



Immanuel Lutheran Church

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January 2025

A Word from The Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

CHRISTMAS JOY

It was a joy to prepare for and celebrate our Lord's birth during the past weeks. Special thanks to everyone who helped with our Advent and Christmas services! We were blessed by so many volunteers and talents. Karen and I would also like to thank everyone who remembered us with cards and gifts over these days. God bless each of you in the coming year.

CIRCUIT EPIPHANY SERVICE

We will celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord with an Epiphany Eve Service on Sunday, January 5 at 6:30 PM. This service will be at Trinity, Carlos. The service will include special music and the celebration of Holy Communion. Lunch will be served afterwards. Plan to come to this special service at our sister congregation.

CIRCUIT TIM MEETING

We will have a circuit TIM missions meeting on Sunday, January 12 at 6 PM at Good Shepherd in Alexandria. Everyone is welcome to participate in this meeting where we will hear updates on our missionaries and determine our circuit's 2025 TIM budget.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Immanuel was founded on January 23, 1905. We will observe our 120th anniversary on January 26. We will also celebrate our anniversary when our former vicar, Pastor Mark Schlamann visits on the 25th anniversary of his vicarage.

LUTHERAN WITNESS

The Lutheran Witness is a great monthly magazine produced by our church. Each issue focuses on a specific timely topic. News of our synod and district is also included. Cost for this annual subscription is \$28. Each issue is mailed to your home. Deadline to sign up is January 19. Sign up at the narthex counter or call the church office.

SUPERBOWL SUBS

ACT will be making and selling subs for Superbowl weekend. The order sheet will be out in a couple weeks. Order at the narthex counter or contact any ACT or JCT youth. Orders are due February 2 and subs can be picked up February 8 and 9.

PICTURE DIRECTORY

We are doing a new picture directory. We want you to be included! We had three days of pictures after Christmas. Pictures will also be taken Friday, January 24 from 2-9 PM and Saturday, January 25 from 10-4 PM. To sign up call the church office, sign up at the narthex counter, or go to ucdir.com. The church code is MN528 password is photos. Everyone who has their picture taken will receive a free 8 x 10 picture and a copy of the new directory. If you are unable to be here to have your picture taken, you can submit a picture. Please make sure it is a vertical pose.

GROUP DIRECTORY PICTURES

We would like pictures of each group, organization and board for the new directory. We will take pictures after church in the Fellowship Hall on January 26. If your group or board prefers to submit a picture or have a picture taken on a different day, please let the office know. We would like all pictures taken by February 2.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME & DINNER

We will have a new member welcome on January 19. If you are interested in becoming a member of Immanuel, please let Pastor know. We will also have a new member class and dinner that day after worship for all people who have become members in the past year.

ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASS

We will start an adult confirmation class in January. If you would like to attend, please let Pastor know.

ANNUAL REPORT

If you are the leader or treasurer for any group or ministry in the congregation, we would like your report to be turned in by January 12. Thank you!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Needed each month in 2024 | \$21,848.00 |
| Needed each month in 2025 | \$23,009.00 |
| November Offerings | \$17,281.00 |
| Dec. Offerings through Dec. 25 | \$21,409.00 |
| Offerings under budget through Nov. 30 | \$37,640.31 |

God's New Years Blessings, Pastor Kirk Lee

From Vicar Joe's Desk (January 2025 Update)

The Previous Month:

- Teaching two sections of Youth Confirmation is continuing to be an adventure.
- The two Bible Study groups are both fun to be around and I look forward to going through the Gospel of John starting in January.
- I made some Jambalaya for the ACT's Soup and Sandwiches dinner on 18 Dec. and there was nothing left for left overs. I am glad that the people liked it, and it is just one of the foods that will be offered in New Orleans to the ACT as they travel to the NYG.
- Winter in Minnesota has started with a little bit of colder weather and some snow. I am well prepared and ready for it, just not too fond of the ice that also happens this time of year.

The Current Month:

- Looking forward to the New Year and what all of that brings with it.
- The Call preparations have been in the works and the interviews have been starting to take place. It is a lot of hurry up and wait for the moment.

Looking Forward:

- The Nation Youth Gathering is a continuous and long term thing to keep looking forward towards.
- I am currently looking forward to Call Day where I find out where I will be placed. That date will be 30 April 2025. I am a little nervous, but also very excited.
- I am looking forward to both the Spring time, and Easter to mark the start of warmer weather.

Bible Verse of the Month:

“May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!” -
Psalm 29:11

January - February USHERING SCHEDULE

Following is the schedule for the next two months for ushering, greeting, and acolyting. Greeters will also help with the offering. A post card will be sent to you about 10 days ahead to remind you.

If you cannot serve on your assigned time, please try to find someone to take your place. If that doesn't work, call Arvid Hoppe, 320-766-3904 or Byron Herdman, 701-371-5139 the co-head ushers, if you are scheduled for Sunday or midweek; or the church office, if you are scheduled for Saturday.

In order for these activities to work smoothly please be at church 30 minutes ahead of the beginning of service. Arvid or Byron will explain the procedure to you for Sundays and midweek services, Pastor for Saturdays. Thank you!

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>USHER</u> | <u>GREETER</u> | <u>ACOLYTE</u> |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| <u>JANUARY</u> | | | |
| 4 | Todd & Kayla Gaarsland Family | | Ryker Porter |
| 5 | Jon Lammle, Susan Lammle | Dale & Vicki Downing | Sophia Warzecha |
| 11 | Jim Duberowski | | Annabelle Koehn |
| 12 | Kyle & Heather Robinson Family | Scott Korkowski & Tanya Makela | Aaron Vogt |
| 18 | Kim Martel | | Averyanna Hammack |
| 19 | Kris & Amanda Rathcke | Ryan & Chelsie Penrose | Luke Schilling |
| 25 | John Duberowski | | Gage Rud |
| 26 | Russ & Nancy Sowers | Marlene Pooler | Reagan Pexsa |
| <u>FEBRUARY</u> | | | |
| 1 | Ryan & Jessica Peppersack | | Nolan Wendland |
| 2 | Todd & Heidi Lucht | Don & Grace Rubner | Karson Schroeder |
| 8 | Sandi Rud | | Billy Bastyr |
| 9 | Mike & Missy Wendt | Kathy Nelson | Madisyn Fahlin |
| 15 | Joyce Malmgren | | Elliana Hammack |
| 16 | Mitch & Stacey Ahlers Family | Dwayne & Janell Woodbridge Family | Alex Castro |
| 22 | Mike & Sylvia Skrogstad | | Kaitlyn O'Brien |
| 23 | Tim & Carol Larson | Dave & Peggy Winter | Tenley Westad |

LWML Christmas Program & Party



January Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Mark & Rhonda Pooler | 1-13-2001 |
| Howard & Jean Ost | 1-20-1973 |
| Zachary & Samantha Zimmerman | 1-23-2021 |
| Charles & Valerie Jahnke | 1-25-1992 |
| Larry & Vickie Roberts | 1-30-1984 |

January Birthdays

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Nevaeh Louks | 1-1 |
| Aaron Payne | 1-1 |
| Tammy Bertram | 1-2 |
| Starr Hansen | 1-2 |
| Howard Ost | 1-2 |
| Matthew Samuelson | 1-2 |
| Andrew Wendt | 1-3 |
| Geraldine Lee | 1-4 |
| Donald Rubner | 1-4 |
| Dylan Schulke | 1-4 |
| Leon Wunderlich | 1-4 |
| Peter Finbraaten | 1-5 |
| Kristina Gray | 1-5 |
| Kim Kruse | 1-5 |
| Nancy Hetland | 1-6 |
| Amy Cihlar | 1-8 |
| Joanne Huwe | 1-8 |
| Theresa Koep | 1-8 |
| Shane Laine | 1-8 |
| Donald Riedel | 1-8 |
| Samantha Warzecha | 1-8 |
| Gene Moske | 1-9 |
| Benjamin Moske | 1-10 |
| Darrel Jahnke | 1-11 |
| Natalie Schroeder | 1-12 |
| Christina Burns | 1-13 |
| Scott Duberowski | 1-13 |
| Justin Mattocks | 1-14 |
| Hailee Samuelson | 1-14 |
| Aaliyah Warzecha | 1-14 |
| Ronald Zaun | 1-14 |
| Brandon Kruse | 1-15 |
| Brittany Johanson | 1-16 |
| Michelle Moske | 1-16 |
| Kylie Wark | 1-16 |
| Kyle Henning | 1-17 |
| Chosen Jackson | 1-17 |

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Karla Kalpin | 1-18 |
| Brennan La Van | 1-18 |
| Karson Schroeder | 1-18 |
| Diana Sjobeck | 1-18 |
| Josephine Ahlers | 1-19 |
| Clara Eggert | 1-19 |
| Connor Erwin | 1-20 |
| Bowen Makela | 1-20 |
| Eric Samuelson | 1-20 |
| Wilmer Thun | 1-21 |
| Chelsey La Van | 1-22 |
| Ryan Paulson | 1-22 |
| Samantha Roberts | 1-22 |
| Holly Wendland | 1-22 |
| Michelle Woida | 1-22 |
| Teresa Bodle | 1-23 |
| Marcia Ratajesak | 1-23 |
| Dillon Vogt | 1-23 |
| Tim Lee | 1-24 |
| Natalie Bolland | 1-25 |
| Eva Iverson | 1-26 |
| Mark Pierce | 1-26 |
| Sawyer Sather | 1-26 |
| Jason Schroeder | 1-27 |
| Jasmine Wendt | 1-27 |
| Bayleann Moen | 1-28 |
| Douglas Precht | 1-28 |
| Matt Erwin | 1-29 |
| Ralph Freudenberg | 1-29 |
| Courtney Stewart | 1-29 |
| Ava Looker | 1-30 |
| Lincoln Martinson | 1-30 |

If your January birthday or anniversary is not listed, please inform the church office.

ACT/JCT ACTIVITIES



Lighted parade in Alexandria and Osakis.



Caroling at St. William's.



Presenting a live nativity with caroling and live animals.





July - November 2024

SERVING THE LORD IN

Japan

News from
Pastor Dan and Joan Jastram

<https://www.lcms.org/jastram>



Pastor Dan and Joan Jastram

Rev. Jastram serves as the
Asia Lutheran Resource
Coordinator:

*Making Lutheran resources of
theology and worship
available in Asia.*



To be added to or removed from
this mailing list, send an email
message to:

daniel.jastram@lcms.org

with the word ADD or REMOVE
in the subject line.

Here's our newsletter archive link:

<https://bit.ly/3Xkd9W8>

Link to join our mailing list:

<https://tinyurl.com/47vyhnae>

888-THE LCMS • lcms.org • infocenter@lcms.org



Side by Side

Sitting side by side at the mic, two bilingual young men carefully interpreted each question and answer into their designated target language at our November theological conference.

"How shall we best understand the English words 'ransom' and 'redemption'? Is that different from 'atonement'? How can we know our level of 'sanctification'? Are the Christian and Japanese concepts of 'piety' significantly different?"

Rev. Kenneth Mars of Cody WY followed each of his segments on the "Means of Grace" with helpful responses to each question.

One attendee of Roman Catholic background commented that the conference "overwhelmed me with the high theological quality of the LCMS. . . . I thank you from the bottom of my heart for sharing your church's precious resources with me" he wrote.

We were able to distribute both an English and a Japanese text version of the presentations before each session.

Then after splitting the 22 attendees into separate language groups to concurrently digest the material being read in their particular language, we combined the two groups again for each of the bilingual question-and-answer periods.

One 89 year-old attendee commented that "The Japanese translation was very easy to read, so it was easy to understand, and it was a very pleasant and special day."

In fact, a number of the attendees lingered significantly after the close of the conference to discuss further the issues on their mind.

We are already planning our next conference for May. ♦



Prayer and Thanksgiving:

- thanksgiving for the successful fall theological conference: for the presentations by Rev. Kenneth Mars; for the interpretation service provided by Kanon Haga and Augie Derendinger; for the textual translation work by Rev. Mitsuo Haga and his son Kanon; and for the hospitality of Rev. and Mrs. Wakabayashi in hosting the conference at Kobari Lutheran Church in Niigata Japan 11/5-7;
- thanksgiving for the 100 years of Lutheran Legacy at the seminary in Nagercoil India; for the continued learning of the students and the faithful teaching of the professors;
- thanksgiving for the rebirth of new life through infant baptism for James Boyle on 7/7 and for the adult confirmation of Cacey and Moeko Barnett on 7/14 during our LCMS fellowship Divine Services in Shinjuku Tokyo;
- thanksgiving for the amazing Lutherans Engage article “Gathering the Faithful in Japan” by LCMS Megan Mertz and Erik Lunsford; and for the “Lutheranism in Japan: Recovering the Roots” article by LCMS Laura Owings;
- thanksgiving for God’s blessings at our three current worship sites: Shinjuku (twice a month), Yokosuka (once a month), and Numata (once a month);
- thanksgiving for our LCMS Asia regional director Rev. Charles Ferry and fellow LCMS Asia missionaries each with individual challenges and blessings;
- thanksgiving for the faithful prayers and support provided by our LCMS Jastram-Asia mission partners.

It’s the Banana Leaves

The food of India still lingers in my memory from the Fall Academic Faculty-Student Retreat at Concordia Theological Seminary in Nagercoil.



“It’s the banana leaves as plates; and it’s eating your food by scooping it up with your fingers” I explain with a guilty grin regarding this cultural contrast with Japanese handcraft pottery and chopsticks.

Needless to say, it was a privilege and honor to represent the LCMS for Nagercoil’s centennial celebration of the “100 years of Lutheran Legacy of CTSN.”

Three retreat sessions later, as well as two double-and-combined large group class sessions for two different batches of students, I was thankful for the 110 students and six faculty members that gathered over the three days.



My task was to provide instruction on a “[A Distinctly] Lutheran Compass for Navigation” as CTSN charts its course forward into the future.

I emphasized the distinctive character of Lutheran doctrine and practice especially at four compass points where there is tendency—even among Lutherans—to wander away from the path of straight teaching (orthodoxy).

Using the publicized CTSN core values (Scriptural, Confessional, Liturgical, Sacramental), I explained that because these core values are equally claimed—according to differing patterns—by various non-Lutheran church bodies, it is necessary to navigate a straight path for distinctively Lutheran teaching and practice *within* each of these four core-value “regions”.

This practice of careful theological and ecclesiastical navigation intends to keep the Scriptural “pattern of sound teaching” in order to “guard the good deposit entrusted to you” (2 Tim. 1:13-14) in a way consistent with the Analogy or Rule of Faith (cf. Rom. 12:6) as witnessed by the Lutheran Confessions.

We are still enjoying the banana chips we received as a parting food gift from one of the CTSN faculty members. ♦

SPECIAL THANKS

to the generosity of the congregations we visited this last home service, especially to Grace, Versailles MO for dedicating a gifted sacramental set for our Japan mission work.



YOUR SUPPORT is vital for our continued mission work in Japan: regular services at our worship sites, translation of theological resources, and nurturing relations with local Lutheran pastors facing individual challenges to the faith. We are humbly grateful for your continued prayers and support. **Thank you!**

Your missionaries, Dan and Joan Jastram

“Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.”

(Psalm 136:1, Day of Thanksgiving, Liturgical Verse).

To support this LCMS mission work:

Give securely online through the LCMS page:

lcms.org/givenow/jastram

[OR] Mail your tax-deductible gift to:

**The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861**

Make checks payable to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Mark checks:

“Support of Asia-Jastram”

THE BIG EVENT



MEET THE WOOD FAMILY

Matthew, Kali, Laurel, Eleanor, Caroline, and Kermit serve in Medan, Indonesia with LCMS International. Matthew supports *The Indonesian Christian Lutheran Church (GKLI)*, by mentoring pastors, providing continuing education, and managing mercy and translation projects.

**GIVE NOW &
KEEP US IN INDONESIA!**
SCAN BELOW



OR TEXT

'LCMSWOOD' TO 41-444

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Payable to:

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861

Saint Louis, MO 63166-6861

On the memo line include:

Wood-Indonesia



Group picture at the Big Event. Photo by Erik Lunsford

I don't have a background in marketing so I am simply calling a week long series of activities in November "The Big Event." From Sunday 10 November until Monday 18 November the LCMS and the GKLI worked together to coordinate an LCMS comms team visit, hymnal dedication, pastors' conference, church relations visit, and ordination.

My family was able to attend the visit to Sihabonghabong, the dedication of the BIL, and the first two days of the pastors' conference. It was a blessing for them to get to see how I spend my time when I traveling. It was also great for our church partners in Indonesia to be able to see the whole family together.

LCMS Communications Visit



LCMS writer Megan Mertz interviews Bishop Jon Albert about the publication of the BIL

The LCMS comms team made the long journey from Saint Louis to spend four days with the GKLI. They visited the seminary and central office in Sihabonghabong and attended the hymnal dedication and pastors' conference. Look for a story in *Lutherans Engage* next spring. You can also look forward to many high quality pictures taken by LCMS photographer Erik Lunsford.

Dedication of the BIL



The BIL is received at GKLI Seminary Chapel

My last newsletter announced that the *Buku Ibadah Lutheran (BIL)* had been sent to the printers. I am happy to announce that the printing was completed on time and the BIL was dedicated on 13 November, the first evening of the pastors' conference. The pastors were excited to use it and the leadership of the GKLI seminary wants to start incorporating it into daily chapel immediately. After this initial printing is used for a few months we will receive feedback and make needed adjustments. Then we will print 3,000 high quality copies.

GKLI Pastors' Conference

GKLI pastors and evangelists gathered in Dolok Sanggul for their annual workshop and meeting. This year the topics included the BIL, Church and Ministry, the Sacraments, and Law and Gospel. Pastors Michael Freese and Jonathan Shaw from LCMS Church Relations helped lead the presentations and daily worship services. I was grateful for the help!

Church Relations Visit

In the evenings after the events of the pastors' conference GKLI leadership met with LCMS Church Relations representatives Shaw and



PRAYERS

SUPPLICATION

- Lutheran Mission—Australia, that the Lord would bless their efforts to start a new church body faithful to the Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions. That the Lord would provide for their leadership and pastors.
- Matthew's travel with GKLI Bishop Jon Albert Saragih and Pastor Eben Ezer Aruan to Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne for Symposia and then to Saint Louis to visit Concordia Seminary and the LCMS International Center.
- For Kali, Laurel, Eleanor, Caroline, and Kermit as they adjust to Matthew's new work responsibilities.
- For Matthew as he takes on new leadership responsibilities.

THANKSGIVING

- For the printing and dedication of the BIL and the successful dedication.
- For the opportunity to serve in the position of Area Facilitator.
- For the success of The Big Event and the safe travel of all those involved.



To subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter write to:

Matthew.Wood@lcms.org
with ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

THE BIG EVENT CONT.

Frese. These discussions were a follow up from their visit in November 2023 and they made good progress toward recognizing church fellowship. There is, however, more work to be done.



GKLI and LCMS leaders in Dolok Sanggul. From left to right: Sekjend Lamris Malu, Pastor Eben Ezer Aruan, Pastor Michael Frese, Bishop Jon Albert Siragih, Pastor Jonathan Shaw, Pastor Matthew Wood, Pastor Anton Bengurian.

Topics discussed in the meetings included the practice of women preaching, the importance of using wine for Holy Communion, concerns with participation in the Lutheran World Federation, education of future church workers, and how to adequately reflect fidelity to the Scriptures and the Lutheran confessions in a church body's governing documents. Another meeting including all the GKLI pastors is tentatively planned for early September 2025. In addition to meeting with the LCMS the GKLI pastors will have the opportunity to discuss amongst themselves if they want to

continue pursuing fellowship with the LCMS. I assured the GKLI leadership that my work and the work of OIM would continue even if official church fellowship is not be recognized.

Ordination

All this activity coincided with the ordination of four new GKLI pastors. This is significant because currently there are about 48 Pastors in the GKLI. So ordaining four new men into the office increases their available clergy by over eight percent!



Mikael Sinaga, Bung Bintoro Hutabarat, Omran Manihuruk, and Benjamin Girsang read for their ordination.

The GKLI does ordinations a little differently than the LCMS. In the LCMS new pastors are ordained one by one at a local congregation. Generally this is their first calling congregation or the congregation they grew up in. The GKLI holds one ordination ceremony for all the men being ordained that year. Nearly all the GKLI pastors are present to offer blessings and receive the new pastors into the ministry.

NEW POSITION

Earlier this year I accepted a new position with LCMS OIM. I will continue to serve and live in Indonesia focusing on working with the GKLI and strengthening their theological understanding and confession. I have also taken on the responsibilities of an *LCMS OIM Asia Region Area Facilitator*.



Left to right: Pastor Daniel Jastram, Pastor Mitsuo Haga, Pastor Wood meet to discuss how to strengthen and support Confessional Lutherans in Japan.

The Asia Region of OIM is embracing an area facilitator model to implement the FORO initiative mandated by the previous LCMS

Convention. The goal of a FORO is to help OIM effectively work together with multiple organizations in a given country as well as provide opportunities for service and partnership to districts, congregations, pastors, and members of LCMS congregations in the United States.

The Asia Region will have three area facilitators in charge of FORO efforts in various countries. My areas of responsibility will be Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Indonesia, and Australia.



LCMS OIM and Church Relations meet with Lutheran Mission Australia (LM-A) to learn more about their efforts to start a confessional Lutheran Church body in Australia.

Federwitz Flyer

Serving Bible Translation through Aviation



December 2024

Jonathan and Carrie Federwitz

Flight Training

Jonathan is continuing to train pilots for the mission field. One of the pilots that Jonathan is spending quite a few hours flying with this fall is Rafael Senn, a pilot who is preparing to serve in Brazil. Jonathan is also doing standardization training for pilots on furlough, which included a trip to Spokane, WA, for Kodiak simulator training with Wojtek Zielinski who serves in Papua New Guinea. Training also continues with our son, Nathan. Together, Jonathan and Nathan have gone to some events to promote mission aviation, including the AirVenture airshow in Oshkosh, WI in July and mission-at-the-airport events in Pittsfield and Bangor, ME in August.



Kodiak flight simulator training with Wojtek Zielinski

Carrie's Role with JAARS

Carrie continues in her role as the administrative assistant for the JAARS aviation training manager. She logs and files records for all the flight training – including Jonathan's flights and including the 10 trainees in JAARS' new apprenticeship program that started in September. She often gets involved in other tasks, such as loading passengers for the rides that we gave at JAARS day in October.



Hurricane relief supplies

Hurricane Helene

I'm sure you heard about Hurricane Helene's devastation in western North Carolina in September. Fortunately, we were spared from damage. But the mountains in North Carolina are where we do a lot of our mission field flight training. So, Jonathan was one of the JAARS pilots able to help with some relief flying using some of the airstrips that we use for our normal training.



Carrie helping passengers get ready for a flight

The Next Federwitz Generation

Nathan and **Sarah** are continuing to build a prayer & financial team for their ministry with Lutheran Bible Translators and Nathan is continuing in special missionary pilot training. Their son EJ had his 1st birthday in October and they are expecting their 2nd child in March!

Julia's former fiancé, Kyle, broke up with her. Not getting married and then having that relationship end has been extremely difficult for Julia. Julia also came down with mono which she hasn't fully recovered from yet. So that has been difficult as well. We're glad that she's only an hour and a half drive away in Florence, SC. On the upside, she has a very sweet 1st grade class and looks forward to teaching every day.

Leah made it to Papua New Guinea in July and has been teaching at Ukarumpa International School, which has been going well. She will be coming home for Christmas and bringing her boyfriend, Freddie Yarita, with her. Freddie is a Papua New Guinean who grew up with our kids, so we've known him for years.

Rachel is a junior at Concordia University Wisconsin and continuing in the education program to be a high school math teacher. In August she was engaged to James Buhler, a pre-seminary student. Rachel and James are planning a June wedding.

Email addresses:

Nathan & Sarah: nathan-sarah.federwitz@lbt.org

Julia: julia.federwitz@gmail.com

Leah: leah.federwitz@gmail.com

Rachel: rachel.federwitz@gmail.com

Prayer & Financial Partnership

We continue to depend upon your prayer and financial partnership. The work that we are doing with JAARS is still mission work because it supports the mission work that we are doing around the world. It is not a paid position. Therefore, we have great appreciation for all of you that are partnering with us financially. And we also want to thank all of you that have been praying for us. Thank you for your partnership that makes it possible for us to train and prepare the next generation of missionary pilots.

Prayer and Praise

- ➔ *Praise the Lord for continued safety in flight training and for those whom the Lord has called into mission aviation.*
- ➔ *Pray for Nathan & Sarah as they seek prayer and financial partners and prepare for service as overseas missionaries.*
- ➔ *Pray for Julia's emotional recovery from her breakup with Kyle and physical recovery from mono.*
- ➔ *Praise the Lord that Leah made it to PNG and that teaching is going well. Pray for the Lord's direction for her and Freddie for the future.*
- ➔ *Pray for Rachel as she continues her studies at Concordia University Wisconsin and for her and James as they prepare for marriage.*

Your Partners in Christ,



Jonathan and Carrie
Nathan and Sarah,
Julia, Leah and Rachel

Financial gifts may be sent to one of the addresses at the right with a note stating your "Preference for the Wycliffe Ministry of Jonathan and Carrie Federwitz."

Jonathan and Carrie Federwitz
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Waxhaw, NC 28173
980-347-9432

Jonathan_Federwitz@wycliffe.org
or jcfederwitz@gmail.com



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www.wycliffe.org



Lutheran Bible Translators
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Concordia, MO 64020-0789
1 (800) 53-BIBLE
www.LBT.org



Lutheran Bible
Translators

A Little Federwitz Family

On the Road Again

Nathan and Sarah Federwitz

Nov/Dec
2024
Vol 2 no 6



Traveling and Presenting

At this point, it is starting to feel like we are in a routine with our traveling and speaking. We are adjusted to traveling with a one year old and staying in two, three, or four different places in a week. At churches we have a routine for setting up our display table, and a routine for taking it down and packing everything away. Nathan is a pro at filling our little Toyota Corolla to the brim with all of our luggage and speaking supplies.



EJ enjoying a travel meal of alfredo at a hotel in KY

Although this all provides us with consistency, there is much inconsistency in our travels too—traffic, weather, our baby’s sleep and feeding patterns... One thing we expect will vary at every location is the people we will be meeting. We have presented for LWML zones, evening Bible studies, Sunday morning Bible studies... Some churches we have visited before, some are completely new. Each group has different perspectives and asks different questions than others. One thing they have in common is that we are always blessed by each group. It is a joy to be able to share our story. Many people do not realize how many languages there are in the world, and how many still need to receive God’s Word in their language. God desires for all to come to a knowledge of the truth of salvation through Christ Jesus. It is a real blessing to be able to share how Lutheran Bible Translators is working as part of this mission around the world!

If you would like to share this message with your congregation, Lutheran Bible Translators has resources available. Host a **Bible Translation Sunday** at your church to advocate for the mission of Lutheran Bible Translators. Inspire your church to make an impact by inviting individuals and families to join you in the mission to let the world know, “God speaks your language.” Explore next steps at **LBT.org/BTS**

JAARS Relief Efforts

Many have wondered how we fared after hurricane Helene hit North Carolina. While JAARS got some damage from the storm, it was not extensive, and we were back to normal within 24 hours. Because of this, JAARS was able to aid in the relief efforts in the days immediately following hurricane Helene’s initial destruction in western North Carolina. The areas where JAARS’s Prefield Orientation “Mountain Week” take place are in some of the areas most impacted by the hurricane. Because JAARS pilots are already familiar with flying in these regions and have relationships with the owners of many runways in this area, JAARS was able to provide some help and relief during the week following the storm.



JAARS personnel loading an airplane with a load of relief supplies

Supplies were donated by folks in the Charlotte area, dropped off at the JAARS base and our pilots, both helicopter and fixed-wing, were able to fly supplies up to Avery County.

Birthday Boy!

Our EJ celebrated his first birthday in October! It was a joy to be able to celebrate and remember God's goodness over the past year. He is growing well and is such a happy and curious little boy. It was a blessing to gather with some of Sarah's family and have a little party on the day of his birthday. We enjoyed sharing a meal, opening presents, and of course watching him enjoy eating his birthday cake as you can see in the picture!



Enjoying the birthday cake!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise for safe travels and wonderful connections that we have already made during our travels!
- Pray for our travels through the beginning of December.
- Pray for the upcoming year as we will be doing various trainings starting in January to prepare for going overseas. (We will talk about these in our next prayer letter!)

CONTACT US

Nathan and Sarah Federwitz

Email : Nathan-Sarah.Federwitz@lbt.org

Nathan's cell: 651-202-6091

CONTRIBUTIONS

Give online at lbt.org/nsfederwitz

Lutheran Bible Translators
PO Box 789
Concordia MO 64020



Please make checks payable to **Lutheran Bible Translators** and designate **NS Federwitz Ministry**

Merry Christmas!

We are incredibly grateful for each and every person who reads our letters and prays for us.

You are essential to our ministry!



We pray that you and your family enjoy this blessed season. May God's peace and hope surround you throughout this Advent season, Christmas, and new year!

Nathan and Sarah

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us)."

~Matthew 1:18-23 (ESV)~

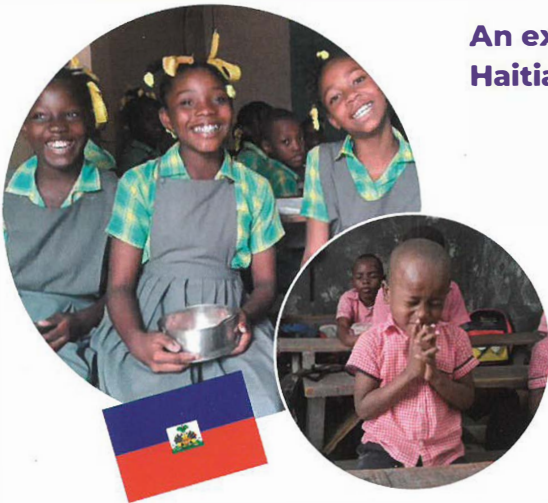
Make a
difference
for the **future**



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I wish you tidings of comfort and joy during Advent and Christmas. We are reminded of the importance of life and salvation as we reflect on the gifts God has bestowed upon us — most notably His Son, humbly born as a helpless child. Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) is dedicated to sharing these gifts with others around the globe.

In 2024, we were honored to present **\$1,576,988** to 18 LWML Mission Grant recipients.



An example of our impact—Mission Grant 15: Feeding Haitian Children Through Gospel and Meals at Trinity HOPE.

LWML Recording Secretary Brenda Piester was thrilled to present the check to Trinity HOPE. In Haiti, more than four million people suffer from acute hunger, and the cycle of poverty is nearly impossible to break. Your support of LWML makes a tangible and eternal difference in the lives of children who are taught to thank Jesus before eating food bought with mission grant funds. Your faithful support is what enables LWML to joyfully proclaim the Gospel and support missions in 84 countries worldwide.

See the next page for a list of all 31 of our mission grants and read more about them at lwml.org.

As the year ends, I invite you to consider the many ways you can support our ministry.

Donating to our **General Fund** helps cover the day-to-day costs of operating our international non-profit ministry so that 90% of district mite offerings can be directed to missions.

Our **Endowment Fund** helps us build a reserve for future ministry and security in times of crisis.

Our **Gifts of Love Gift Planning Ministry** provides guidance on how to arrange charitable giving in a way that will support ministry and family, even after we join our Savior in heaven. It is awe-inspiring to consider how God can use us now through our faithful giving and how He will continue to work through charitable gift planning.

Lutheran Women in Mission has been here since 1942, and with your help, we will continue to serve for years to come. Please consider making a gift today by visiting lwml.org or using the enclosed form. Your generous support ensures we can continue proclaiming the Gospel and helping those in need for generations.



Wishing you a blessed Advent and Christmas season,

Eden M. Keefe

Eden Keefe

Lutheran Women in Mission
President 2023–2027



Lutheran Women
in Mission

Thank you

for considering the many ways you can support our ministry!

Mission Grants

These help spread the love of Jesus to the hurting, helpless, and unbelieving people of the world.

LWML General/Unrestricted Fund

Supports our day-to-day needs as an organization.

LWML Endowment Fund

Since being established in 2001, generous donations, along with prudent investments, have allowed the LWML Endowment Fund to grow. It provides funding for the training of LWML leaders and covers many operational costs, allowing 90% of district mite offerings to directly impact people around the world.

IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution

Individuals age 70½ and older may make gifts directly from their IRA to a qualified charity. Individuals age 73 and older must take “required minimum distributions” from their IRA each year. With the IRA charitable rollover, these individuals can transfer up to \$100,000 per year directly to charity and it satisfies the required minimum distribution. If you are interested in blessing Lutheran Women in Mission with a charitable distribution from your IRA with the added benefit of reducing your income taxes, please contact one of our LWML Gift Planning Counselors so they can show you how.

Linda Gage | linda.gage@LFND.org
Carol von Soosten | carol.vonsoosten@LFND.org

Gifts of Love Gift Planning Ministry

Our Gift Planning Counselors, Linda Gage and Carol von Soosten, provide support and guidance on how to arrange your charitable gift plan in the most effective way to share your faith, bless your family, and impact ministry. Your donations to the Gifts of Love Gift Planning Ministry allow us to provide this service at no cost to members and their families and without using Mite Box offerings.

2023-2025 Mission Grants

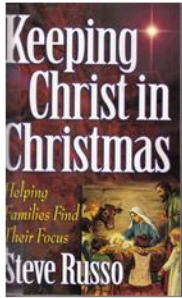
✓ = fully funded!

| | <u>Goal</u> |
|--|-------------|
| 1 Orphan Grain Train Servant Center USA..... | \$100,000 ✓ |
| 2 A Healing Space for At-Risk Children Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, ND | \$100,000 ✓ |
| 3 Serving God's Children with Special Needs Journeys Lutheran School, Milwaukee, WI | \$100,000 ✓ |
| 4 Fortifying Faith in Those with Vision Impairment Lutheran Braille Workers | \$100,000 ✓ |
| 5 Disaster Response Team Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler, TX | \$50,000 ✓ |
| 6 Mobile Kitchen Forged by Fire Services Gulf Coast Region, USA | \$85,000 ✓ |
| 7 Upheld by God's Hand, Mental Health Outreach LCMS Life Ministry..... | \$96,500 |
| 8 Expanding Gospel Proclamation Worldwide Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO | \$100,000 |
| 9 Equipping Young Leaders LCMS Youth Ministry..... | \$50,000 |
| 10 Set Apart to Serve LCMS Office of Pastoral Education..... | \$100,000 ✓ |
| 11 Lutheran Women in Mission Finish the Job Ministry in Mission, Haiti..... | \$85,000 ✓ |
| 12 Sharing Christ Crucified with High School Youth Lutheran High School of Greater New Orleans, LA | \$35,000 ✓ |
| 13 Water and the Word Evangelical Lutheran Church Kenya | \$80,000 ✓ |
| 14 Enhancement of Deaf Ministry and Outreach Ephphatha Lutheran Mission Society, USA | \$47,000 ✓ |
| 15 Feeding Haitian Children Through Gospel and Meals Trinity HOPE | \$58,082 ✓ |
| 16 Care for Street Children of Western Kenya Capstone Ministries..... | \$50,000 |
| 17 Nurturing Faith for the Aging Lutheran Ministries Media (Worship Anew) | \$100,000 |
| 18 Zoe's Home Support Zoe's Home, Trinity Lutheran Church, Clinton, MO | \$75,000 |
| 19 Tanzania Children's Homes Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, Africa | \$74,500 ✓ |
| 20 Sharing Christ with Women and Children in Kazakhstan Lutheran Hour Ministries | \$100,000 ✓ |
| 21 Healthy Together: Healthy Workers, Healthy Church Lutheran Family Services, USA | \$106,000 ✓ |
| 22 Expanding Gospel Outreach to Hispanics in U.S. Lutheran Hour Ministries..... | \$100,000 ✓ |
| 23 A Legacy of Love for Special Needs Children Lutheran Special Education Ministries, USA..... | \$100,000 |
| 24 God's Word for Central and South American Missions Lutheran Heritage Foundation..... | \$100,000 ✓ |
| 25 Bringing God's Word to India India Bible Translation Project..... | \$100,000 |
| 26 Life Connection Events and Kits Lutherans for Life..... | \$70,000 |
| 27 Siouxland Lutheran Hispanic Ministry Hope Lutheran, South Sioux City, NE | \$50,000 |
| 28 Growing Our Place: Care for Special Needs Students Our Place After School Care, Inc., NE | \$20,000 ✓ |
| 29 Repairs for St. Paul's Lutheran School Cullman, AL | \$50,000 ✓ |
| 30 Showering Love on the Least of These Mercy Holistic Ministry, CA..... | \$100,000 ✓ |
| 31 Breaking Generational Poverty in Detroit Camp Restore Detroit, MI..... | \$58,989 ✓ |

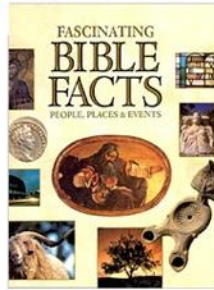
From Our Library
December 2024



CHRISTMAS: Time for reflection on the birth and life of Jesus Christ!
Find books for learning, decorating & Christian fiction in our library



Keeping Christ in Christmas by Steve Russo. Helping families find their focus. Do your Christmas memories consist of frantic trips to the mall, frenzied entertaining and an emphasis on Santa & presents? This year focus on the real reason for the season and you'll find how to: keep your family focused on Jesus' birth... avoid the Xmas rush, create fun family traditions & talk to your kids about Santa angels etc Share the promise of Christmas—Jesus—with those around you . Code Blue 394.2663 Rus



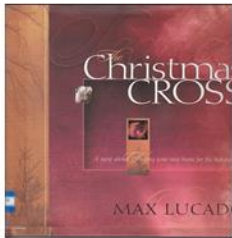
Fascinating Bible Facts – People, Places & Events. If you have ever been curious about the history, people, lives or geography of the bible, this is for you. Did you know.. That people under 30 were not

allowed to read the Book of Ezekiel? That the bronze pillars of Solomon's temple were named Boaz & Jachin? You will find hundreds of facts at your fingertips plus interesting photos. Code: Blue 220.9 How



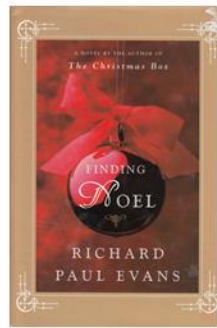
First Festivals CHRISTMAS by Lois Rock. Celebrate by decorating with Christian festival crafts. From Advent preparations to Christmas Day itself with gifts, cards and decorations. May these things help you and your family focus your celebrations

around Jesus, the Savior, who lies at the heart of Christmas. Code; Blue 263.91 Roc



Christmas Cross by Max Lucado. A story about finding your way home for the holidays. (a story dedicated to all single parents. May God give you

strength. (Pages have small envelopes to encourage your reading) great idea. Code: Blue 813.'54



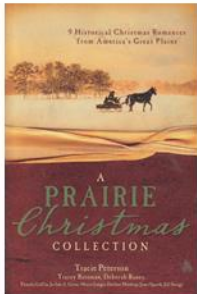
Finding Noel by Richard Paul Evans. Two people, Mark and Mary are down on their luck. Each has had bad times in life. But things are to change when Mark & Mary meet and join together on a jour-

ney to reclaim Mary's past and her family. Code: white Eva

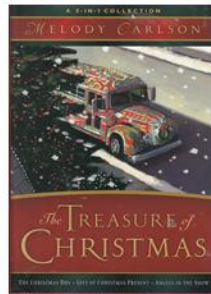


Grace by Richard Paul Evans. Grace is the story of a young runaway girl and the boy who hides her from a frightening world too large for him to comprehend and about two brothers and the love that binds them together thru difficult times.

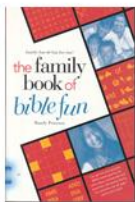
LARGE PRINT Code: Eva



Prairie Christmas Collection Tracie Peterson & More. 9 Historical Xmas romances from America's great plains. Filled with inspiration & faith each is a treasure. Code: (N) Pet



The Treasure of Christmas by Melody Carlson. Contains three stories: The Christmas Bus, Gift of Christmas Present and Angels in the Snow. 413 pages total. Code: (N) Car



The family book of bible fun by Randy Peterson. Card games and quizzes, Bible-based games for rainy days, crosswords and searches, interactive family fun activities for all ages. All pages in this book may be reproduced and copied for use on family trips, Sunday school groups, activities etc .. Without written permission—on your own or for a group Code: Blue 793 Pet



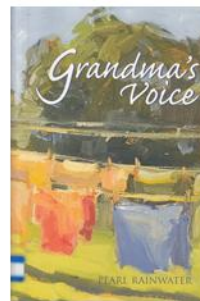
The Masterpiece by Francine Rivers. The ghosts of his past hold him captive. Her missteps bring her to his door.. As they get to know each other its like jagged pieces of both their pasts begin

to fit together...until something unexpected happens that changes both their lives forever. Code; white Riv



Sins of the Fathers by James Scott Bell. Unthinkable happened, a 13 year old fired a rifle into a baseball game, killing several of the kids. Public opinion swells to an enraged cry for justice. Case is slam dunk? It is not that simple. When Lindy has the young boy for a client—dangerous forces close in &

she must fight for justice. Code: white Bel



Grandma's Voice by Pearl Rainwater. Raised by her own grandmother, married for more than 50 yrs, Sunday School teacher, bus driver etc—this woman recounts true stories that will make you notice God's hand

in his creation and the power of his love in your life. Code: Blue 242 Rai.



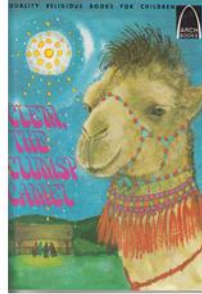
The Hope Jar by Wanda Brunstetter. Book #1 in The Prayer Jars series. She found an old blue jar in the barn that is filled with slips of paper with handwritten prayers & thoughts & realized she must tell the truth about herself Not being their daughter. Code: Bru

Parents: Visit the library with your little ones. We have helpful books for parents with children in the LLLibrary that you might be interested in.

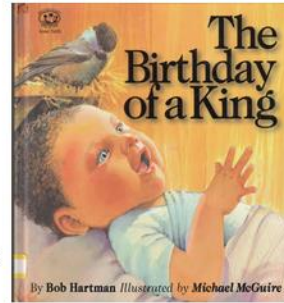


The Time of Christmas by Suzanne Richterkesing. Season of Christmas includes: Advent Season, Christmas Season, & Epiphany Season. Find out about these exciting days of Christmas

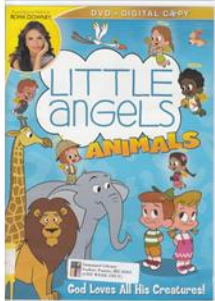
and what they mean. Code: yellow Ric



Clem, The clumsy Camel by Virginia Mueller (ARCH BOOK). A story of Christmas thru the travel of a camel. Interesting for parent and child. Code: yellow ARCH BOOK Mue.

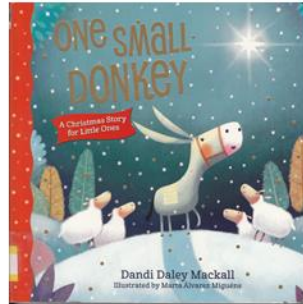


The Birthday of a King by Bob Hartman—a story of Jesus' Birth. What do you do for the birthday of a king? What was it Like? Visit the place of long ago. Code: Yellow Har



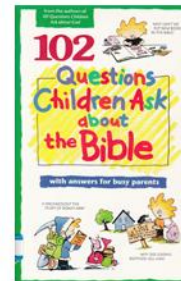
Little angels - animals—33 minutes. Alex and Zoe learn that all creatures on Earth are a gift from God and that we have plenty to learn from them. Includes sing along music.

Code: DVD yellow Misc 1



One small Donkey by Dandi Daley Mackall. Tell the Christmas story from the donkey carrying Mary to Bethlehem. Shows us how God has big

plans for little ones. Code: yellow Mac



102 Questions Children ask about the Bible with answers for busy parents by David Veerman & more. Like Why did Joseph's brothers sell him? Why can't we put new books in the Bible? What is the

Bible? 102 questions asked by real kids. Code: Blue 220 Vee



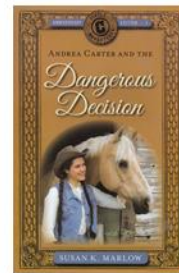
Legend of the Candy Cane (The) 60 minutes. This is an animated adaptation of Legend of Candy Cane. Story of hope & hidden meaning of the candy cane. (the nite a mysterious stranger rode into town, no one realized their lives would never

be the same). DVD Code: red Chr.

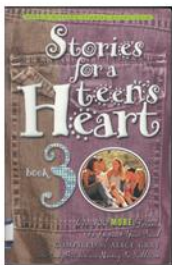


Heidi A classic Story. Story of a Swiss orphan girl who enriches every life she touches. She opens her gruff grandfather's heart to love, befriends lonely Peter and more. Every child should have a chance to meet Heidi.

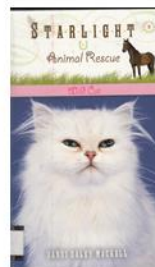
Code DVD Black ft 24



Dangerous Decision by Susan K. Marlow. Circle C. Adventures. #2 The choice is Andi's—but has she considered the consequences? When an escaped prisoner forces his way into the school-room, she must make one of the hardest decisions of her life. JR/TN Code: ffg(black) Mar 2



Stories for a teen's Heart compiled by Alice Gray. These stories for teens dare you to experience the awesome presence of God. 353 pages of over 100 stories about teens. JR/TN Code: Bl/Black 242'.63 Gray

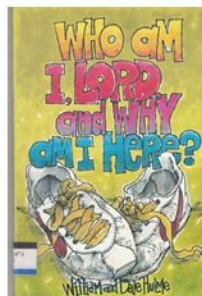


Starlight Animal Rescue Book #3 Wild Cat. Meet 12 year old Kat who has cancer. She thinks she must do something worthy of being adopted by her wonderful foster family. When she accepts the role of "cat shrink" for her classmates pets .. Is this more than she can handle? Code: Black Mac



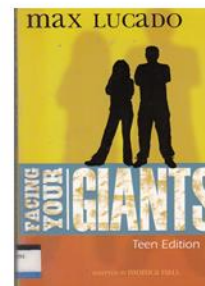
The True Christmas Story from Focus on the Family. Discover fascinating truths about the events surrounding the birth of Jesus. Begin at Herod's Palace with its power & opulence. He shows archaeological evidence with biblical teachings & historical record to contrast the two kings—Herod and Jesus.

Code: Blu



Who am I, Lord and why am I here? By William and Dale Hulme. Young adults face enormous pressures. They are encouraged to seek instant gratification—often with tragic results. It does not have to be like this, there is hope, the hope of Jesus Christ for a new life. This book offers you a

fresh start with topics like drugs, peer pressure guilt, suicide presented thru real life situations and frank discussion. Code: Bl/Blue 248.8'3 Hul



Facing Your Giants (Teen Edition) by Max Lucado. What modern day giants are you facing? Make you feel like you are an insignificant bug on the windshield? Here's some good news!!

Your worries & troubles (the giants) are no match for God. Code: Bl/Blue 222'4092 Luc.



JANUARY 2025

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Pastor Lee 338-5351 Church Office 338-2511 Charlie/Jodi Klimek, Cust. 338-2929 Vicar Joe 763-498-1393 | | | | 9:00 Footcare | | 7:00 Worship w/Communion |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 9:00 Worship w/Communion, also Livestreamed 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Sunday School 6:30 Circuit Epiphany at Carlos 7:00 Service on Cable Ch 14 | 6 Women's Bible Study | 9:00 Bible Breakfast | 10 Bible Class at Church & Zoom 3:30 6 th Grade Confirmation 6:00 7 th & 8 th Grade Confirmation 6:30 ACT Class | 1:00 LWML 2:00 Women's Bible Study | | 7:00 Worship |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 9:00 Worship, also Livestreamed 10:00 Coffee, 10:30 Sunday School 2:00 St. William's Living Center 6:00 TIM Meeting at Good Shepherd 7:00 Service on Cable Ch 14 | 6 Women's Bible Study 7:30 Dartball at Bartlett | 9:00 Bible Breakfast 11:00 St William's Communion | 10 Bible Class at Church & Zoom 3:30 6 th Grade Confirmation 6:00 7 th & 8 th Grade Confirmation 6:30 ACT Class | | 1:00 Ministerium at Faith, Miltona 8 ACT Lockin | 7:00 Worship w/Communion |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 9:00 Worship w/Communion, New Member Welcome & Dinner, also Livestreamed 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Sunday School 7:00 Service on Cable Ch 14 | | 8:30 Winkel @ Garfield 9:00 Bible Breakfast | 10 Bible Class at Church & Zoom 3:30 6 th Grade Confirmation 6:00 7 th & 8 th Grade Confirmation 6:30 ACT Class | Immanuel's 120 th Anniversary | 2:00-9:00 Directory Pictures | 10-4 Directory Pictures 7:00 Worship |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| 9:00 Worship, also Livestreamed Celebration of our 120 th Anniversary 10:00 Coffee & Group Pictures 10:30 Sunday School 2:00 St. William's Living Center 7:00 Service on Cable Ch 14 | | 9:00 Bible Breakfast | 10 Bible Class at Church & Zoom 3:30 6 th Grade Confirmation 6:00 7 th & 8 th Grade Confirmation 6:30 ACT Class | 7:00 Council | | |

The Lutheran Hour

WCCO Mpls 830 6:05 AM KWAD Wadena 920/1430 8:30 AM KXRA Alex 1490/100.3 6:30 AM KFGO Fargo 790/94.1 7:30 AM
KWAD Wadena 920/1430 8:30 AM KPRM Staples 94.7 9:30 AM KMRS Morris 1230/107.7 12:30 PM



Immanuel Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

P.O. BOX 66—PARKERS PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA 56361

Forwarding & Address Correction Requested

CIRCUIT EPIPHANY SERVICE Sunday, January 5, 2024, 6:30 PM

Trinity Lutheran Church

Carlos, MN

- *Featuring Brass Music and Communion*
- *Vicar Joe Bates will be the preacher*
- *Refreshments served after the service*



FOLLOW THE STAR