

October 2025

The Good News

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

Celebrating The Reformation

In the month of October, we celebrate the Reformation. One of the aims of the Reformation was getting the Christian church back to the Word of God. The Reformation is why today many houses and hospitals have the Word of God for everyone to read.

Every time you open up the Bible you open up a great gift from God. There are some things that are too hard to understand at first, but just like anything in life, the more you study it the easier it gets to understand and use.

2 Timothy 3:15-17 says *"and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."*

The Bible completely equips us for everything we need to know concerning salvation. God promises us God can do it, and promises that He did do it. And there is great idea of proof that He did do it. If you would like to know a long list of proof, please come to one of our Bible Studies.

Studying the Bible is a lifelong endeavor.

Martin Luther Wrote "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



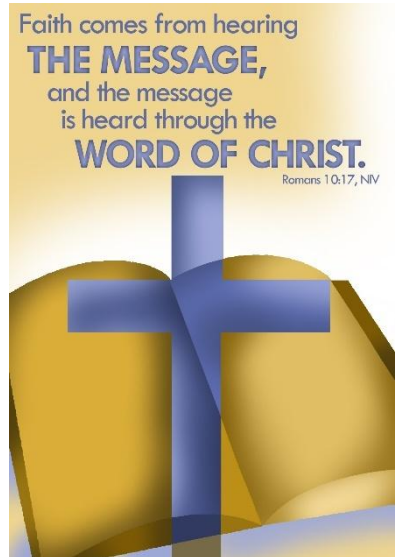
I do not want to let the mildew of the notion grow that I know them well enough. The devil is a greater rascal than you think he is. You do as yet not know what sort of fellow he is and what a desperate rogue you are. His definite design is to get you tired of the Word and in this way to draw you away from it. This is his aim.” (WA 32, 64f.).

Luther continues to write “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.” (Book of Concord; Tappert edition; Large Catechism 9-11). Here [John 5:39,40,43]

When you make Bible Study a daily activity, it will strengthen your soul. In Romans 15:4-6 we read: *“For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.”* May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As we Celebrate the Reformation, we celebrate the gift of God’s Holy Word in our daily lives until He takes us by God’s grace to Eternal Life.

~ Pastor Love



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)*



FROM THE PASTOR

“Halloween - Have Fun BUT Be Smart!”

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Halloween can be a time a fun. God want us to have fun but He does not want us to be foolish. The Holy Spirit often teaches to stay away from the alluring deception of magic, séances, Ouija boards, witchcraft, and other supernatural games. As we celebrate Reformation this month and getting back into the Holy Scriptures, please note what those beautiful Scriptures continually and so repetitively teach, especially in the last days in the Book of Revelation. Again, what is God’s very deep feelings and warning about this topic?

Leviticus 19:31 “**Do not turn to mediums or seek out spiritists, for you will be defiled by them.** I am the LORD your God.”

Deuteronomy 18:9-13 “⁹ When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not learn to imitate the detestable ways of the nations there. ¹⁰ Let no one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who **practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft,** ¹¹ or **casts spells,** or who is a **medium or spiritist or who consults the dead.** ¹² Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD, and because of these detestable practices the LORD your God will drive out those nations before you. ¹³ You must be blameless before the LORD your God.”

2 Kings 9:22 “How can there be peace,” Jehu replied, “**as long as all the idolatry and witchcraft of your mother Jezebel abound?**”

2 Chronicles 33:6 “He sacrificed his sons in the fire in the Valley of Ben Hinnom, practiced sorcery, divination and witchcraft, and consulted mediums and spiritists. **He did much evil in the eyes of the LORD, provoking him to anger.**”

Ezekiel 13:18-20 “¹⁸ and say, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Woe to the women who sew magic charms on all their wrists and make veils of various lengths for their heads in order to ensnare people. Will you ensnare the lives of my people but preserve your own? ¹⁹ You have profaned me among my people for a few handfuls of barley and scraps of bread. By lying to my people, who listen to lies, you have killed those who should not have died and have spared those who should not live. ²⁰ “Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am against your **magic charms** with which you ensnare people like birds and I will tear them from your arms; I will set free the people that you ensnare like birds.”

Micah 5:12 “I will destroy your witchcraft and you will no longer cast spells.”

Nahum 3:4 “all because of the wanton lust of a harlot, alluring, the mistress of sorceries, who enslaved nations by her prostitution and peoples by her witchcraft. “

Acts 19:18-20 “¹⁸ Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed their evil deeds. ¹⁹ A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to **fifty thousand drachmas.** ²⁰ In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.” (50,000 days wages – They gave them all up because they were detestable to God.)



Harmonious Stewardship



"For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another" (Romans 12:4-5).

One of the most forgotten concepts in stewardship is the interdependent nature that makes up the Body of Christ and the way that body supports the shared work of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This is experienced in the local congregation, as well as in broader mission and ministry efforts at the district and Synod levels. Yet in these words, St. Paul reminds the Romans and us that we are indeed members of one another. This is true in our worship. It is also true in our stewardship of the Gospel. Stewards of all shapes and sizes, ages and abilities, affluence and influence are all assembled around Word and Sacrament in the local congregation with no one being more important than the other.

Part of this forgetting lies in what the eyes see and how our human mind operates. Our eyes and our minds are quick to come to the erroneous conclusion that the person who writes the biggest check is the more important steward. Human logic, flawed by sin as it is, could make a claim that the youngest child or the most infirm, aged member of the congregation would certainly be considered something less than important when it comes to the stewardship of the Gospel.

Paul makes it clear in these words that this is not how stewardship of the Gospel is measured in the Body of Christ. Rather, it would be better to view local stewardship like the lost art of harmony in congregational singing. This has been lost not only due to the performative nature of the lead singers of the local praise team, but also because modern hymnals are written to almost force the novice hymn-singer into unison voice. Creative harmonization by talented organists is beautiful to listen to, but does not always support the people in the pews in singing in parts. This is a loss in demonstrating a very practical aspect of whole-body stewardship.

The sound that builds when choral and congregational singers settle into their voice parts is nothing short of heavenly! Yet when altos, tenors and bass sing their individual parts without any concept of how they fit together, the music doesn't sound as powerful. The narrow range of the typical alto line almost sounds monotonous. The tenor line can get painfully high, and the base line can get uncomfortably low. But, when interdependently entwined, along with the melody that is so often carried by the sopranos, the music becomes a tremendously powerful tool in communicating the Gospel.

The same is true of individual stewards. Certainly, stewards with more financial means are in a unique place to "carry the tune" for ministry in a local congregation. But that doesn't rule out the faithful stewardship of the saint-like 94-year-old Hulda, who prayed for her young pastor in German every night while the aches and pains of arthritis and the grief of losing a daughter to cancer kept her awake. This does not rule out Jimmy, the profoundly developmentally disabled confirmand whose basic but dramatically eloquent confession of the faith left an impression on a congregation long after he went to be with Jesus. It doesn't rule out the single parent, the recovering addict, the family coming out of bankruptcy, the elderly widow and everyone in between.

The Lord has entrusted all the baptized with stewardship of the one thing needful: the Gospel of Jesus Christ. No one member of any congregation is more important than another when it comes to this stewardship. The biggest check isn't always the best way to communicate the Gospel. In fact, it is almost always better communicated with the widow's mite, the tenacious stewardship of the talents and so much more.



In the local congregation and beyond, our corporate stewardship of the Gospel needs each other to fill out our great confession. It is not about equal amount. It is about interdependence that only the Holy Spirit can work! Each of us has a role to play, a harmony to sing. The standard for that role is faithfulness. We do not have the same function, but we have the same Jesus! As we sing the parts entrusted to us by the Holy Spirit, the sweet music of the Gospel goes out!

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 1-715-350-3871

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 OCTOBER SCHEDULE

October 1 - 6 Keith and Pat Wendt

October 7 - 20 Phyllis Buch and Deb Stogbauer

October 21 – November 3 Jeri Raddatz and Sandy Laabs

October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	2 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's	3	4
5 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Bible Class	6 5:30 p.m. Choir 6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion	7 6:30 p.m. Women of Faith	8 10:00 a.m. Ablelight 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	9 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's	10	11 LWML Zone 6 Fall Rally 9 a.m. at Trinity-Merrill
12 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Bible Class	13 5:30 p.m. Choir 6:30 p.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting	14	15 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	16 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's	17	18
19 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Bible Class 12:15 p.m. Stewardship and Evangelism	20 5:30 p.m. Choir 6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion	21	22 10:00 a.m. Ablelight 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	23 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's	24	25 2:00 p.m. Trunk or Treat St. John's Parking Lot
26 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Bible Class 4:30 p.m. ISI at Chris Stogbauer's cabin, 16050 N. 60 th Avenue, Merrill	27 5:30 p.m. Choir 6:30 p.m. Worship	28	29 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	30 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's	31	



Birthdays & Anniversaries

ANNIVERSARIES at Faith

10/7	David and Stephanie Springborn	30 yrs
10/8	Bruce and Nada Pfingsten	42 yrs
10/11	Brian & Lynn Klug	39 yrs
10/18	Kevin and Ann Goetsch	52 yrs
10/19	Zachary & Allison Wayda	6 yrs
10/22	Aleksander & Lindsey Hein	3 yrs
10/28	Joseph & Alice Zuelsdorff	31 yrs
10/29	Kevin & Karen Kleinschmidt	37 yrs
10/30	Jerome & Judith Buch	54 yrs

ANNIVERSARIES at St. John's

10/13	Travis & Julia Hoffman.	13 yrs
-------	-------------------------	--------

BIRTHDAYS at Faith

October 1	Duane Grunenwald
	Jeffrey Laabs
	Matthew Lentz
October 3	Judith Buch
October 7	Tanner Reinhardt
October 8	Christine Williams
October 11	Debbie Kufahl
	Dakota Sturm

October 13	Ryan Pankow
	Jason Zulliger
October 18	Karen Kleinschmidt
October 20	Alice Zuelsdorff
October 21	Carol Hein
	Samantha Jo Westfall
October 27	Connor Calmes
October 29	Alan Klug
October 30	Diane Pfaff
October 31	Joshua Wayda

BIRTHDAYS at St. John's

October 1	Kendra Blasky
October 2	Evelyn Blennert
October 3	Justin Bloch
	Raina Bloch
October 4	A.J. Vogel
October 10	Frank Mootz
October 11	A.J. Zastrow
October 12	Alice Fromm
October 17	Marlene Koppa
October 20	Diane Hinz
October 24	Jordan Henrichs
October 26	Beth Czech



MEMORIALS

In memory of **JOYCE HANNEMANN**, gifts to the Special Purpose Fund from Jim and Phyllis Beilke and from Phyllis Buch

In memory of **LOYD KLEINSCHMIDT**, gift to the Scott Cemetery Fund from Lee and Diane Pfaff

In memory of **LOYD KLEINSCHMIDT**, gift to the Altar Guild from Barry and Cindy Krenz

SPECIAL GIFTS

Thrivent clients have directed Thrivent Choice Dollars® to your Faith Lutheran Church to further support our mission to bring Christ and His Word to people. Thank you, **BARRY and CINDY KRENZ**.



ISI
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26 at 4:30 p.m.
 at Chris Stogbauer's cabin
 16050 N. 60th Avenue, Merrill

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

Don Gille 715-573-8197

Jeremy Fromm 715-574-2003

Mike Schultz 715-539-0995

Elder of the Month

Bob Burish 715-573-7078

Setting the Lord's Table

Marlene Koppa

October 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	2 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's 6:30 p.m. Mary Martha Guild	3	4
5 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion <i>Sunday School during Sermon</i>	6	7	8 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	9 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's	10	11 LWML Zone 6 Fall Rally 9 a.m. at Trinity-Merrill
12 8:30 a.m. Worship <i>Sunday School during Sermon</i>	13	14 6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting 7:15 p.m. Elders' Meeting	15 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	16 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's	17	18
19 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion <i>Sunday School during Sermon</i>	20	21	22 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	23 10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's	24	25 2:00 p.m. Trunk or Treat in St. John's Parking Lot
26 8:30 a.m. Worship <i>Sunday School during Sermon</i> 4:30 p.m. ISI at Chris Stogbauer's cabin, 16050 N. 60 th Avenue, Merrill	27	28	29 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	30	31	



Week of October 5, 2025

1 Peter 3:15

But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.

Week of October 12, 2025

Exodus 31:13

You are to speak to the people of Israel and say, "Above all you shall keep my Sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you."

Week of October 19, 2025

1 John 4:2

By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God.

Week of October 26, 2025

Genesis 15:6

And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.



LWML Zone 6 Fall Rally
Saturday, October 11
Trinity Lutheran Church - Merrill
Registration begins at 8:15 a.m.



HISTORY Daylight saving time is a changing of the clocks that typically begins in spring and ends in fall in what is often referred to as "spring forward" and "fall back." Some people like to credit Benjamin Franklin as the inventor of daylight saving time when he wrote in a 1784 essay about saving candles and saying, "Early to bed, early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise." But that was meant more as satire than a serious consideration. Germany was the first to adopt daylight saving time on May 1, 1916, during World War I as a way to conserve fuel. The rest of Europe followed soon after. The United States didn't adopt daylight saving time until March 19, 1918. It was unpopular and abolished after World War I. On Feb. 9, 1942,

Franklin Roosevelt instituted a year-round daylight saving time, which he called "wartime." This lasted until Sept. 30, 1945. Daylight saving time didn't become standard in the US until the passage of the Uniform Time Act of 1966, which mandated standard time across the country within established time zones. It stated that clocks would advance one hour at 2 a.m. on the last Sunday in April and turn back one hour at 2 a.m. on the last Sunday in October. Under the conditions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, daylight saving time starts on the second Sunday in March and ends on the first Sunday in November. Nearly every U.S. state observes daylight saving time, with the exceptions of Arizona (although some Native American tribes do observe DST in their territories) and Hawaii.

October 2025 Elder, Usher, Greeter, Scrip Schedule

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

Elders Lee Pfaff, Hoe Heisinger
 Ushers Amanda Heisinger, Carol Hein
 Greeter Duane Grunenwald
 Scrip Cindy Krenz
 Audio Bonnie Grueneberg

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

Elders Mike Beilke, Kyle Young
 Ushers Chris Stogbauer
 Greeter Chris Stogbauer
 Scrip Deb Stogbauer
 Audio Cindy Braatz

Sunday, October 12 10:15 a.m.

Elders Jeff Laabs, Mark Porath
 Ushers Brian and Lynn Klug
 Greeter Brian Klug
 Scrip Lynn Klug
 Audio Bonnie Grueneberg

Monday, October 13 6:30 p.m.

Elders Jason Westfall, Keith Wendt
 Ushers Pat Wendt
 Greeter Pat Wendt
 Scrip Cindy Braatz
 Audio Gene Mootz

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

Elders Mike Beilke, Kyle Young
 Ushers Bernice Porath, Beth Bartelt
 Greeter Beth Bartelt
 Scrip Bernice Porath
 Audio Bonnie Grueneberg

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

Elders Joe Heisinger, Lee Pfaff
 Usher Amanda Heisinger
 Greeter Amanda Heisinger
 Scrip Debbie Stogbauer
 Audio Rodney Dahlke

Sunday, October 26 10:15 a.m.

Elders Joe Heisinger, Rodney Dahlke
 Ushers Carol Hein, Leroy Laabs
 Greeter Leroy Laabs
 Scrip Becky Rajek
 Audio Bonnie Grueneberg

Monday, October 27 6:30 p.m.

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

***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

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

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

***HOLY COMMUNION**

Sunday, October 5 10:15 a.m.
 Monday, October 6 6:30 p.m.
 Sunday, October 19 10:15 a.m.
 Monday, October 20 6:30 p.m.
 Monday, November 3 6:30 p.m.

ELDERS

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





Sleep In Heavenly Peace Bed Build: This was another successful event. A total of 50 beds were built.

Circuit Fall Lock-out: This will be held on **Friday, October 10** to include a movie and bowling. We will begin at St. John's – Merrill at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$20.00 per person, this covers the cost of the movie, bowling and pizza at Les & Jim's. The event ends at 11:00 p.m. at Les & Jim's. Extra money will be needed if you want snacks at the movie theater. Parents will be required to come inside to pick up their youth to take them home. A permission slip will be needed from the parent if your youth will be going home with someone other than a parent or guardian.

Feed My Starving Children/Mall of America – Saturday November 15: The cost will be \$40.00 per person to cover the motorcoach transportation. Please email Bonnie Grueneberg at bkg9005@gmail.com if you want to reserve a certain number of seats for your group. The sooner she knows, the better chance of increasing our numbers and reserving your seat.



Finding Refuge in God

October Daily Reading Plan



- Day 1: 2 Samuel 22:2-3
- Day 2: Isaiah 41:10
- Day 3: Psalm 91:1-4
- Day 4: 2 Timothy 4:18
- Day 5: 2 Thessalonians 3:3
- Day 6: Psalm 23:1-6
- Day 7: Proverbs 19:23
- Day 8: Psalm 46:1
- Day 9: Psalm 138:7
- Day 10: James 4:7
- Day 11: Proverbs 18:10
- Day 12: Psalm 32:7
- Day 13: Deuteronomy 31:6
- Day 14: 1 John 5:19
- Day 15: Romans 8:31
- Day 16: Hebrews 13:6
- Day 17: Nahum 1:7
- Day 18: Psalm 62:2
- Day 19: Psalm 121:7-8
- Day 20: Exodus 14:14
- Day 21: Proverbs 30:5
- Day 22: Psalm 16:8
- Day 23: Psalm 18:30
- Day 24: Psalm 5:11
- Day 25: Psalm 3:3
- Day 26: Psalm 16:1
- Day 27: Psalm 118:6
- Day 28: Psalm 118:8
- Day 29: 1 John 4:4
- Day 30: Psalm 121:8
- Day 31: Luke 21:28

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.**





THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

HOLY BAPTISM — OCTOBER 1-15

Water and Word wash us into Christ's death and resurrection. "Baptism ... now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 3:21). We daily remember our Baptism through repentance and forgiveness in the cross of Christ. Through our Baptism, we are brought into the Church, the Body of Christ. As we pray, we rejoice in God's gift of Baptism and continue to rejoice in the gifts of forgiveness, the Holy Spirit and eternal life granted to us in Word and Sacrament.

Remember God's gift of Baptism as you pray:

1. Thank God for His gifts of Word and Sacrament, that through these means God freely gives His grace to sinners by faith.
2. Thank God for the gift of Baptism, that His Word works through the water to join us to Christ's death and resurrection.
3. Thank God for the gift of Baptism, that His Word combines with the water to deliver forgiveness and eternal life.

4. Rejoice that the Holy Spirit gives faith and sustains us in the faith.

5. Thank God for the gift of Baptism for adults, that those who are instructed in the faith and who were not baptized as children may receive the gift of forgiveness and life in the waters of Baptism.

6. for parents, that they might faithfully raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord, teaching them His Word and bringing them to the Sacrament.

7. for sponsors, that they might faithfully work with parents to teach the faith to the baptized.

8. for all the baptized, that in daily repentance all might cling to God's promises of forgiveness and eternal life in Christ.

9. for all the baptized, that they might daily cling to their Baptism and hope in Christ alone.

10. for all the baptized, that the Spirit would keep the Church strong in persecution.

11. for all the baptized, that they witness to all about the death and resurrection of Jesus.

12. for all who are not baptized, that the Spirit would draw them to Christ in faith.

13. Thank God for the Baptism of Jesus, that He took on our sins to suffer in our stead.

14. Thank God for calling you to be His adopted child and heir of eternal life.

15. That Christ would return quickly, that the Church might dwell with Him in righteousness, holiness and blessedness.



OCTOBER Pray For Us Calendar

THE LORD'S SUPPER — OCTOBER 16-31

Bread and wine, body and blood feed us with the food that endures to eternal life. Christ gives His body and blood to His body the Church. Those who have faith in the words, "given and shed for you" receive what those words promise, the forgiveness of sins.

Remember God's gift of the Sacrament of the Altar as you pray:

16. Thank God for the Sacrament of the Altar, that it is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine.
17. Rejoice that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life and salvation are given.
18. That God would grant us faith in His Word, that we worthily receive the Sacrament and live in repentance.
19. Thank God for daily bread, even the bread of life that we receive in the Sacrament.
20. for preparation before receiving the Sacrament, that all might receive it trusting in the Words of Christ.
21. Thank God for the Church and the Office of the Holy Ministry.

22. for the unity of the Church, that schisms might cease, and all might be united in the true faith.

23. that we, who are many, may see ourselves as the one Body of Christ.

24. for the Church, that she remains faithful to the truth of God's Word.

25. for the LCMS, that we might believe, teach and confess all things according to God's will.

26. with thanksgiving that God continues to strengthen us through His Word and Sacraments.

27. for those who do not belong to the Church, that God would call all to faith.

28. for the sustenance of the Sacrament of the Altar, that God would grant faith unto eternal life.



29. that after receiving Communion, all would amend their sinful lives by the power of the Holy Spirit.

30. that God would keep all Christians from being led



astray by false teachings, and instead bring them to a deeper knowledge of Him.

31. for the endurance of faith until Christ returns.

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

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD



Christmas Stars

A Christmas Spectacular

Saturday, December 6th



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



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

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

Progressive Travel, Inc.
211085 State Highway 13
Spencer, WI 54479
Attn: Bonnie

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____

Make checks payable to:
Progressive Travel, Inc.



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

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

