and live.
- 29.** for all military chaplains upon their return, that they would be reunited with their families, find gainful employment and receive all the care they need to heal their minds, bodies and souls. Grant that they would always look to Christ as their rock and their redeemer.
- 30.** for those who minister to the armed forces, that by God's gracious working, they may honor Christ and advance the good of those committed to their care, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at lcms.org/prayforum or call 888-843-0267 to request a copy.






Adoration: Beholding God

April

Daily Reading Plan



- Day 1: Psalm 59:16
- Day 2: Exodus 15:1-18
- Day 3: 1 Chronicles 29:10-13
- Day 4: Job 34:13-15, 37:5-6
- Day 5: 1 Kings 8:23-24
- Day 6: Psalm 18:30-31
- Day 7: Psalm 95:1-11
- Day 8: Psalm 23:1-6
- Day 9: Psalm 36:5-9
- Day 10: Psalm 83:18
- Day 11: Psalm 86:15, 89:14
- Day 12: Psalm 90:1-4
- Day 13: Psalm 93:1-2, 5
- Day 14: Psalm 104:1-9, 24
- Day 15: Psalm 111
- Day 16: Psalm 139:7-16
- Day 17: Isaiah 30:18
- Day 18: Is 40:11-15, 17-23
- Day 19: Is 40:25-31
- Day 20: Is 44:24, 45:5-6
- Day 21: John 1:3-4
- Day 22: Romans 11:33-36
- Day 23: Galatians 1:3-5
- Day 24: Hebrews 1:3
- Day 25: Hebrews 2:9-10
- Day 26: Rev. 1:8
- Day 27: Rev. 3:7
- Day 28: Rev. 5:11-12
- Day 29: Rev. 15:3-4
- Day 30: Rev. 19:6-7

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

Hebrews 1:3

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

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

