

November 2025

# The Good News

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

*From the Pastor's Desk*

## "The Power of Thankfulness"

***"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." - Philippians 4:6-7***

November is the month to celebrate Thanksgiving. Kim and I are so very thankful to be able to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with God's family here in God's country of Wisconsin. We want to thank you for your generosity, kindness and support through Kim's chemo treatments. What a joy it is to know that we all have a common Savior who forgives all our sins and brings people together from all over the world as brothers and sisters in Christ!

The Holy Spirit teaches us to be thankful because thankfulness is an empowering personal habit. Scripture teaches this again and again, and again and again science proves it. Here are three examples.

A few years ago Dr. Nick Stinnett of the University of Nebraska conducted a group of studies called the

"Family Strengths Research Project". Stinnett and his researchers identified six qualities that make for strong families. The first quality and one of the most important to be found in strong families was the quality of appreciation. Families that are strong are strong in part, Dr. Stinnett concludes, because family members express to each other their appreciation for what the other members DO and for who they ARE

In a similar study, another researcher looked into the effect of praise in the workplace. His study showed that the ratio of praise to criticism in the workplace needs to be four to one before employees feel that there is a balance - that there must be four times as much praise as there is criticism before they feel good about their work and about the environment they are in

That is pretty staggering information - information that tells us that if we want to do something good, that if we want to have a healthy family, a strong workplace, or any other effective group that we need to be sure that appreciation, praise, and thanksgiving are heard at least four times as often as is criticism.

SO VERY  
thankful  
INCREDIBLY  
grateful  
UNBELIEVABLY  
blessed

Again Dennis Prager, author of *"Happiness is a Serious Problem"* writes: "There is a 'secret to happiness,'" Prager writes, "and it is gratitude. All happy people are grateful, and ungrateful people cannot be happy. We tend to think that it is being unhappy that leads people to complain, but it is truer to say that it is complaining that leads to people becoming unhappy. Become grateful and you will become a much happier person."

This is a keen observation, and Holy Scriptures knew this fact and has taught it for thousands of years. The Judeo-Christian tradition places such emphasis on thanking God. The liturgy is filled with expressions of gratitude. "It is good to give thanks to the Lord," begins the 92nd Psalm.

Why? Because God needs our gratitude? No: because we need it. Learning to be thankful, whether to God or to other people, is the best vaccination against taking all the good things in our life for granted. And the less you take for granted, the more pleasure and joy life will bring you.

The most beautiful blessing of all, worthy of all praise and thanksgiving, is the gift of the forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life that we have in the Son of God, Jesus Christ our Lord. Each and every day this Gospel is offered to us. Each and every day we can receive it and give thanks to God for the beautiful gift that cleanses away all our sins. (1 John 1:7; 5:13).

*Pastor Love*

*From LCMS Stewardship Ministry (lcms.org/stewardship)*

## What Makes for a Cheerful Giver?

St. Paul wrote to Church of Christ in Corinth: "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7). *God loves a cheerful giver.* But who is a cheerful giver?

Abel was. By faith, he gave the firstborn of his flock, and it was acceptable in God's sight. Abraham was. By faith, he prepared cakes and a tender choice calf for God and entertained angels unaware. So also were David and Solomon. By faith, David would not make a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing, so he paid Araunah his due. By faith, Solomon built a house for God, where his name would dwell and thereby where He would dwell to be Israel's God and they His people.

What more shall we say? For time would fail us to tell of all those who gave not simply for the joy of giving but for the joy of knowing the One to whom they gave.

So also our Lord, who for the joy set before Him, gave everything – yes, even His life – enduring the cross and scorning its shame. He gave to the shedding of His blood, willingly and resolutely setting His face toward Jerusalem to die for the life of the world. Though He was rich in every way, He became poor, so that by His poverty, we might be rich beyond measure.

So then, let us like Abel and Abraham, like David and Solomon, and even like our Lord Jesus Christ, give cheerfully to God for the work of His kingdom in our midst. Like them, let us decide in our heart for the joy set before us. It's the joy of knowing the One to whom we give is the One who gives us all good things.







## *All Saints' Day*

*We remember and are reminded again that we, too, are God's saints,  
redeemed by the blood of Christ and called to serve the purposes of His kingdom.*

We Pray: Standing with the great multitude of saints before the throne of God and the Lamb, let us join in prayer, praise and thanksgiving to the God of our salvation. Mighty and eternal God, bring us to that day when every tear shall be wiped from our eyes and we shall hunger and thirst no more. Knowing You now by faith, we yearn for the day when we shall know You face to face. Until the dawn of that eternal day, keep us in Your faith and fear through our Good Shepherd and Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

We remember, the faithful departed of our congregations, whose steadfast confession of faith we heard, who joined us in worshipping our Lord with their voice, who communed with us at the Lord's Table and said AMEN!

This year we remember:  
**Randy Braatz – 70 years**  
**Ron Lang – 84 years**  
**Mabel Marquardt – 101 years**  
**Loyd Kleinschmidt – 98 years**

## Forty-Three Years of Flipping Pancakes

Faith Lutheran Church, 15425 Highway K South, Merrill, will be hosting their 43<sup>rd</sup> annual all you can eat pancake dinner on Sunday, November 2 serving from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Homemade potato pancakes and buttermilk pancakes, of course, are the main entrée served with breakfast sausages, scrambled eggs, locally produced maple syrup, applesauce, cheese and several dessert options.

Tickets can be purchased at the church ahead of the pancake dinner as well as at the door. Adults are \$10 per person, children 6-12 are \$5 and children 5 and under are free. Carryouts are also available.

A Bake Sale is also being sponsored by the Evening Women of Faith before church and during the dinner. The tables of homemade baked goods are a must to check out.

The pancake has a long history and was first recorded in 600 BC in ancient Greece from poetic writings. More familiar, Pancake Day became a traditional way to use up dairy products before lent. In 1100 AD, the pancake breakfast was born. In 1445, villages in the United Kingdom started a famous pancake race in Olney, Buckinghamshire. Over the years, fresh snow had been used to seemingly make pancakes light and fluffy. Milk and sometimes cream became the preferred liquid for pancake batter replacing brandy and wine which were first common. In the late 1870s, the flapjack became known as the pancake in American with maple syrup becoming the preferred topping of choice.

In more recent years, 1995, the largest pancake ever flipped was also in the United Kingdom. It measured 16.4 yards across and weighed 3 tons. Certainly more than a frying pan was needed to flip it over. Other records have been set for flipping pancakes such as in 2009, Aldo Zilli set a world record for flipping a single pancake 117 times in 60 seconds. Several years later, 890 people set a world record for the most people tossing pancakes – 930 people tried but 40 flippers were disqualified for dropping their cakes.

With 43 years of hosting the pancake feed, pancakes will be flipping with ease on Sunday, November 2 at Faith Lutheran Church. All are welcome!



**Faith Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, October 13, 2025**

Present: Pastor Love, Terry Seidler (President), Mike Baumann (Vice-President), Lillie McCulloch (Secretary), Barry Krenz (Trustees), Cindy Braatz (Treasurer), Bonnie Grueneberg (Evangelism), Rod Dahlke (Elders), Karen Kleinschmidt (Education). Vice-President, Mike Baumann called the meeting to order. Pastor opened with a prayer and devotion. Meeting minutes from August were reviewed. A motion for approval was made, seconded, and passed.

Treasurer – The balance reports for August and September were reviewed, the ending balance for September was \$20,209.96. All bills have been paid in a timely manner.

Board of Education – Sunday school is going well and Christmas program details are in the works. The children's service will be December 14th. No further updates at this time.

Trustees – Light fixtures are still being upgraded as time allows. A fire inspection was recently completed which showed that our range hood in the kitchen needed an official cleaning inspection. The inspection was completed at the cost of \$125 and is valid for one year. There has been two additional burials at the Scott Cemetery. About a dozen headstones have been straightened recently as well. Propane costs for heating this winter have been locked in at \$1.48 with France Propane Services, they will also donate the 200lb propane tanks for the pancake breakfast as well.

President – The upcoming Veterans Service with breakfast is at St. Johns, our church will host a Veterans Service as well without a meal. No further updates.

Elders – Things are going well and everything is managed. The Pancake breakfast is coming

Stewardship/Evangelism - Polka service & pots-blessing was very successful. All food items were donated so there was no out of pocket expense. \$1,150 in donations was raised and donated to the Klade family. The Angel tree is coming up and details are being worked out.

Pastor – The district conference is coming up next week in Eau Claire, Oct 20-22nd. Pastor was recently contacted by a woman seeking financial assistance for an additional 4 days in a motel during a time of significant financial difficulty and instability after major life events. Her situation seems legitimate, after discussion Pastor will collect additional information and proceed with due diligence. If everything checks out, we will assist her with another 4 days in a hotel. Faith does not have any confirmands this year, but confirmation class is going well.

Old Business - Bonnie is still working on making contact with Living River. The Christmas Stars trip is set up and registration is open.

New Business - It is a good time to start scouting members to fill positions that will be coming up for election in the new year. Bonnie will start figuring out a schedule to get the Christmas tree and decorations up in the church. Additionally, a reminder that committees should be working on their budgets so they are finalized at the time of our December meeting.

The next regular council meeting is scheduled for December 8th, 2025 at 7pm. The budget will be covered at this time as well. A motion for adjournment was made, seconded, and passed. The meeting closed with a prayer from Pastor Love.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lillie McCulloch, Council 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 1-715-350-3871

## 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 NOVEMBER SCHEDULE

November 1 - 3 Jeri Raddatz and Sandy Laabs

November 4 - 17 Susan Pankow and Karen Olson

November 18 – December 1 Gene and Karen Pagel

## November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<b>2 PANCAKE DINNER</b> 9:15 a.m. Sunday School <b>10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion</b> 11:00 a.m. – 1 p.m. Pancake Dinner	<b>3</b> 5:30 p.m. Choir <b>6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion</b>	<b>4</b> 1:00 p.m. Women of Faith 1:00 p.m. Trustees' Meeting	<b>5</b> 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	<b>6</b> 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 8:30 a.m. VETERANS' Worship at St. John's 9:30 a.m. Breakfast at St. John's 9:15 a.m. Sunday School <b>10:15 a.m. VETERANS' Worship</b> 11:15 a.m. Bible Study 12:15 p.m. Evangelism and Stewardship Meeting	<b>10</b> 5:30 p.m. Choir <b>6:30 p.m. Worship</b> 7:30 p.m. Elders' Meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 10:00 a.m. Ablelight 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	<b>13</b> 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Feed My Starving Children and Mall of America Trip 7:30 a.m. Leaving from Faith
<b>16</b> 9:15 a.m. Sunday School <b>10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion</b> 11:15 a.m. Bible Study	<b>17</b> 5:30 p.m. Choir <b>6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith 6:00 p.m. Meal at St. John's <b>6:30 p.m. Hunter's Service at St. John's</b>	<b>20</b> 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9:15 a.m. Sunday School <b>10:15 a.m. Worship</b> 11:15 a.m. Bible Study	<b>24</b> 5:30 p.m. Choir <b>6:30 p.m. Worship</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 10:00 a.m. Ablelight 6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Worship at Faith	<b>27</b> THANKSGIVING	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30 FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT</b> 9:15 a.m. Sunday School <b>10:15 a.m. Worship</b> 11:15 a.m. Bible Study						



### **ST. JOHN'S BIRTHDAYS**

November 9	Karen Zastrow
November 13	Bob Burish
November 16	Joyce Bloch
November 17	Dawn Czech
November 23	Elly Zastrow
November 24	Melvin Kuehn

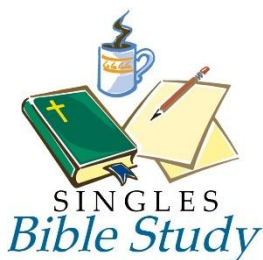
### **FAITH BIRTHDAYS**

November 1	Jim Raddatz
November 2	Jim Koebe
November 7	Susan Pankow
November 9	Pete Borchardt
November 13	Yvonne Duwe
November 17	Michelle Salzman
November 19	Bernice Porath
November 25	Jeff Stogbauer
November 27	Kristin Grueneberg
	Brian Wilke
	Cherie Zunker
November 29	Cecelia Klade
	Lucille Klade



### **FAITH ANNIVERSARIES**

November 2	
Keith and Pat Wendt	51 years
November 12	
Chris and Debbie Stogbauer	42 years
November 16	
Jim and Jeri Raddatz	51 years



**Inspired Singles:** Alone, but not alone. Please come and join us on November 9th, at 3:00 Faith Lutheran Church as we discuss starting a New Singles group.

## ***St. John's Tree of Giving***

The Tree of Giving are items that families from Maple Grove School are in need of for the winter months.



Take 1 or more tags and sign your name on the sign-up sheet next to the appropriate tag number. Purchase item(s) requested and include gift receipt(s) in case the size doesn't work. Put your tag(s) on the bags so it can go to the appropriate family.

Bring purchased bags to St. John's Church by November 23, 2025. They will then be delivered to Maple Grove School on November 24, 2025.

If you have any questions, please contact Lori Baumann at (715) 573-8923.

## **CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR PINE CREST RESIDENTS**



Pine Crest is asking for donation of Christmas presents and/or money which allows Pine Crest

to give a gift to each resident. Items should be dropped off by Sunday, December 7 at Faith. A list of items can be found in this newsletter and on the Scrip table in the back of church.



**Gifts for children:** Tags are available at Faith. Gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 14.

For information, contact Bonnie Grueneberg at 715-613-0003 or e-mail at [bkg9005@gmail.com](mailto:bkg9005@gmail.com)

# November 2025 Elder, Usher, Greeter, Scrip Schedule

## **\*Sunday, November 2 10:15 a.m.**

Elders Joe Heisinger, Kyle Young  
Ushers Amanda Heisinger, Bernice Porath  
Greeter Amanda Heisinger  
Scrip Cindy Krenz  
Audio Bonnie Grueneberg

## **Sunday, November 9 10:15 a.m.**

Elders Jeff Laabs, Mark Porath  
Ushers Carol Hein, Beth Bartlet  
Greeter Carol Hein  
Scrip Becky Rajek  
Audio Bonnie Grueneberg

## **\*Sunday, November 16 10:15 a.m.**

Elders Mike Bielke, Lee Pfaff  
Ushers Brian and Lynn Klug  
Greeter Brian Klug  
Scrip Lynn Klug  
Audio Bonnie Grueneberg

## **Sunday, November 23 10:15 a.m.**

Elders Joe Heisinger, Kyle Young  
Ushers Amanda Heisinger, Leroy Laabs  
Greeter Amanda Heisinger  
Scrip Bernice Porath  
Audio Bonnie Grueneberg

### *FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT*

## **Sunday, November 30 10:15 a.m.**

Elders Keith Wendt, Jeff Laabs  
Ushers Carol Hein, Beth Bartlet  
Greeter Beth Bartlet  
Scrip Cindy Krenz  
Audio Bonnie Grueneberg

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

Sunday, November 2	10:15 a.m.
Monday, November 3	6:30 p.m.
Sunday, November 16	10:15 a.m.
Monday, November 17	6:30 p.m.

## **\*Monday, November 3 6:30 p.m.**

Elders Jason Westfall, Keith Wendt  
Usher Ed Stiver  
Greeter Ed Stiver  
Scrip Deb Stogbauer  
Audio Cindy Braatz

## **Monday, November 10 6:30 p.m.**

Elders Mike Bielke, Lee Pfaff  
Usher Chris Stogbauer  
Greeter Chris Stogbauer  
Scrip Deb Stogbauer  
Audio Gene Mootz

## **\*Monday, November 17 6:30 p.m.**

Elders Jeff Laabs, Mark Porath  
Usher Ed Stiver  
Greeter Ed Stiver  
Scrip Deb Stogbauer  
Audio Rodney Dahlke

### *THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE*

## **Wednesday, November 26 6:30 p.m.**

Elders Rodney Dahlke, Jason Westfall  
Usher Chris Stogbauer  
Greeter Chris Stogbauer  
Scrip Deb Stogbauer  
Audio Bonnie Grueneberg

### *MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE*

## **Wednesday, December 3 6:30 p.m.**

Elders Joe Heisinger, Kyle Young  
Usher Amanda Heisinger  
Greeter Amanda Heisinger  
Scrip Deb Stogbauer  
Audio \_\_\_\_\_



### **ELDERS**

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





# Memory Verse Challenge

Week of November 2, 2025

## 2 Timothy 2:13

If we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

Week of November 9, 2025

## 1 Thessalonians 5:23

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Week of November 16, 2025

## Ephesians 3:20–21

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Week of November 23, 2025

## Revelation 2:10

Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Week of November 30, 2025

## Micah 7:7

But as for me, I will look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.



- † In memory of **LOYD KLEINSCHMIDT**, a gift to the Special Purpose Fund from Joe and Alice Zuelsdorff
- † In memory of **MILLIE BURROWS**, a gift to the Home Purposes Fund from Ed and Connie Stiver
- † In memory of **LOYD KLEINSCHMIDT**, a gift to the Special Purpose Fund from Barry and Cindy Krenz
- †

- † In memory of **MR. & MRS. ART KRAUSE**, a gift to the Special Purpose Fund from Gloria Werner
- † In memory of **LOYD KLEINSCHMIDT**, a gift to the Special Purpose Fund from Phyllis Buch
- † In memory of **LOYD KLEINSCHMIDT**, gifts to the Scott Beautification Fund from Ed and Connie Stiver, Cindy Braatz, Susan Pankow, Gene and Karen Pagel, Bob and Yvonne Duwe, Keith and Pat Wendt, Barry and Cindy Krenz, and family and friends
- † In memory of **LOYD KLEINSCHMIDT**, a gift to the Special Purpose Fund from Tom and Sandy Wendt
- † In memory of **LOYD KLEINSCHMIDT**, gifts to the Altar Guild from family and friends
- † In memory of **LOYD KLEINSCHMIDT**, a gift to the Special Purpose Fund from friends



# 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

Mark Czech 715-409-9174

Bob Burish 715-573-7078

Jeremy Fromm 715-574-2003

Mike Schultz 715-539-0995

## Elder of the Month

Don Gille 715-573-8197

## Setting the Lord's Table

Diane Hinz

## November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School during sermon 11:00 a.m. – 1 p.m. Pancake Dinner at Faith	3	4	5 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	6 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's 6:00 p.m. Mary Martha Guild	7	8
9 8:30 a.m. VETERANS' SPECIAL Worship Sunday School during sermon 9:30 a.m. Breakfast	10	11 6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting 7:15 p.m. Elders' Meeting	12 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	13 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's	14	15 7:30 a.m. Feed My Starving Children and Mall of America Trip 7:30 a.m. Leaving from Faith
16 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School during sermon	17	18	19 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith 6:00 p.m. Meal 6:30 p.m. Hunter's Service at St. John's	20 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's	21	22
23 8:30 a.m. Worship Sunday School during sermon	24	25	26 6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Worship at Faith	27 THANKSGIVING	28	29
30 FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT 8:30 a.m. Worship Sunday School during sermon						



**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 6<sup>th</sup>**



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.





# Faith Lutheran Church 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)

*Proceeds from the Pancake Dinner will be gift cards given to teachers at both Trinity Lutheran-Merrill and St. John-Merrill to purchase items for their classrooms*

### Pine Crest Health & Memory Care Present Suggestions October 2025

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| • Adult coloring books                                | • Snacks  |
| • Body spray/cologne/perfume                          | • Soda (especially root beer, Coke, Pepsi, Mountain Dew, minis or 12 oz. packs) |
| • Body wash   | • Sport items (Packers & Brewers)   |
| • Candy (some sugar free) & Chocolate                 | • Stamps  |
| • CD/Radio players                                    | • Sweaters & cardigans  |
| • Clothes (new ONLY, stretch waste band, comfortable) | • Trivia books  |
| • Colored pencils & hand-held sharpeners              | • Twin size comforters (men & women)  |
| • Craft kits  | • Watches (large face, men & women)   |
| • Decorations (no ceiling)                            | • White Boards  |
| • Deodorant   | • Wrapping paper  |
| • Emery boards  |   |
| • Gift bags   |   |
| • iPods shuffles, earphones & power cords             |   |
| • Pencil cases  |   |
| • Lotion  |   |
| • Nail polish, cotton balls & nail polish remover     |   |
| • Neck/travel pillows                                 |   |
| • Nightgowns (women, non-silky, larger sizes)         |   |
| • Pocket talkers                                      |   |
| • Robes   |   |
| • Scratch off's                                       |   |
| • Shampoo & conditioner                               |   |
| • Slippers (grippy on bottom)                         |   |
- Bigger items for all to enjoy:
- \$1 Bills for dollar bingo
  - Bingo prizes (candy, individually packed snacks, soda, etc.)
  - Brandy
  - Magazine subscriptions
  - Netflix subscription
  - Newspaper subscriptions
  - Merrill Go Round tokens
  - Amazon gift cards for miscellaneous items

**Pine Crest is asking for donation of Christmas presents and/or money which allows Pine Crest to give a gift to each resident. Items should be dropped off by Sunday, December 7 at Faith.**



NOVEMBER

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

# Pray For Us Calendar

## THE LORD'S PRAYER — NOVEMBER 1-13

This month, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) gives thanks for God's abundant grace we have received through Jesus Christ's sacrificial death and resurrection. In all things we give thanks for His love and mercy.

*Give thanks as you pray:*

- 1.** Give thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Ask Him to empower Christians to follow their example of faith and good works.
- 2.** Give thanks for the saints on earth. Pray that His Church might continue in the true faith and proclaim the saving Good News.
- 3.** Thank God that He is our heavenly Father. Rejoice that God invites us to believe that He is our true Father and we are His true children.
- 4.** Thank God that His name is holy. Rejoice that all can trust in the Lord, for His Word is truth.

**5.** Thank God for His Kingdom. Pray that the Lord of the Harvest would provide workers for the harvest field.

**6.** Thank God for His will. Pray that His will is done. Not ours.

**7.** Thank God that His will is done on earth as it is in heaven. Pray that God would keep us firm in His Word and faith until we die.

**8.** Thank God for daily bread. Pray for all those who are hungry today.

**9.** Thank God for forgiveness. Repent. Rejoice that yours sins are forgiven by Christ.

**10.** Thank God for forgiveness. Pray for the strength to forgive those who have sinned against you.

**11.** Thank God that He leads us out of temptation. Ask God to lead you in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

**12.** Thank God that He delivers us from evil. Rejoice that Jesus has won the victory over sin, death and the power of the devil.

**13.** Thank God that He hears our prayers for Jesus' sake. Rejoice that God promises to hear our prayers as a loving Father.



PHOTO: LCMSS COMMUNICATIONS TEAM IN LINDSEY



# NOVEMBER *Pray For Us Calendar*

## THE TEN COMMANDMENTS AND THE APOSTLES' CREED — NOVEMBER 14-30

This month, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) gives thanks for God's abundant grace we have received through Jesus Christ's sacrificial death and resurrection. In all things we give thanks for His love and mercy.

*Give thanks as you pray:*

**14.** *Thank God that He is the God who saves. Pray that all might fear, love and trust in Him alone.*

**15.** *Thank God that His name is trustworthy. Call upon Him in every trouble, pray, praise and give thanks.*

**16.** *Thank God for Sabbath rest. Hold His Word sacred. Gladly hear and learn it.*

**17.** *Thank God for your parents. Thank Him for all those in authority. Pray for the strength to obey.*

**18.** *Thank God for your neighbor, that you might help in any need.*

**19.** *Thank God for Christian marriage. May all learn to love as Christ loves His Church.*

**20.** *Thank God for what He has provided for you. May all learn the secret of being content.*

**21.** *Thank God for the people in your life. May we speak well of them and explain everything in the kindest way.*

**22.** *Thank God for your home. Rejoice and be content in what He has provided for you.*

**23.** *Thank God for the people God has provided in your life.*

**24.** *Thank God for the Ten Commandments. Pray for strength to rejoice in His will and to walk in His ways to the glory of His holy name.*

**25.** *Thank God for creation.*

**26.** *Thank God for His Son Jesus Christ.*

**27.** *Thank God for the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ. Rejoice that Christ's death has purchased and won you from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil.*

**28.** *Thank God for the promise of Christ's return. The Church prays, Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.*



**29.** *Thank God for the Holy Spirit, who calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.*

**30.** *Thank God for St. Andrew, apostle. St. Andrew, Peter's brother, heard John's cry to "Behold the Lamb of God" and followed Jesus.*

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at [lcms.org/prayforus](https://www.lcms.org/prayforus) or call 888-843-6267 to request a copy.








# Waves of Grace

## November

### Daily Reading Plan



- Day 1: Romans 3:23
- Day 2: Romans 6:23
- Day 3: Romans 5:8
- Day 4: Romans 8:1
- Day 5: Mark 10:45
- Day 6: Romans 8:32
- Day 7: 2 Corinthians 5:21
- Day 8: 2 Corinthians 8:9
- Day 9: 1 Timothy 1:15
- Day 10: 1 John 4:9-10
- Day 11: Revelation 5:9
- Day 12: Romans 10:9-13
- Day 13: Romans 1:16-17
- Day 14: 1 Corinthians 15:1-4
- Day 15: Ephesians 2:1-10
- Day 16: Isaiah 53:4-5
- Day 17: Acts 2:38
- Day 18: Mark 16:15
- Day 19: Ephesians 1:13-14
- Day 20: Ephesians 4:17-24
- Day 21: Colossians 3:1-13
- Day 22: Ephesians 4:25-32
- Day 23: Ephesians 5:1-2
- Day 24: Ephesians 5:15-21
- Day 25: Titus 2:11-15
- Day 26: Titus 3:1-11
- Day 27: 1 Peter 1:3-9
- Day 28: 1 Peter 1:13-25
- Day 29: 1 Peter 4:1-11
- Day 30: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

*...and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. 1 Timothy 1:12-16*

# Annual Fruit Sale 2025

It's time once again for the Annual Fruit Sale sponsored by the Youth Group of Faith.

All orders must be turned in by Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 26. The fruit will be available for pick up at church on Friday, December 12 from 4-6 p.m., Saturday, December 13 from 8-10 a.m. and on Sunday morning, December 14. At the bottom of the form please mark the day you prefer to pick up your fruit. Please pay for fruit when it is picked up.

Please put the number of items wanted for each product in the space provided. Drop all orders in the basket in the overflow area at church. You may also order by contacting any of the youth group members. If you have any questions, please contact Terry Seidler at 715-203-5736.

***The Youth Group Appreciates Your Support!!***

CALIFORNIA NAVEL ORANGES

_____ 1/2 box (approx. 20#)	\$23.00
_____ Full box (approx 40#)	\$40.00

TEXAS RED GRAPEFRUIT

_____ 1/2 box (approx. 20#)	\$25.00
_____ Full box (approx. 40#)	\$45.00

GRANNY SMITH APPLES

_____ 1 layer (20 count)	\$18.00
_____ 2 layers (40 count)	\$30.00

HONEYCRISP APPLIES

_____ 1 layer (20 count)	\$25.00
_____ 2 layers (40 count)	\$45.00

PINK LADY APPLES

_____ 1 layer (20 count)	\$18.00
_____ 2 layers (40 count)	\$30.00

**COSMIC CRISP APPLES**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 layer (20 count) \$18.00  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 layers (40 count) \$30.00

## D=ANJOU PEARS

_____ 1 layer (20 count)	\$25.00
_____ 2 layers (40 count)	\$40.00

## MIXED BOXES (approx. 20#)

10 Cosmic Crisp Apples/10 Pears/12 Grapefruit	\$35.00
20 Gala Apples/20 Oranges	\$30.00
12 Grapefruit/20 Oranges	\$32.00
12 Grapefruit/5 Gala Apples/ 5 Cosmic Crisp Apples/10 Oranges	\$35.00

LARGE GIFT BOXES (approx. 15#)

_____ 5 McIntosh Apples/4 Honeycrisp Apples/ 10 Oranges/6 Grapefruit	\$32.00
_____ 4 Gala Apples/3 Cosmic Crisp Apples/ 8 Oranges/4 Grapefruit/6 Pears	\$32.00

## SMALL GIFT BOXES (approx 10#)

_____ 3 Gala Apples/2 Cosmic Crisp Apples/ 5 Oranges/5 Grapefruit	\$25.00
_____ 2 Gala Apples/2 Cosmic Crisp Apples/ 4 Oranges/3 Grapefruit/4 Pears	\$25.00

## HAWAIIAN PINEAPPLE

1 Whole Pineapple	\$5.00
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NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Would like to pick up:

\_\_\_\_\_ Friday Evening, Dec. 12 from 4-6 p.m.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday Morning, Dec 13 from 8-10 a.m.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday Morning, Dec. 14

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL SALE





# Annual FRUIT SALE

For more information,  
Contact Terry Seidler

at 715-203-5736

*All are welcome to order*

## ST. JOHN'S HUNTERS' SERVICE

**Wednesday, November 19**

*Meal 6:00 p.m.*

*Worship 6:30 p.m.*



## THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP AT FAITH

**Wednesday, November 26**  
**6:30 p.m.**



***ADVENT 2025— Prepare The Way of the Lord!*** The first Sunday of Advent is observed November 30 at both St. John's and Faith. Wednesday Advent Worship Services will be held beginning Wednesday, December 3 at 6:30 p.m. at Faith. *All are welcome to come and prepare their hearts for the birthday of our King!*



**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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