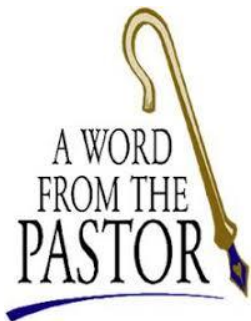


MAY 2026

# The Good News

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



## The Story of "Chippie" - the Bird!

*"But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." ESV*

Several years ago the Chattanooga Free Press told the story of a woman who had decided to take a short cut to cleaning the birdcage that housed her favorite canary Chippie. Having a busy schedule that day, she decided to clean the cage with the vacuum cleaner.

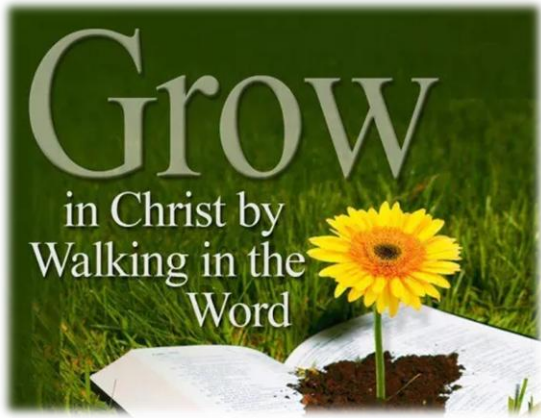
Shortening the process even further, she took off the attachment & was using the full hose to remove debris from the cage. Suddenly the telephone rang. She turned to answer it when she heard the loud "whoosh." She knew immediately what had happened: Chippie had been sucked into the vacuum bag. Quickly she hung up the phone, opened the bag and found Chippie – still alive but filthy. She went to the bathroom, turned on the faucet full force and stuck Chippie beneath it. A few minutes later he was clean but shivering. Seeing the hair dryer on the counter, she picked it up and turned it on high and quickly had Chippie dry, warm and back in the cage. The entire procedure had taken only a few minutes.

Days later, someone asked, "How is Chippie?"

"Well," she said, "he seems OK except that he doesn't sing anymore. He just sits and stares out into the room."

This lady had decided to take a short cut... and nearly succeeded in taking the life out of her poor bird. There are times when shortcuts are ok. But there are other times when you don't dare take those short cuts. One of those times is when you're dealing with your faith and your relationship with God. If you take short cuts with your Christianity, you can end up taking the life out of your faith.

Even Dr. Martin Luther wrote about he and his family: "You should diligently learn the Word of God and by no means imagine that you know it. Let him who is able to read take a psalm in the morning, or some other chapter of Scripture, and study it for a while. This is what I do. When I get up in the morning, I pray and recite the Ten Commandments, the Creed, and the Lord's Prayer with the children, adding any one of the psalms. I do this only to keep myself well acquainted with these matters, and I do not want to let the mildew of the notion grow that I know them well enough. The devil is a greater rascal than you think he is. You do as yet not know what



sort of fellow he is and what a desperate rogue you are. His definite design is to get you tired of the Word and in this way to draw you away from it. This is his aim.” (WA 32, 64f.).

Again Luther writes; “Nothing is more effectual against the devil, the world, the flesh, and all evil thoughts than to occupy oneself with the Word of God, talk about it and meditate on it . . . For this reason alone you should eagerly read, recite, ponder and practice the Catechism, even if the only blessing and benefit you obtain from it is to rout the devil and evil thoughts. For he cannot bear to hear God’s Word. God’s Word is not like some empty tale, ... but as St. Paul says in Rom. 1:16, it is “*the power of God,*” indeed, the power of God which burns the devil and gives us immeasurable strength, comfort, and help.”

May God continue to strengthen you as you not grow away from the Word but grow in the Word.

Pastor Love



## The 30 Hour Famine Faith In Action

*Youth from Circuit 6 will participate over the weekend of May 1-2. Events begin at Faith on Friday evening at 7 p.m. and end at St. Paul’s on Saturday morning at 10 a.m.*

For over three decades, the 30 Hour Famine has made an incredible difference, not only for people facing hunger, but also for the youth groups and students who’ve been part of it over the years. Together, youth groups across the country have:

- Inspired students to fast and serve more than 6 million times
- Raised \$190 million to equip over 4.7 million children with food
- Sparked a generation of young people to live out compassion and justice

*That’s an incredible legacy of faith in action!*

**Youth loving God and fighting hunger**

**ONE DOLLAR and THIRTY CENTS feeds**

**ONE CHILD for**

**ONE DAY ... can you help?**

Jars/containers will be available in the back of church to drop your loose change.

*“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.”*

Matthew 5:6



*He Is*

*Risen!*

*He is Risen*

*Indeed!*



In the beauty and **CELEBRATION OF EASTER**, the Sanctuary and Narthex at Faith were adorned with flowers from donations given by the following:

- ♥ In memory of **Randy Braatz, Clarence and Elaine Schult**, a gift from Cindy Braatz
- ♥ In memory of **Timothy Pagel**, a gift from Gene and Karen Pagel
- ♥ In memory of **Deanna Koebe**, a gift from James Koebe
- ♥ Gifts from several anonymous donors
- ♥ In memory of **Mr. and Mrs. Fred Seidler**, a gift from Marlene Krenz
- ♥ In memory of **Geneva Calmes, Bruce Calmes, and Diane Calmes Ostrowski**, a gift from Joe Calmes and Gayle Klotzbuecher
- ♥ In memory of **Harold Rusch**, a gift from Joyce Rusch
- ♥ A gift from Gerhard and Sally Hannemann
- ♥ In memory of **Carolyn and Ralph and Elsie Carl**, a gift from Dale and Linda Janisch
- ♥ A gift from Chris and Deb Stogbauer



# Feed My Starving Children 2026

*Thirty-seven youth and adults from our circuit and includes our two congregations participated in this year's event on Saturday, April 18. 159 boxes were packed which included 34,344 meals. This will feed 94 kids a daily meal for a year. Cost of this event was \$9,959.94. This mission is a call to feed God's starving children who are hungry in body and spirit.*



*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat ... Matthew 25:35*

## *Food for Kids At St. John's during Lent*

*Thank you so much for your overwhelming response in donating food for the kids at Maple Grove. Your kindness was appreciated by all.*

*St. John's  
Evangelism/Stewardship Committees*





## Baby Care Kits

The crib at Faith was overflowing with your Baby Care gifts for Haven in Merrill and for the the MAC Homeless shelter. Diapers were also given to Our Saviour's Diaper Closet. Thank you so much for your overwhelming response. Your gifts are appreciated.  
*Faith Stewardship and Evangelism*



every shade  
of grateful

We are truly touched by your kindness and generosity. Your donation of baby clothes, diapers and wipes mean the world to our families in need. From the bottom of our hearts - Thank you!

All of us at HAVEN

JOIN US FOR VBS AT FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
 15425 S. COUNTY ROAD K, MERRILL

**June 8 - 10, 2026**

**5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

(Meal starting at 5:00 p.m.)

Provided by Faith Lutheran Church, Merrill and  
 St. John's Lutheran Church, Hamburg

To Register: Call (715) 536-5443 - OR -  
 Online at [www.myvbs.org/bibleadventures2026](http://www.myvbs.org/bibleadventures2026)



# Bible Adventures

# May 2026 Elder, Usher, Greeter, Scrip, AV Schedule

## \*Sunday, May 3 10:15 a.m.

Elders Jeff Laabs, Mark Porath  
 Ushers Leroy Laabs, Bernice Porath  
 Greeter Bernice Porath  
 Scrip Cindy Krenz  
 Audio Video Bonnie Grueneberg

## Sunday, May 10 10:15 a.m.

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

## \*Sunday, May 17 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, May 24 10:15 a.m.

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

## Sunday, May 31 10:15 a.m.

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

## \*Monday, May 4 6:30 p.m.

Elders Joe Heisinger, Kyle Young  
 Usher Amanda Heisinger  
 Greeter Amanda Heisinger  
 Scrip Deb Stogbauer  
 Audio Video Rodney Dahlke

## Monday, May 11 6:30 p.m.

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

## \*Monday, May 18 6:30 p.m.

Elders Jeff Laabs, Mark Porath  
 Usher Chris Stogbauer  
 Greeter Chris Stogbauer  
 Scrip Deb Stogbauer  
 Audio Video Lee Pfaff

## Monday, May 25 6:30 p.m.

NO MONDAY WORSHIP

### HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, May 3	10:15 a.m.
Monday, May 4	6:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 17	10:15 a.m.
Monday, May 18	6:30 p.m.

## MONDAY, June 1 6:30 p.m.

Elders Jason Westfall, Rodney Dahlke  
 Usher Chris Stogbauer  
 Greeter Chris Stogbauer  
 Scrip Deb Stogbauer  
 Audio Video Cindy Braatz

### ELDERS

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



**Faith Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
April 13, 2026**

Present: Pastor Love, Terry Seidler (President), Cindy Braatz (Treasurer), Bonnie Grueneberg (Evangelism), Barry Krenz (Trustees), Rodney Dahlke (Elder), Cindy Krenz (Financial Secretary)

Terry called the meeting to order. Pastor opened with a prayer. Meeting minutes from February 9, 2026 were reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer - The report was reviewed for February and March and showed an ending balance of \$23,083.78. Cory Rajek said to make the check out to Mission Central.

Pastor - Handed out five pamphlets to read. Went over possible suggestions for establishing protocol for canceling worship services. Have one confirmand. Inspired Singles is going well.

President Report - Terry asked a couple of people for Church Council Secretary.

Elders - No report

Trustees - Lights have been changed. Worked on furnace. Fire Inspector looked things over. Bought lawn mower for Scott Cemetery.

Stewardship/Evangelism - Diapers went to Diapers Closet at Our Savior in Merrill. Clothing to MAC and Haven. Easter Sunday handed out jelly bean markers. Living River will be at Faith on April 26 at 6:30 pm.

Education - VBS May 3 kickoff. May 17 for VBS meeting.

Financial Meeting - Nothing to report

Old Business – None

New Business - Saturday, June 27 Build A Bed at Lincoln County Fairgrounds.

The next council meeting will be Monday, June 1 at 7:30 pm.

A motion for adjournment was made and seconded. Motion carried. The meeting closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Braatz  
Recording Secretary

# Faith Lutheran Church

15425 South County Road K

Merrill, WI 54452

Church e-mail: [faithmerrillwi@gmail.com](mailto:faithmerrillwi@gmail.com)

Church website: [faithlutheranmerrill.com](http://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 MAY SCHEDULE

April 21 – May 4 Gene and Karen Pagel  
 May 5 – May 18 Chris Pfaff & Phyllis Beilke  
 May 19 – June 1 Keith and Pat Wendt

## May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7:00 p.m. Friday – 10:00 a.m. Saturday Youth 30-Hour Famine	
3 10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Bible Study 11:15 a.m. Stewardship and Evangelism	4	5 10:00 a.m. Board of Trustees Meeting 1:00 p.m. Women of Faith	6 5:30 Confirmation Class at Faith	7 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's	8 12 noon – 4:00 p.m. Pick up date for hanging baskets from St. John's	9
10 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Bible Study 12:15 p.m. Inspired Singles at Faith	11 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. Elders' Meeting	12	13 10:00 a.m. Ablelight 5:30 Confirmation Class at Faith	14 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's	15	16
17 10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Bible Study 4:30 p.m. ISI Pine Ridge Restaurant, Merrill	18 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion	19	20 5:30 Confirmation Class at Faith	21 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's	22	23
24 10:15 a.m. Worship	25 NO MONDAY WORSHIP	26	27 10:00 a.m. Ablelight	28 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's	29	30
31 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Bible Study	<h1>Confirmation Sunday</h1> <h2>June 7, 2026 at St. John's</h2>					

# Follow Him in Generosity

Our Savior calls us to follow Him in generosity. *“For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you”* (John 13:15). We cannot give our lives for the salvation of the world, of course. Praise God, that job is already done! But with hearts full of thanksgiving for what Jesus has given us, we can follow His example of generous giving. And Jesus’ generosity is not merely an example. Our Lord also commands us to act according to our gifts: *“The one who contributes, [let him give] in generosity”* (Rom. 12:8).

So, when we bring offerings to the Lord, we should strive to heed His command and follow the pattern He has established for us. Jesus did not give us leftovers. He gave His best. We should not give leftovers, either, but the first and best of what He has given us. Jesus did not give as an afterthought — He gave according to the plan of salvation God established from the foundation of the world. So, when it comes to our own offerings, we should make a thoughtful plan to give generously, in proportion to the way He has blessed us. Like the Macedonian Christians, who gave according to their ability, and even beyond their ability (2 Cor. 8:3), we should honor the Lord by giving a generous portion of the income that God provides us.

We should also give freely, just as Jesus gave freely for us. There is no compulsion involved in our works of love and our offerings to the Lord. We do not give grudgingly, but willingly and cheerfully, each *“as he has decided in his heart,”* as the Lord says (2 Cor. 9:7). There is no New Testament ceremonial law involved here. Rather, we are free to give as generously as our Savior has given for us!

In the same way, our Lord teaches us to give generously out of our love for Him and for our neighbor. Jesus shows us that genuine love is always love *“in deed”* (1 John 3:18). It is love that sees our neighbor in need and gives generously to help him. It is love that hears the Word of the Lord and does what it says. If we truly love, we give generously. If we give without love, our giving is not truly following Jesus.

Finally, we follow Jesus in generosity when we support His Gospel ministry and other works of mercy. The people of Israel gave generously to construct and support the operation of the tabernacle, for that was the place where the Lord received the Old Testament sacrifices, through which He bestowed the forgiveness of sins on His people. So, they gave abundantly, so abundantly that they had to be told to stop giving! (Ex. 36:5–6). In the same way, we should bring generous offerings to support the Lord’s work. We support our congregations in the preaching of His Word, Baptism and the Lord’s Supper, which bestow His gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation, and we take care of those who are poor and needy.

Our Savior calls us to follow His example in generous giving. Let us then, with thankful hearts, rededicate ourselves to following Him in generosity.

And whatever you do,  
in word or deed,  
do everything in the name  
*of the Lord Jesus,*  
*giving thanks*  
to God the Father  
through him.

Colossians 3:17



# St. John's Lutheran Church

134058 County Road L Athens, WI 54411

715-536-1810

**Pastor Donald Love**  
Office Phone 715-536-5443  
Phone 715-722-0540  
Cell Phone 1-715-350-3871

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

**Elders**  
Mike Schultz 715-539-0995  
Mark Czech 715-409-9174  
Don Gille 715-573-8197  
Bob Burish 715-573-7078

**Elder of the Month**  
Jeremy Fromm 715-574-2003Home  
**Setting the Lord's Table**  
Misty Vogel

May 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
					7:00 p.m. Friday – 10:00 a.m. Saturday <b>Youth 30-Hour Famine</b>	
3 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion	4	5	6 5:30 Confirmation Class at Faith	7 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Mary Martha Guild	8 12 noon – 4:00 p.m. Pick up date for hanging baskets from St. John's	9
10 8:30 a.m. Worship 12:15 p.m. Inspired Singles at Faith	11	12 6:00 p.m. Church Council 7:15 p.m. Elders' Meeting	13 5:30 Confirmation Class at Faith	14 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study	15	16
17 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 4:30 p.m. ISI at Pine Ridge Restaurant, Merrill	18	19	20 5:30 Confirmation Class at Faith	21 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study	22	23
24 8:30 a.m. Worship	25	26	27	28 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Study	29	30
31 8:30 a.m. Worship	<div style="font-family: cursive; font-size: 2em; margin-bottom: 10px;"><i>Confirmation Sunday</i></div> <div style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">June 7, 2026 at St. John's</div>					



**ST. JOHN'S BIRTHDAYS**

May 11 Mike Seliger  
 May 13 Philip Vogel  
 May 14 Florence Williamson  
 May 16 Dan Grenwalt  
 May 20 Kolton Faber

**FAITH BIRTHDAYS**

May 1 Turner Bonnell  
 May 2 Jacob Dahlke  
 Violet Ermeling  
 May 3 Linda Heisinger  
 Ashlynn Semling  
 Konrad Young  
 May 4 Elizabeth Wegner  
 May 5 Becky Rajek  
 Evelyn Reinhardt  
 May 6 Terry Bauer  
 May 7 Penny Bauer  
 May 8 Steven Baumann  
 Jane Bauer  
 Hannah Blum  
 May 12 Casey Baumann  
 May 13 Breanne Semling  
 May 15 Jeremy Williams  
 May 18 Keith Williams  
 May 22 Jason Hoffman  
 Avery Dahlke  
 Anthony Calmes  
 May 23 Joy Marquardt  
 May 26 Jothon Olson  
 May 30 Joyce Rusch  
 Tanya Hannemann

**FAITH ANNIVERSARIES**

May 3  
 Lee & Diane Pfaff 57 years  
 May 28  
 Hans & Linda Heisinger 49 years  
 Keith & Christine Williams 40 years  
 May 29  
 Brian and Marilyn Luedtke 50 years

**ST. JOHN'S ANNIVERSARIES**

May 21  
 John & Kathy Sturm 43 years  
 May 25  
 Fred & Lynn Harder 52 years  
 May 30  
 Steve & Joy Free 39 years



**INSPIRED SINGLES**

**Friday, May 1 – Fish Fry Fellowship**  
 Schult's Country Inn  
 5:30 p.m.

**Sunday, May 3 – Potluck at Faith**  
 12:15 p.m.

**Wednesday, June 24 – Pizza on the Patio**  
 Willow Springs Garden, 5480 Hillcrest Drive,  
 Village of Maine  
 6-8 p.m.

**Wednesdays starting in July**  
 Merrill City Band Concerts, Normal Park  
 7 p.m.

For more information,  
 Contact Joy at 715-536-5195

*Hanging  
 Flower  
 Baskets*

Pick up at St. John's  
 Friday, May 8  
 12 noon – 4:00  
 p.m.



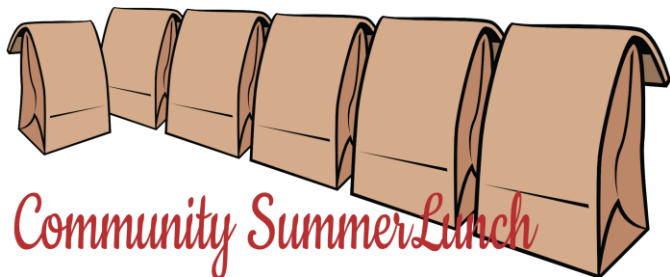
Thrivent Choice®  
Making generosity easy  
thrivent



Thrivent clients recently directing Thrivent Choice Dollars® to Faith Lutheran Church include Jerome Buch, Marlene Krenz, Robert and Bernice Porath, and Brian Wilke. Their gifts on behalf of Thrivent Choice® help to further support the important work of our church.



**ISI**  
**Iron Sharpens Iron**  
Sunday, May 17  
4:30 p.m.  
Pine Ridge  
Restaurant  
Merrill



*Community Summer Lunch*

The summer lunch program is gearing up. The program provides bag lunches five days a week to kids from the beginning of June through mid-August. Five Merrill churches – St. John Lutheran, Christ United Methodist, Our Saviour's Lutheran, St. Stephen's, Trinity Lutheran – served nearly 12,000 hungry children and teens received lunches last year. The program is also supported by the Merrill Food Pantry and several other organizations in the community. All children and teens are welcome to participate and pick up a free lunch Monday through Friday every week of the summer.



Week of May 3, 2026

**Romans 12:12**

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Week of May 10, 2026

**Philippians 1:6**

I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Week of May 17, 2026

**John 1:12**

To all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.

Week of May 24, 2026

**Colossians 3:12**

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Week of May 31, 2026

**Galatians 3:26**

In Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

### *A Wonderful Reminder*

*While praying one day a little girl asked, "Who are you, Lord?"*

*He answered, "I Am."*

*"But, who is I Am?", she asked.*

*And He replied ... "I Am Love. I Am Peace. I Am Grace. I Am Joy.*

*I Am the Way, Truth, and the Light.*

*I Am the Comforter.*

*I Am Strength. I Am Safety.*

*I Am Shelter. I Am Power.*

*I Am the Creator.*

*I Am the Beginning and the End.*

*I Am the Most High,"*

*The girl with tears in her eyes looked toward heaven and said, "Now I understand, but Lord, Who am I?"*

*Then God tenderly wiped the tears from her eyes and whispered, "YOU ARE MINE!"*



MAY

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

# Pray For Us Calendar

## LCMS MISSIONARIES ON HOME SERVICE — MAY 1-15

Every other year, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's (LCMS) international missionaries spend approximately two months in the United States on "home service." During this time, they reconnect with the individuals, congregations and groups who support their mission work. Home service also gives them a period of rest and renewal and the chance to spend time with their families.

*Remember God's work through missionaries on home service as you pray:*

- 1.** for the LCMS missionary families who will be on home service. Ask the Lord to keep them safe during their travels.
- 2.** for God's hand to guide and bless the details and logistical arrangements that are a necessary part of missionary home service, such as transportation and housing.
- 3.** for missionary families to be able to visit as many congregations and other groups as possible, while managing their limited time in the United States.

welcome missionaries into their churches for mission presentations, Sunday school, children's messages, celebration luncheons, Bible studies and other activities.

- 8.** that congregations and other groups would experience a revitalized interest in praying for missionaries and supporting their work, especially after visiting with them face-to-face and hearing about what God is accomplishing through them.
- 9.** that as missionaries share their experiences, the listeners would consider serving as a missionary themselves — in a short-term, long-term or career capacity.
- 10.** for the families of visiting missionaries, that they would enjoy their time together and mutually encourage one another.
- 11.** for God to comfort and sustain the missionaries who are not able to see family and friends in the United States this year. May the

Holy Spirit comfort them with His presence and assurance of God's calling to serve far from home.

- 12.** that missionaries would have an easy transition back to life in the United States — even for a short time during home service — with minimal effects of reverse culture shock.
- 13.** that the Lord would raise up supporters for missionaries who are struggling to finding the resources necessary for their ministry.
- 14.** with thanksgiving for the many forms of support and the joy the Lord provides to missionary families as they serve Him.
- 15.** that the conversations started during home service would continue long after the missionary has returned to the mission field. Pray that through ongoing communication, missionaries and supporters would encourage one another.

## MAY *Pray For Us Calendar*

### PARTNER CHURCHES — MAY 16-31

The LCMS has 38 partner churches around the world. A partner church is a church body with which the LCMS has full altar and pulpit fellowship. Many LCMS partner churches also are members of the International Lutheran Council, a worldwide association of confessional Lutheran church bodies. Some LCMS partner churches came into existence through LCMS-supported mission efforts, while others have historic roots that pre-date the LCMS or that are sourced in the mission efforts of other Lutheran church bodies.

*Remember God's work in His Church as you pray:*

- 16.** *for all LCMS partner churches, some of which only have a handful of congregations.* Pray that they would never feel alone in their service to Christ and His Church.
- 17.** *for LCMS partner churches in Latin America and the Caribbean.* Pray that God's Word would continue to spread throughout these countries to bring the Body of Christ together in fellowship and to be witnesses to His love.
- 18.** *for LCMS partner churches in Africa.* Pray that God would strengthen Lutheran Christians in this region to carry out their work for His name's sake.
- 19.** *for LCMS partner churches in Asia,* that God would guide and strengthen Lutheran Christians

in this region, especially in areas where it is difficult or dangerous to do His work.

- 20.** *for LCMS partner churches in Eurasia.* Pray that God would continue to use His Word as a light to those in darkness and as a stronghold for the life of His Church.
- 21.** *with thanksgiving for all the missionaries who serve partner churches,* that they would remain faithful in their tasks and be witnesses to the Gospel through acts of mercy.
- 22.** *for those who serve in leadership positions in LCMS partner churches around the world,* as they guide, nurture and shepherd their people.
- 23.** *for the laypeople of LCMS partner churches around the world,* that they would be fulfilled by God's Word and Sacraments.



**24.** *that God would continue to raise up faithful servants for His Church in locations around the world.*

**25.** *for the Lutheran church bodies around the world interested in fellowship with the LCMS.* Pray that God would guide the consideration process according to His will.

**26.** *in thanksgiving for those who pray continually for those who serve where spreading God's Word is difficult or dangerous.*

**27.** *for Lutheran churches around the world that are dealing with strife between their members.* Pray that the Lord would guide them to a peaceful resolution that would strengthen their witness to the community.

**28.** *for the Lutheran churches in Eurasia as they seek to minister*

*to the refugees in their midst.* Pray for safety for both the church workers and the refugees.

**29.** *for all projects currently going on in LCMS partner church bodies,* that each one would have the volunteers and resources necessary to carry out the work of the church as it shows mercy and provides physical and spiritual care for people around the world.

**30.** *for safe travel between and within countries in each world region.* Pray that pastors, missionaries, medical teams and all who travel to assist partner churches would be kept safe and healthy, that the Gospel might be proclaimed to the far corners of creation.

**31.** *for all those still living in darkness,* that the Gospel will be their light and life.

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at [lcms.org/prayforum](http://lcms.org/prayforum) or call 888-843-7267 to request a copy.



JOIN US AT

ST. PAUL'S

# PARTY ON P

W2604 CTY HWY P - MERRILL, WI

**2 DAYS ONLY**

**JUNE 20TH-21ST, 2026**



**CARL JACKSON**



**JIM PEKOL & GB BAND**

## SATURDAY

3:00PM - PARTY BEGINS  
4:00PM - PRIME RIB SANDWICH SPECIAL  
5:00PM - 9:00PM - MUSIC BY CARL JACKSON AND THE WILD SPIRITS  
CONCESSION STAND, RAFFLES, BOUNCY HOUSE

## SUNDAY

10:00AM - 11:00AM - POLKA CHURCH SERVICE  
11:00 AM - UNTIL GONE - BBQ CHICKEN DINNER  
1:00PM - 4:00PM - MUSIC BY JIM PEKOL & GB BAND  
CONCESSION STAND, BOUNCY HOUSE  
RAFFLE CLOSSES AT 3:30PM. PRIZES DRAWN @ 4PM

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## May



- **May 1**  
Genesis 32–35  
Psalms 102:1–28  
Proverbs 14:15–16
- **May 2**  
Genesis 36–38  
Psalms 103:1–22  
Proverbs 14:17–19
- **May 3**  
Genesis 39–41  
Psalms 104:1–24  
Proverbs 14:20–21
- **May 4**  
Genesis 42–43  
Psalms 104:25–35  
Proverbs 14:22–24
- **May 5**  
Genesis 44–46  
Psalms 105:1–15  
Proverbs 14:25
- **May 6**  
Genesis 47–50  
Psalms 105:16–38  
Proverbs 14:26–27
- **May 7**  
Exodus 1–4  
Psalms 105:39–45  
Proverbs 14:28–29
- **May 8**  
Exodus 5–7  
Psalms 106:1–12  
Proverbs 14:30–31
- **May 9**  
Exodus 8–10  
Psalms 106:13–31  
Proverbs 14:32–33
- **May 10**  
Exodus 11–13  
Psalms 106:32–48  
Proverbs 14:34–35
- **May 11**  
Exodus 14–16  
Psalms 107:1–43  
Proverbs 15:1–3
- **May 12**  
Exodus 17–20  
Psalms 108:1–13  
Proverbs 15:4
- **May 13**  
Exodus 21–23  
Psalms 109:1–31  
Proverbs 15:5–7
- **May 14**  
Exodus 24–27  
Psalms 110:1–7  
Proverbs 15:8–10
- **May 15**  
Exodus 28–30  
Psalms 111:1–10  
Proverbs 15:11
- **May 16**  
Exodus 31–34  
Psalms 112:1–10  
Proverbs 15:12–14
- **May 17**  
Exodus 35–37  
Psalms 113:1–114:8  
Proverbs 15:15–17
- **May 18**  
Exodus 38–40  
Psalms 115:1–18  
Proverbs 15:18–19
- **May 19**  
Leviticus 1–4  
Psalms 116:1–19  
Proverbs 15:20–21
- **May 20**  
Leviticus 5–7  
Psalms 117:1–2  
Proverbs 15:22–23
- **May 21**  
Leviticus 8–10  
Psalms 118:1–18  
Proverbs 15:24–26
- **May 22**  
Leviticus 11–13  
Psalms 118:19–29  
Proverbs 15:27–28
- **May 23**  
Leviticus 14–15  
Psalms 119:1–16  
Proverbs 15:29–30
- **May 24**  
Leviticus 16–18  
Psalms 119:17–35  
Proverbs 15:31–32
- **May 25**  
Leviticus 19–21  
Psalms 119:36–52  
Proverbs 15:33
- **May 26**  
Leviticus 22–23  
Psalms 119:53–70  
Proverbs 16:1–3
- **May 27**  
Leviticus 24–25  
Psalms 119:71–80  
Proverbs 16:4–5
- **May 28**  
Leviticus 26–27  
Psalms 119:81–95  
Proverbs 16:6–7
- **May 29**  
Numbers 1–2  
Psalms 119:96–112  
Proverbs 16:8–9
- **May 30**  
Numbers 3–4  
Psalms 119:113–131  
Proverbs 16:10–11
- **May 31**  
Numbers 5–6  
Psalms 119:132–155  
Proverbs 16:12–13



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