

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
60th Anniversary
1962-2022
Rooted in Christ, Growing in Faith

A Congregation of
The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
981 Highway Z
573.336.4464



60th Anniversary Theme Verse:

“Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. ¹ Psalm 90:1”

Word, Worship, Witness, Fellowship, Service

Happy Anniversary Family of Faith!

For 60 years, since 1962, Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church has served the Fort Leonard Wood region in Pulaski County, Missouri. first worship service was conducted with the congregation on April 29, 1962. In mission and ministry, we have served the farms, towns and fort. We've gotten plenty of kicks on Route 66 these past 60 years.

We believe, teach, and confess that the Lord is worthy of all the glory and honor for all the good He has accomplished through His people. What a privilege to be useful to Jesus. The safety and security the Lord provides shelters us from sin, from the tyranny of death, and from the power of the devil. The shelter is not a fortress to wall us off from the world or from mission to neighbors and friends, but instead is a growing fertile Living Tree with wide, full fruited and leafy branches that provides shelter to birds of allyl kinds.

The Living Tree informs our Anniversary Theme: Rooted in Christ, Growing in Faith. The Tree of Life feed Adam and Eve and will feed the nations gathered around the Throne of God in the City of God with the River of Life as the centerpiece of our Lord's New Creation. In His ministry among us, our Lord demonstrated His love for the Tree of Life through His parables. The Living Tree brings healing to the nations.

These past 60 years, the Lord gathered a core group of His own. His Word grew up and they welcomed more and more of His scattered people. Though so few are from here, by many and various ways the Lord has brought people under the shelter of His Word for service together in His Kingdom. New have renewed the core and gathered once and again. In each succeeding generation, the Lord has been our dwelling place.

Serving you, Serving Jesus,

Pastor John Perling

Pastor John Perling

April 2022

Rev. John F. Perling
Pastor

Ron Hinchman
Executive Director

Dennis Engstrom
Chairman, Board of Elders

Stephanie Mitchell
Office Administrator

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¹ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#). (2016). (Ps 90:1). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

Word

1 Rooted in Christ, Growing in Faith

The Word is sown to grow in fertile soil

The Seed here dies, yet multiplies

Lord Jesus Christ with You, we rise

(refrain) We thank you, Lord, for all that you have done

We praise you, Lord, Our victory is won!

Worship

2 Rooted in Christ, Growing in Faith

Christ Jesus speaks His gospel promise sure

He tunes each ear in joyful melody

Declares His holy family pure

(refrain)

Witness

3 Rooted in Christ, Growing in Faith

The Sower casts His seed with reckless love

The mustard seed, the smallest of them all

Grows branches tall, the nations to call

(refrain)

Fellowship

4 Rooted in Christ, Growing in Faith

Brought here together by our Lord's own call

Our home with Him and sheltered from the storm

Love's canopy to cover us all

(refrain)

Service

5 Rooted in Christ, Growing in Faith

More soil to cultivate, more vines to tend

Life giving Tree, your servants here are free

In faith and love, for service we bend

(refrain)

Victory and Doxology

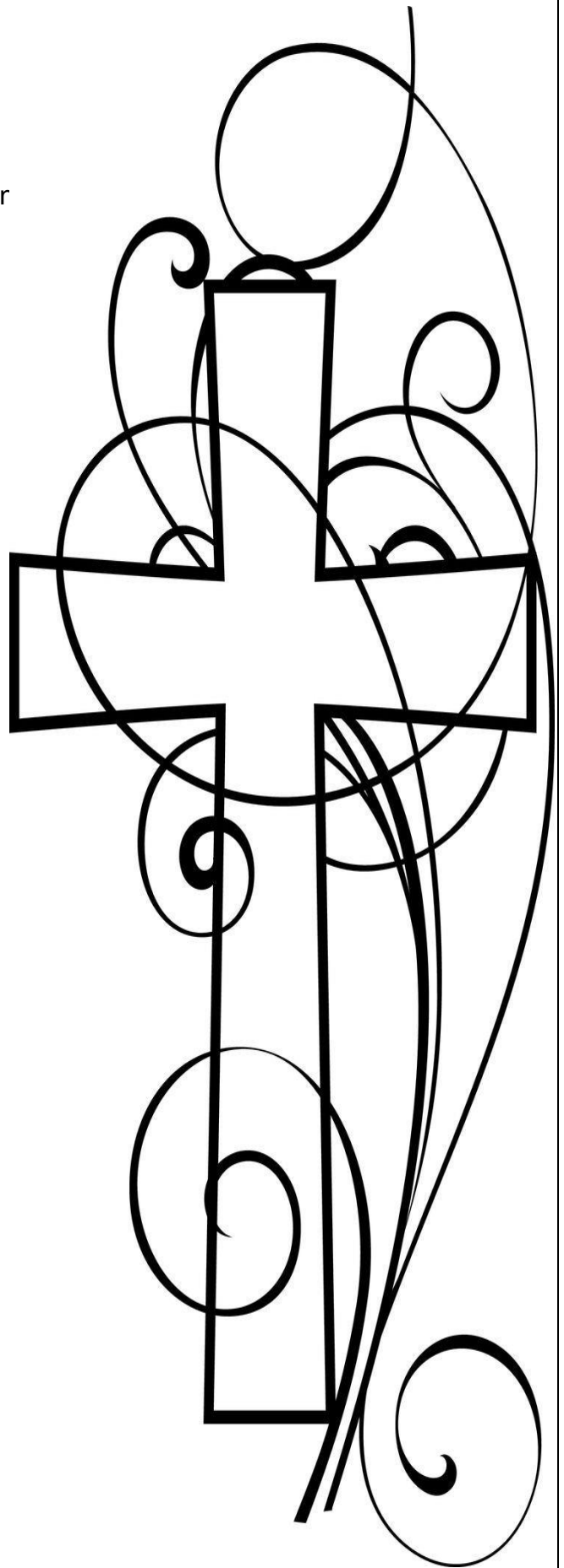
6 Rooted in Christ, Growing in Faith

A joyful host is gathered in Christ's name

O Tree of Life, with healing branches green

God, Father, Son, and Spirit we sing

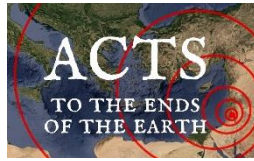
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Adult Christian Education Opportunities

Sunday: The Acts of the Apostles

The Acts of the Apostles declares the ongoing work of Jesus Christ. At His Ascension, the work of Jesus did not stop, it moved to fill all creation both visible and invisible.



He promised to work with and through his disciples for the salvation of the world.

- How is the Lord working now?
- What are the Lord's priorities?
- Suffering and Success
- Starting/planting new ministries
- Learning from the Apostles how to describe Jesus in your own words together with the OT



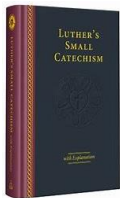
A New Song: I Have Set My King on Zion Tuesday Evenings 6:00pm

A New Song: I Have Set My King on Zion will encourage and uplift you as you reflect on the time and place of God's fulfillment of the Messiah and the wonderful, incredible, eternal reign of our Savior-King.

This Bible study provides six weeks of stories—faith narratives—based on biblical psalms. Following each day's reading are questions that will facilitate your own reflection on the Bible. And at the end of each week are discussion starters for fruitful, meaningful conversation in the comfort and security of your small group.

Each faith narrative was written by a real woman facing real-life issues. Just like you. Each author found help, encouragement, and direction for her life from God's Word and shares her stories in her words. These stories, new songs if you will, help you weave His Word into the unique melody of your life.

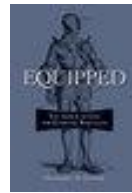
Luther's Small Catechism - Wednesday 9am



This new edition recognizes the need for adults to learn about Jesus and lead family devotions. Our Wednesday morning Bible Study is reading, marking, learning, and taking it to heart. Martin Luther provides a brief, clear summary of God's Word on the essentials of the Christian faith. In question-and-answer format. It explores the Six Chief Parts of Christian Doctrine and includes daily prayers, a table of duties for Christians in their various callings, and a guide for Christians as they prepare to receive Holy Communion.

Men's Club –

Equipped: The Armor of God for Everyday Struggles



The devil is working daily to make you turn away from your faith. Sometimes though, it's not in grand efforts, but in the small ones you encounter every day. The devil can work through exhaustion, anxiety, temptation, and frustration, all common daily occurrences. But God provides strength to battle the devil's ways by giving you His armor. Follow along in Ephesians 6 to see the armor God equips you with to defend yourself against Satan.

Thursday Evening 7pm Crossways!

The Crossways course surveys all 66 books of the Old & New Testaments. The focus of each book is Christ and His Salvation. Enrolling in the course will give you the tools to describe how each book of the bible contributes to its overall message. Members will gain a working framework for understanding any scriptural text in light of the whole. All of the promises of God find their "Yes!" in Christ. More information may be found on page 5 of this newsletter.



Thursday Morning Bible Class 9am

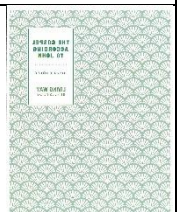


We will be walking through **God's Word for Today: Deuteronomy**. Israel's forty-year wait is over. Out of a generation that rebelled against God, only three men remained: Moses, Joshua, and Caleb. While one generation has passed away, Moses leads another to the east side of the Jordan River. By His grace, God will affirm His Law and ratify His gracious covenant with this new generation. This class meets on Zoom. For more information, Contact Susan Rostad (573) 433-5372.

The Gospel of John

Tuesday 1:00 pm

We will together explore the Good News of Jesus as the Apostle John was inspired to write. We will see through the eyes of Scripture, the wondrous works of Jesus, the Son of God. We will look for and find the "nuggets of truth" spoken by Jesus during His visible, public ministry on earth.



Preparing for the Divine Service

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

(3 April 2022)



Isaiah 43:16–21
Philippians 3:(4b–7) 8–14
Luke 20:9–20

God's Beloved Son Has Redeemed Us

Our life and works apart from Christ, no matter how they may glitter to the eyes of the world, are ultimately rubbish and have no righteousness. Rather, in the scandalous cross of Jesus, we find our righteousness alone *"through faith in Christ"* (Phil. 3:9). By such faith, we *"know him and the power of his resurrection"* (Phil. 3:10). For the same God who brought Israel out of Egypt has done a *"new thing"* for us in Christ Jesus (Is. 43:19). He has sent His beloved Son into His vineyard to be killed by sinful men and to become *"the stone that the builders rejected."* Yet, the One rejected by men *"has become the cornerstone"* of His Church (Luke 20:17). Through the waters of Holy Baptism, He provides us daily refreshment in our earthly pilgrimage, *"a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert"* (Is. 43:19).

PALM SUNDAY / SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

(10 April 2022)



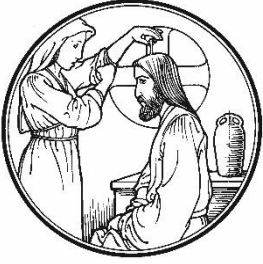
John 12:12–19 (Palm Sunday Procession)
Deuteronomy 32:36–39
Philippians 2:5–11
Luke 22:1–23:56 or
Luke 23:1–56 or John 12:20–43

The Cross and Passion of Our Lord Are the Hour of His Glory

The King of Israel comes into His royal glory by the path of humble obedience *"to the point of death, even death on a cross"* (Phil. 2:8). He *"goes as it has been determined"* (Luke 22:22), according to the Scriptures, willingly submitting to His Father's plan for the salvation of sinners. *"Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name"* (Phil. 2:9). His suffering and death open the way of repentance for the forgiveness of sins because He goes to the cross bearing the sins of the world. In His resurrection, God the Father vindicates His people and has compassion on His servants (Deut. 32:36). He kills to make alive; He wounds in order to heal. In remembrance of Him, we praise God, confessing *"that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father"* (Phil. 2:11).

MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK

(11 April 2022)



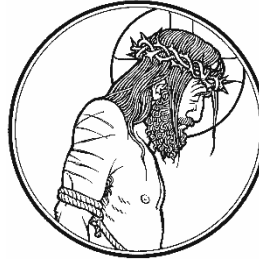
Isaiah 50:5–10
Hebrews 9:11–15
John 12:1–23

Our Merciful and Great High Priest Is Anointed for Our Eternal Redemption

In raising His friend Lazarus from the dead, Jesus signified His own approaching death and resurrection. For His hour had come, and His Passion was at hand. It is thus in preparation for His burial that Mary, the sister of Lazarus, *“anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair”* (John 12:3, 7). For He is the Christ, a *“high priest of the good things that have come,”* who now offers *“himself without blemish to God,”* to redeem us *“by means of his own blood”* (Heb. 9:11–12, 14). As the true Man, He does so with confidence that He will *“not be put to shame,”* since His God and Father is at hand to help Him and to vindicate Him, even from death (Is. 50:7–8). He enters with His flesh and blood *“into the holy places,”* so that *“those who are called”* may enter with Him into *“the promised eternal inheritance”* of the new covenant (Heb. 9:12, 15). The pleasing fragrance of His sacrifice fills His Church, and all those whom He raises from the dead with His Gospel are invited to recline *“with him at table”* (John 12:1–3).

TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

(12 April 2022)



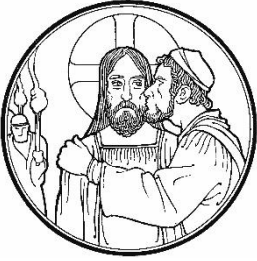
Isaiah 49:1–7
1 Corinthians 1:18–25
(26–31)
John 12:23–50

Christ Comes to the Hour of His Cross in Order to Bring You to the Father in Himself

The Son of God has come in the flesh, as the Servant of His God and Father, not only *“to bring Jacob back to him,”* but also *“as a light for the nations”* (Is. 49:5–6). He is *“honored in the eyes of the Lord,”* and the Father is glorified in Him, because He speaks and acts as the Father has commanded (Is. 49:3, 5; John 12:28, 49). As the light of the world, He comes to the hour of His cross, that He might *“draw all people”* to Himself (John 12:23, 27, 32). Those who thus believe in Him do not remain in darkness but walk in the light and follow Him through death into life, in order to be with Him where He is (John 12:26, 35, 46). Crucified and risen from the dead, Christ Jesus is your life and your salvation, *“who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption”* (1 Cor. 1:30). And by the foolish preaching of His cross, which is the power and wisdom of God, you are saved through faith (1 Cor. 1:21–24).

WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

(13 April 2022)



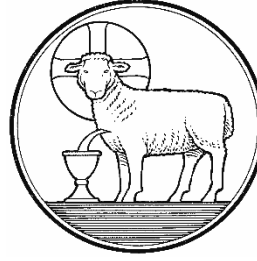
Isaiah 62:11–63:7
Romans 5:6–11
John 13:16–38

The Son of God Is Glorified in His Self-Sacrificing Divine Love for Sinners

“God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8). It is in this self-sacrificing divine love that *“the Son of Man [is] glorified, and God is glorified in him”* (John 13:31). Not for His benefit, but at His own expense, *“according to the abundance of his steadfast love,”* He alone treads the winepress of His cross and Passion (Is. 63:3, 7). But *“his reward is with him”* for the salvation of sinners, whom He has not forsaken but sought out (Is. 62:11–12). Thus do we *“rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ,”* since we are *“reconciled to God by the death of his Son,”* and we are *“saved by his life”* (Rom. 5:10–11). As He prayed for Simon Peter against the assaults of Satan, that he should be restored after his denials and strengthen his brothers (Luke 22:31–32), so does He now send His ministers to serve and strengthen us, who recline *“at table at Jesus’ side”* (John 13:20, 23). And as we are disciples whom Jesus loves, so does He command us to *“love one another”* (John 13:34–35).

HOLY (MAUNDY) THURSDAY

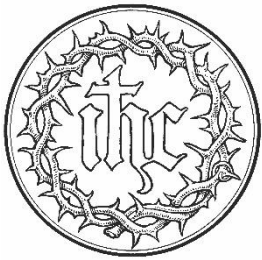
(14 April 2022)



Jeremiah 31:31–34 *or*
Exodus 12:1–14
Hebrews 10:15–25 *or* 1
Corinthians 11:23–32
John 13:1–17, 31b–35

Let Us Love One Another, as Christ Jesus Has Loved Us

By Holy Baptism, “with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water” (Heb. 10:22), we enter the holy place with Jesus. For Jesus is our Passover Lamb who has been sacrificed for us. He reclines at table with us and feeds us with His own flesh and blood: “the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain” (Heb. 10:20). In Christ, the Lord remembers us in mercy and remembers our sin no more; He forgives us all our iniquity (Jer. 31:34; Heb. 10:17). With such love, He “loved his own who were in the world,” and He even loves us “to the end” (John 13:1). As He washes us and feeds us in love, let us love one another, just as He has loved us (John 13:34).



GOOD FRIDAY

(15 April 2022)

Isaiah 52:13–53:12
Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9
John 18:1–19:42 or John
19:17–30

Behold the Lamb of God, Who Takes Away the Sin of the World

Jesus, the Lamb of God, is led to the slaughter of His cross as the sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the world. *“Despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief”* (Is. 53:3), He is the righteous Servant who justifies many by His innocent suffering and death. He bears our griefs and carries our sorrows; He is wounded for our transgressions; He is crushed for our iniquities; He suffers our chastisement, so that *“with his wounds we are healed”* (Is. 53:4–5). As the Son of God, He fulfills the Law for us in human flesh, and so fulfills the Scriptures (John 19:7, 24). In perfect faith and faithfulness, He shares all our weaknesses and temptations, *“yet without sin”* (Heb. 4:15), and as our merciful High Priest, He brings us to the Father in peace.



HOLY SATURDAY

(16 April 2022)

Daniel 6:1–24
1 Peter 4:1–8
Matthew 27:57–66

We Live and Love in the Peace and Promise of the Resurrection of Christ Jesus

The disciples of Christ Jesus, like St. Joseph of Arimathea, deal in love with the body of Christ, in the sure and certain promise of the resurrection (Matt. 27:57–60). For they also remember what He said, that after three days He would rise, though His enemies conspire against Him and seek to thwart Him (Matt. 27:63). Indeed, we find a type and promise of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ already in the prophet Daniel. For he was blameless and faithful, and *“an excellent spirit was in him”* (Dan. 6:3–4, 22). Although he was accused and delivered over to death, the Lord preserved his life and raised him up in righteousness, *“because he had trusted in his God”* (Dan. 6:23). So let us also pray and give thanks to God (Dan. 6:10), finding peace and Sabbath rest in Jesus Christ. And knowing that *“the end of all things is at hand,”* let us be *“self-controlled and sober-minded,”* and *“keep loving one another earnestly”* (1 Peter 4:7–8).

EASTER SUNRISE

(17 April 2022)



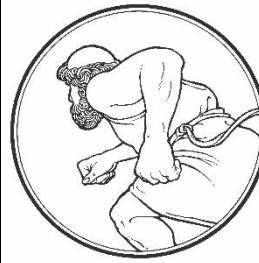
Job 19:23–27
1 Corinthians 15:51–57
John 20:1–18

Our Redeemer Lives!

In Adam, all die because all sin. The children of that first gardener have been driven out of Paradise and return to the dust whence they were taken. But now another Gardener has come, who has made His bed in the dust of the earth, and in His resurrection He has opened paradise for all the children of Adam. For *“death is swallowed up in victory”* (1 Cor. 15:54), and God *“gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ”* (1 Cor. 15:57). So we each confess that *“my Redeemer lives”* and *“in my flesh I shall see God”* (Job 19:25, 26). As He has called us out of darkness into light and wiped away our tears, we behold Him now by faith and recognize His voice in the Gospel. We enter His tomb by the death of Holy Baptism, and we also share His resurrection. For as surely as He has risen, so we also one day *“must rise from the dead”* (John 20:9).

EASTER DAY

(17 April 2022)



Isaiah 65:17–25
1 Corinthians 15:19–26
Luke 24:1–12

Christ’s Resurrection Is the Firstfruits of the New Creation

The Lord has promised to *“create new heavens and a new earth”* (Is. 65:17), in which His people shall abide in peace and joy. That new creation has begun in the bodily resurrection of Christ Jesus. All the baptized belong to that new creation. Reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, they are *“the offspring of the blessed of the LORD”* (Is. 65:23). The Lord rejoices and is glad in them; He hears and answers their prayers. For *“if in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied”* (1 Cor. 15:19). But Christ Jesus has been raised, *“the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep”* (1 Cor. 15:20). We may be *“perplexed about this”* (Luke 24:4), perhaps even frightened and brought to our knees, because it seems like an *“idle tale”* (Luke 24:11). But faith clings to the Word of Christ and finds His resurrected body — not in the tomb, but in His Holy Supper.



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

(24 April 2022)

Acts 5:12–20 (21–32)

Revelation 1:4–18

John 20:19–31

That You May Believe and Have Life in His Name

On the Lord's Day, St. John the apostle was given a revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God, the Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last. He is the Living One, *"the firstborn of the dead"* (Rev. 1:5). He died for all people, and behold, He is alive forevermore! Therefore, He has *"the keys of Death and Hades"* (Rev. 1:18). For His death atoned for sin and conquered death, and in His resurrection He opened the kingdom of heaven to us. The *"sharp two-edged sword"* of His mouth (Rev. 1:16) calls you to *"believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,"* that by such faith *"you may have life in his name"* (John 20:31). To that end, He sends His ministers of the Word, as the Father sent Him, *"to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins"* (Acts 5:31).

BEN'S PEN

Dear Family of Faith,

Being in the season of Lent, it is fitting that we focus our Tuesday Bible Study of John's Gospel on his account of our Lord's passion.

John was near the cross as Jesus suffered and died for your sins and mine. His account has deep feelings which we can also share. It shows both the human and divine natures of Jesus.

Also, it is very significant that you and I can relate and apply the passion of Jesus to our own lives. We can each say within our minds and hearts,

"Jesus suffered and died FOR ME!"

Come join us for these last chapters of John. You will be enriched!

With Joy in Jesus and His LOVE for you!

Pastor Ben

Ben Schumacher, Assistant Pastor

LADIES AID

Monthly Business Meeting

Moving right along into another busy month, we invite you to join us at our regular monthly business meeting on Thursday, April 7th beginning at 12:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. We begin with a light lunch being provided by Vernetia Tassus & ?. Karen Boorum will lead us with a Bible study before we get into our business portion of the meeting.

Spring Tea

Our BIG Activity for April will be our Spring Tea which we are hosting on Saturday, April 30, 2022, beginning at 10 a.m. Bev Richard is the chairman of this event & is needing us to help with everything. Our Tea will be in memory of Helen Livingston. She was a big part of Ladies Aid & did much to keep us together & our society going the last 50 plus years. We'll have music, games, fellowship & fun for all in attendance. We are inviting gals who have been a part of Ladies Aid or our church over the past 60 years. RSVP to Bev at 573-855-1937. Help us make this an extra special day for all!

Refreshments after Worship

We will be hosting refreshments after the Worship on Sunday, April 3rd. We thank Vernetia Evans & Donna Wogan and others who are making this possible for all of us. Come downstairs & join your church family for this fellowship time!

Workday and Birthday Lunch

We are having our workday ... hoping no changes this month, so we can join together for our activities which will include working on Christmas cards for our local Nursing Homes and also putting together little dresses or quilts for Orphan Grain Train. We begin at 10:30 a.m. until noon in the Parish Hall on Thursday, April 21st. Come fellowship with us & lend your helping hands so we can make some progress this month!

Stick around town, because we are having our monthly Birthday Lunch at Hopper's in downtown Waynesville beginning at 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 21st. Come help anyone you may know with an April Birthday ... thinking of Bill Leitgeb; let LuAnn Clark (573-842-5120) know you would like to join us for another opportunity to be with your church family!

LWML Convention

Don't forget to let our delegates know how you would like them to vote on the "mite grant projects" at our Missouri District LWML Convention. You can vote for 8 projects which we will support with our mites over the next two years. So, let LuAnn Clark or Heidi Perling or Karen Boorum know how you would like them to vote. If you don't know the Projects, go online to missouridistrictlwml.org & select the 2022 District Convention for the details OR ask Heidi, LuAnn or Karen. These projects are what we are all about! Supporting them is our purpose, please help us make a difference!

Stamps for Missions, Best Choice Labels, Etc.

Karen Boorum was finally able to take all our many "Stamps for Missions" to the lady who collects these. The stamps are sold to collectors & the money is provided for our Mission Projects. What a blessing we were able to provide! Thanks for saving your stamps!

Don't forget your Best Food labels and pass those to Marion. Munson, these also help our society. Got a question? Just ask Marion!

Be sure to see all the other announcements in this newsletter so you know our plans for April 30th & May 1st! Let's help make our 60th Anniversary extra special! Go with God in your hearts & be a blessing!



IT'S BANQUET TIME!!!

April 21 is the big evening for the Free Women's Center and all the volunteers and supporters. The doors open at 6:00 and the festivities begin at 6:30. After some introductions and prayer a complementary meal will be again served by Vidie's from Lebanon. The program will consist of a report from Adriane Hendrix giving statistics and sharing some heartwarming information of the work accomplished by her and her staff. Adriane is the EC=Executive Director who is running a smooth sailing ship.

One huge, exciting thing for all you supporters to hear about at this event is the completion of the Nativity House. For our congregation and the Missouri District LWML this is very exciting.

The check from LWML Missouri District for **\$19,600** arrived March 15 and was delivered to Adriane. She and her staff can now begin furnishing the Nativity House. Some of this funding can also be used to train the "house parents".



We had such great feedback about our keynote speaker last year that we decided to host another Pro-life comedian; Mr. Gordon Douglas.

So find or call Karen Boorum (573-774-0465) to reserve a place for you at the dinner table.



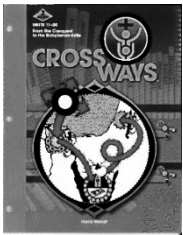
LWML CONVENTION IS DRAWING NEAR!!!

CRAFTERS: Please be working on craft items for the **MISSION FAIR**. Items left over from your fall craft sale, bazaar or other fund raisers would be good items to be donated: knitted, crocheted, sewn, painted, wooden items, jelly, jam, wine, floral arrangements, etc. They should be brought to the hotel on Friday morning as early as possible. **PLEASE** have each item priced. All proceeds will go to the 2022-2024 Mission Grants.

SILENT AUCTION: Each zone from across the whole state (District) of Missouri will have 3 baskets up for bid. Each one will have the value of the item on it, a list of what is in the basket and will be wrapped in a see-through cellophane. All proceeds will go to the 2022-2024 Mission Grants.

MISSION WALK: Hopefully, each society will have their people walking "the walk" or at least virtually. Each walker is highly encouraged to bring the money raised for their walking for MITES. The distance around the Lake at Westport Plaza Chalet is about 1/3 mile. So, three times around would be a mile. Raise your pledges/donations according to your goal of walking at 6 AM. That alone is a goal...to get up at 6 AM to walk anywhere! All proceeds will go to 2022-2024 Mission Grants.

JUNE 3-5 is the Missouri District Biannual Convention in St. Louis at the Westport Plaza Chalet on the Lake. Delegates and Alternates had to be registered online by March 31. Anyone else has until April 30 to register at the price of \$160. After that the registration fee is \$175. Registration does include Saturday Box lunch and Saturday evening Banquet dinner with the choice of salmon or chicken. Hotels charge a lot for their food, so registration is really not much more than other years.



Crossways Bible Study Thursdays @ 7PM

We will be finishing
Section 6 now through June 9:
New Testament Letters

Those who study Crossways learn what it means to walk through life in the presence of Jesus the Messiah as their forgiving Savior and Servant-Lord. Many experience what the two disciples experienced on the way to Emmaus, Luke 24.32. Their hearts are set on fire, and their lives are transformed!

The course equips people to grapple with the mind, manner, ministry, and mission of Jesus the Messiah, and to reflect Him in all they think, say and do. After all, Jesus does not call us to put Him *first* – but only. Christianity is not the most important *part* of life. It has to do with *all* of life.

Above all else, the goal is to help people understand the *grand finale* of the biblical narrative: the final rescue of God's people from the Real Enemy – the demonic – through the ministry of Jesus the Messiah. Throughout, the desire is not merely to provide students with *information*; it is to seek their *transformation*.

Materials are available here:

[Crossways Series - solapublishing.com](http://solapublishing.com)

Opportunities to Serve at Faith

Are you looking for a way to serve, connect, and have fun at the same time? There are many opportunities to pitch in here at Faith:

- **Altar Guild**
- **Greeters**
- **Join one of our Church Boards**
- **Workdays and projects**
- **Sunday School substitute teacher**

Check the bulletin board for sign-up sheets or check with the office for more information!



Choir Practice
Saturdays at 4:30 pm.

The choir is continuing to practice pieces for Lent and Easter.

It is still a GREAT TIME to join us though!
We welcome everyone: young, old, all skill levels! It's never too late to join, we are always ready to welcome new voices!

There are also wonderful resources for hymn studies provided by the Synod at:

<https://www.lcms.org/worship/hymn-of-the-day-studies>

In the meantime, stay tuned and stay in tune! 🎵
--Heidi Perling



Widows of Faith

The Widows of Faith will meet on
April 13th @ 1:00 PM at Culver's.

Please RSVP with Liz Joyce at 573-336-7331.

(Please do not call or text her cell number)

Many restaurants have new procedures concerning occupancy limits and only seating a party once everyone has arrived, so ***it is important*** that Liz knows exactly how many plan to attend. Thank you!



Lutherans
For Life

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE CHAPTER MEETING

April 20, 12:00 noon
St. John Lutheran Church, St. James, MO
(229 West James Blvd.)

Our guest speaker will be Margaret Disbrow of Life Pregnancy Care Center in Cuba. We look forward to hearing the very latest about all the babies and families that have been positively impacted by the lifesaving ministry of Lifeline. Margaret will also welcome any questions which promises to be an informative afternoon.

Lunch will be catered by Country Bob's (catfish, soup and sides). The cost of lunch will be divided among those who care to join in for lunch. Please RSVP with Stephanie in the Church Office.

Chapter meetings are an excellent avenue to get to know other Lutherans who are passionate about life from the time our Lord first knew us to the time He takes us home to Himself. Plans and activities for sharing the message for life in our churches and communities will be discussed. "As the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in the womb leaped for joy!" Luke 1:44

Thank you,
Mary Wittmaier, Chapter President



FELC 60th ANNIVERSARY **COMMITTEE**

UH-OH!!!
FAITH IS 60 YEARS OLD!

Are you ready to help with the evening of a reunion fellowship on **April 29**? Bring a nourishing (or not) finger food? Renew old acquaintances? Meet people from the past? Show old and new friends the whole facility?

How about helping with the Tea/Brunch on **April 30**? Talk to Bev Richard about bringing something to help with food or setting up or putting away? Then on Sunday **May 1** praise God for the 60 years of blessings and learn from the day. Then enjoy a big dinner at the Community Center.

The Anniversary Committee is nearing completion of their work. Heidi is working hard on the cookbook and Stephanie on the Directory AND Ron on the memorable booklet. We thank them for all the hours of sitting at their computers and making it all happen. All 3 books will be distributed on that weekend for each household. All three will be wonderful keepsakes.

The Store is open until noon on April 8. Everything ordered before noon on April 8 will be at church for pick-up by April 24. You can pick it up, wash it and wear it to the party.

“ROOTED IN CHRIST – GROWING IN FAITH”

APRIL 29 – REUNION GREETING TIME
APRIL 30 –

- **GOLF TIME 9:00am**
- **TEA TIME – 10:00am**
- **BBQ – 3:30pm ish**
- **DEMONSTRATION AND DEDICATION TIME: 5:30pm ish**

MAY 1 –

- **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR 9:15**
- **WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30**
- **DINNER & ENTERTAINMENT AT ST. ROBERT COMMUNITY CENTER**

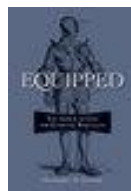


GREETERS

The Greeter's Ministry is committed to dynamically greeting, reaching out and receiving people to worship, entering the Sanctuary. Assisting Worshipers in a hospitable manner entering church to hear the Word of God. Fostering fellowship with men, women and children and giving the best initial worship experience entering. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Men's Club

The Men's Club Bible Prayer Breakfast will meet on April 2nd & 9th.



They are going through the book:
Equipped: The Armor of God
for Everyday Struggles

The Men's Club provides a venue for men to deeply consider the many hats they wear in the world and their desire to fulfill Christ's calling to lead in love through those vocations.



Liz Joyce is offering handmade cards for sale at church. Her beautiful cards are a great way to send love and well wishes to your friends

and family as they celebrate important milestones and occasions.

Some upcoming events/seasons to keep in mind for cards:

❖ Easter

She will be donating half of the proceeds to LWML Mites in support of their ongoing Mission Grants in MO, the US, and all around the globe. The other half of the proceeds will go to the supplies for making the cards.

Prices will be marked. Please take the card and envelope you wish to purchase and return the clear plastic sleeve with payment to Liz or put it in the marked envelope in her mailbox (C-10).

Public Relations

The Public Relations board is looking for help. We have 40 places we can hang flyers, so when we have flyers, we would love your help. If you are interested talk to Susan Rostad.

This is your opportunity to spread the Good News in an easy way.



Our member, Kim Bradford, has been keeping very busy down in Willow Springs!

She has been meeting with a small group of women in a local library in Mountain Grove and walking through the book of Matthew with them led by Pastor Perling through Zoom on Wednesday afternoons.

Her mail delivery routes also offer many opportunities for networking and connecting with new people. Kim has been opening her home on Thursday nights for a meal and fellowship time with ladies in her neighborhood. Many of them are new to the area and to the state of Missouri, and these casual evening get togethers have been a great way to foster friendships and the opportunity to share God's Good News.

--FELC Evangelism Ministry

Board of Education



Our scholarship fund is very low at this time. We are requesting your prayers and donations to this fund. We are currently sponsoring two students.

Thank you for considering a donation.



Board of Young People

A new group of confirmands means new opportunities for fellowship and service!

The Board of Young People would like to connect with the parents of our confirmands to get to know you better and to discuss joining the Board, helping to plan activities, service projects, retreats, etc.

Please contact Ronda Cortesini
@ (573) 842-7173.

Church Properties



**CHURCH SPRING CLEAN UP DAY
APRIL 9th @ 8:00 AM.**

Keep an eye out in the bulletin for more information about projects for that day.

Major projects ahead:

- Freshening up the sanctuary – paint ideas appreciated.
- Stained glass window/frame repair in sanctuary
- Parking lot repairs
- Lights for exterior stairwell off Fellowship Hall
- Playground Upgrades

The Board of Church Properties would welcome any and all ideas for other church projects you would like to see done.

Thank you!

Board of Stewardship

Lutheran Witness



Anyone that wishes to pay for **Lutheran Witness** (\$16.00) for one year, please use the 'Lutheran Witness' envelope in your offering box.

Stewardship minute



He Is Risen! And Now...

One of the most glorious sections in all of Scripture is found in 1 Corinthians 15 where we find the words of the apostle Paul as he expounds on Christ's crucifixion, resurrection, and subsequent appearances to His disciples. He

writes about the implications of those events that, just as we all died in Adam, so in Christ we are all made alive and that, just as Christ has a new glorified body, so shall we put off the perishable and be raised with an imperishable body. What a glorious passage! This is what Easter means to us!

Without taking a breath, Paul then continues, *"Now about the collection..."* To our minds these two themes don't fit

together. Certainly, thoughts about the collection don't belong in an Easter message, do they? Paul thinks they do, and why not? First, how do we respond to such a great gift as our salvation? Since God has poured out on us the treasures of His grace, will we not want to make a tangible expression of thanksgiving? Second, with a dying world around us, will we not want to expedite the mission of the Church to spread the Gospel message? *"Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain"* (1 Corinthians 15:58).

In the Palm of His Hand

Our Father, Who loves us so much, sent His own beloved Son to this earth to be born to a young mother and her carpenter husband. This Child, Who was and is King, was born in a stable, surrounded by animals, not servants. Shortly after His birth, His parents were forced to flee to escape the wrath of a jealous king who, in an effort to eliminate all competition, killed all male children under the age of two. But the Heavenly Father held His Son in the palm of His hand. No harm came to Him until the appointed time.

None of these events came as a surprise to the Father. He was aware of the conditions in the world. He chose humble people to be His Son's parents. He knew what would happen on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Nothing that occurred was beyond His control. He held His Son in the palm of His hand.

That beloved Son is our Good Shepherd, and no less watchful is His care for us. He comes to us and gives us faith so that we, His sheep, can recognize His voice. Jesus' own words tell us this is true: *"My sheep listen to My voice; I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of My hand"* (John 10:27-28).

Therefore, we have nothing to fear! Family problems, loss of job, uncertainty of the future – we are secure in His hand, for He will allow no one to separate us from Him. He holds us in the palm of His hand.

Carry Your Own Load

When things are going well and we achieve some success, it is easy to forget that it is God Who gives us our gifts and soon we are using them for our own glory, rather than His.

Whether God gives us many talents or few, we are accountable to God for what we do with them. The Apostle Paul wrote, *"So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God"* (Romans 14:12).

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due him for the things done in the body, whether good or evil" (2 Corinthians 5:10).

In the Parable of the Talents found in Matthew 25, Jesus spoke about being accountable. Jesus said that a man going on a journey entrusted three servants with different amounts of talents (money). Upon his return, he found that two of the servants had demonstrated their faithfulness by prudently investing their talents. When the master heard they had doubled the amount they had been given, he praised them and gave them even greater responsibility. The one servant who did nothing with his talent received the master's wrath.

Our Savior came to earth with a job to do. He held Himself accountable to carry out His task even though it caused Him extreme anguish (Luke 22:44).

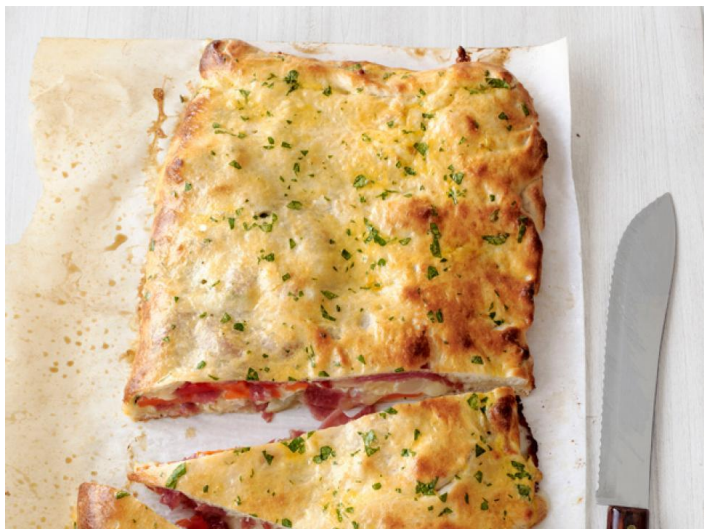
Joyfully (Hebrews 12:2), willingly He went to the cross for us, faithfully fulfilling His purpose of saving sinners.

We, too, will be held accountable for the blessings which God entrusts to us. Through faith, God can strengthen and equip us so we can hear, *"Well done, good and faithful servant"* (Matthew 25:21).

Why We Give?

1. To express our gratitude (Psalm 116:12)
2. To honor God (Proverbs 3:9)
3. To support the ministers of God and His Church (Philippians 4:15-16)
4. To help those in need (2 Cor. 9:12).
5. To be obedient (1 Corinthians 16:2)

Cook's Corner



Salami Mozzarella Calzone

Ingredients

- 2 large eggs
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1 teaspoon grated lemon zest
- 1/4 pound shredded reduced-fat mozzarella cheese
- Extra-virgin olive oil, for brushing
- 1 13.8-ounce tube refrigerated pizza dough
- 1/4-pound deli-sliced salami, cut into thin strips
- 1 1/2 cups giardiniera (pickled mixed vegetables), drained
- 1/4-pound sliced provolone cheese

Directions

1. Place a baking sheet upside down in the oven and preheat to 400 degrees F. Beat the eggs, parsley and lemon zest in a small bowl. Pour half of the egg mixture into a medium bowl and stir in the mozzarella. Reserve the remaining egg mixture for brushing on the crust.
2. Turn another baking sheet upside down; line with parchment paper and brush with olive oil. Unroll the dough on the parchment paper and pat into a 9-by-12-inch rectangle. Spread the mozzarella mixture over one half of the dough, leaving a 1-inch border along the edge. Top with the salami, followed by the pickled vegetables and provolone. Fold the other half of the dough over to cover the filling. Crimp and roll the edges to seal, then pierce the top of the dough in a few places with a knife.
3. Slide the calzone with the parchment paper onto the hot baking sheet; bake 15 minutes. Remove from the oven and brush with the remaining egg mixture, then continue to bake until the crust is golden, 5 to 10 more minutes. Let rest 5 minutes, then cut into wedges.

Recipe courtesy of: [Salami-Mozzarella Calzone Recipe | Food Network Kitchen | Food Network](#)
Photograph by Antonis Achilleos

If you would like to include a recipe to be printed in the PUMP, please place it in The Pump mailbox or email the church office at office@felclcms.org





Good Samaritan offers monthly food boxes to Seniors and others in the community in need.

In order to receive a food box, you will need

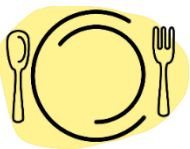
to sign up at the building next to the Good Samaritan Thrift Store.

They are open M, W, F from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM. You will need to bring your social security card (for every member of the family receiving goods), a recent utility bill with your name and address, and proof of income. Along with the monthly food boxes you may qualify to shop in their food pantry 4 times a year. If you have questions, you can call 573-774-5011. A schedule for Senior boxes and Commodities is posted on the bulletin board.

There will also be a free food distribution through **Ozark Food Harvest Returns** on **April 19, 2022** at 10:00 am in the parking lot of the Crocker Presbyterian Church. These events can sometimes be crowded with cars lining up as early as 6:30 AM, so it is a good idea to get there early.

You can call Debbie Fraski @ 573-736-5415 with any questions.

Crocker Senior Center Meals



The Crocker Senior Center serves meals Monday-Friday from 11am-12:30pm.

60 and older may donate what they wish for their meal (suggested is \$4.00)

Under 60 has a set meal price of \$6.50

Easter Word Search



Angel	Holy	Messiah	Savior
Cross	Hope	Resurrection	Third Day
Crown of Thorns	Jesus	Risen	
Easter	King	Sacrifice	
Empty Tomb	Love	Salvation	
Good Friday	Mary	Sunday	

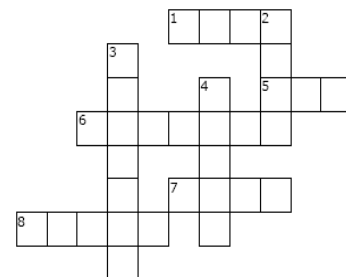


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Easter Sunrise Surprise

He is not here; he has risen! Luke 24:6a (NIV)

This puzzle is based on Luke 24:1-12 (NIV)



ACROSS

1. A place where someone, especially an important person, is buried
2. The whole physical structure that forms a person
3. The first or early part of a day
4. "He is not here, he has _____." Luke 24:6
5. A period of twenty-four hours
6. To kill someone by tying or nailing them to a cross
7. A period of seven days
8. A hard solid substance found in the ground which is often used for building

DOWN

1. A place where someone, especially an important person, is buried
2. The whole physical structure that forms a person
3. The first or early part of a day
4. "He is not here, he has _____." Luke 24:6

day
week

morning
tomb

stone
body

crucify
risen



KFUO Radio, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at kfu.org and wherever you get your podcasts!

Find us on social:

@KFUOradio on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/KFUOradio), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/KFUOradio), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/KFUOradio).

Monday to Friday Schedule

- 7:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer
- 7:15 a.m. – Oratio {AM850 Sign On}**
- 8:00 a.m. – Sharper Iron
- 9:00 a.m. – The Coffee Hour {New Program!}
- 9:30 a.m. – Law and Gospel
- 10:00 a.m. – Daily Chapel from the LCMS International Center
- 10:30 a.m. – Sacred Music
- 11:00 a.m. – Thy Strong Word
- 12:00 p.m. – Midday Moments

• 12:30 -12:40 p.m.:

- Monday: A Moment on the Lighter Side
- Tuesday: A Moment in Creation
- Wednesday: A Moment for the Family
- Thursday: A Moment of Faith
- Friday: A Moment in Scripture

- 1:00 p.m. – Sacred Music
- 3:00 p.m. – Issues, Etc.
- 5:00 p.m. – Evening Prayer
- 6:00 p.m. – Sacred Music through the night {AM850 Sign Off}**

Saturday Schedule

- 7:00 a.m. – Sacred Music
- 8:00 a.m. – St. Paul's Des Peres Bible Study (rebroadcast from previous Sunday)
- 9:00 a.m. – Wrestling with the Basics®
- 9:30 a.m. – Sing for Joy®
- 10:00 a.m. – Concord Matters
- 11:00 a.m. – Lamplighter Theatre®
- 11:30 a.m. – White Horse Inn®
- 12:00 p.m. – Sacred Music
- 4:00 p.m. – **Worship Service**
- 5:00 p.m. – Sacred Music

Sunday Schedule

- 7:00 a.m. – Sacred Music
- 8:00* a.m. – **Worship Service**
- 9:30 a.m. – St. Paul's Des Peres Bible Study
- 10:30* a.m. – **Worship Service**
- 12:00 p.m. – Sing for Joy®
- 12:30 p.m. – The Lutheran Hour®
- 1:00 p.m. – Sacred Music
- 4:00 p.m. – **Worship Service**
- 5:00 p.m. – The Lutheran Hour®
- 5:30 p.m. – Sacred Music

Birthdays

2	Rose Mogerman
3	Dawn Kubinski
4	Wayne Howery
6	Elizabeth Luczak
9	Suzanne Vaughan
11	Bill Leitgeb
	Dana Wheatley
15	Larra Kubinski
	Owen Owens
16	Shayla Umphenour
17	Jak Howerton
18	David Lund
21	Lynn Maxwell
22	Martha Strong
24	Lydia Perling
26	Jaroslav Candler

Members & Friends



Baptisms

1	Matthew Butzler
2	Clarence Colby
	Jazmyn King
	Sharon Wilson
3	Dan Wogan
8	Frank Luczak
9	Kristy Jennings
	Marian Kubinski
11	Timothy Bradford
13	Suzanne Vaughan
16	Brian Boorom
	Samantha Holsten
	Rose Mogerman
	Adam Woods
19	Herb Houser
23	Judy Keeth
26	Fred Brady
28	Roxanna Jones
29	Lydia Perling

Anniversaries

7, 1999	Bruce & Stephanie Mitchell
8, 2000	Dave & Sonja Scott
	Peter & Kristin Han
16, 1994	Mike & Michelle Jones
24, 1999	Steve & Angela Anderson
25, 1983	George & Sun Lauritson



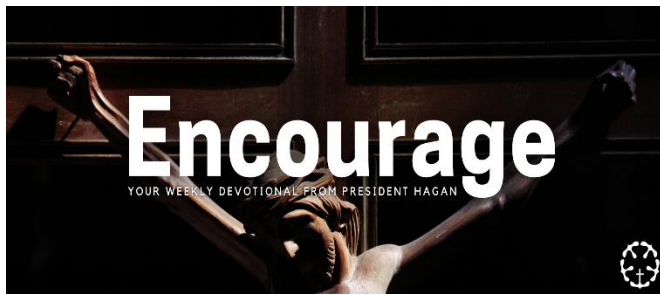
facebook.com/felcstrobert



Around the Synod

After connecting with your Faith family for worship and Bible Studies check out these other LCMS churches and pastors offering online options for worship and study of God's Word:

- Missouri District LCMS Churches offering Facebook and/or YouTube livestreams can be found here: <https://mo.lcms.org/facebook-and-youtube-streaming/>
- St. Paul Lutheran Church in Austin, Texas is posting virtual worship services on YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVvwWXmDRGoqt5nJXwdfyhA/featured>
- Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller from Saint Paul Lutheran Church hosts a "Worldwide Bible Class" Wednesdays at 10am (CST) on Zoom. The current topic is 'The Life of Jacob with Martin Luther'. <https://wolfmueller.co/bible/>



The One in Despair Still Trusts God

"He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way. Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Matthew 27:43-46

During his travels in the 1860s that would be documented in his book *Roughing It*, Mark Twain visited Mono Lake, a saltwater basin, just a few miles from Yosemite National Park. Twain called it, "lifeless, treeless, hideous desert... the loneliest place on earth."

Though there are crowds looking on, as Jesus hangs upon the cross it is the loneliest place on the earth. The crowds simply cruelly cast their insults upon Him. The religious leaders mock Him with their biting words. His disciples have abandoned Him, save one. And His mother stands there, unable to leave His side, but also unable to bear the sight or His pain. This mother who cradled Him in her arms cannot lift a hand to help Him. And while Jesus looks upon her and speaks out of love and concern for her, her presence can bring Him no comfort. There is no relief here. Here on the cross, Jesus hangs alone. It is the loneliest place on earth.

But what makes it the loneliest place on the earth is not so much the absence of loved ones, but the absence of God the Father to act. King David once pondered, "Where can I go from your Spirit? Where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!" But here on the cross, the Father abandons the Son. Jesus cries out, "My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" In the great mystery that is the doctrine of God, the Father forsakes the Son and abandons Him on the cross. Jesus is in absolute despair. This is a place where no one has ever been before – a place where God the Father refuses to be mighty to save. God the Father looks on to the despair of His Son and He does not intervene. He does not come to His aid, yet.

The crowds love hearing Jesus cry out. That's the reason for which they came! He trusts God! Let God rescue Him! But there would be no rescue. Just like we thought! See! We told you. He trusts in God and look where it got Him. He suffered and died. He was abandoned by God.

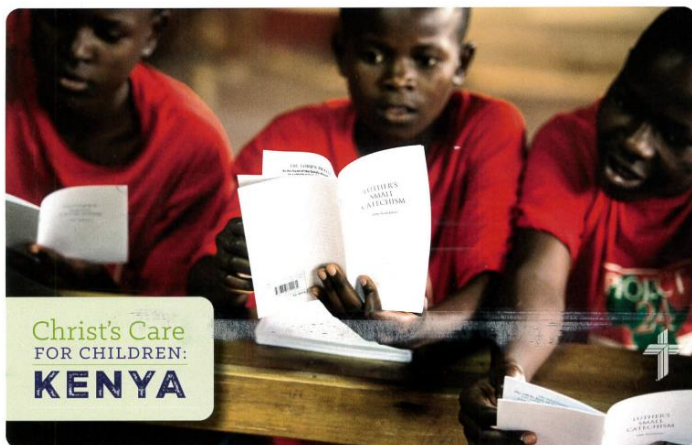
The crowds were right, in a sense. And that's the irony. But in Jesus crying out in despair, He quotes another of David's psalms, this time 22. My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? These are hopeless words. These are words of one who recognizes that no deliverance will come. These are the words of the defeated and dying man. At least that is what the crowds think. But Jesus is One on whose lips the Words of the Lord are always found. Even when He when He cries out in anguish and defeat, it is a cry of faith – for Yahweh is still My God and only one who believes the Word speaks the Word at a time such as this. Yes, Jesus is forsaken by God the Father at this moment. But that doesn't mean that there is no rescue, just not here at the cross. But it is coming.

In His Pentecost sermon, Peter explained God's plan so beautifully as He quoted once again from David's psalms. In quoting Psalm 16, Peter explained that God did not abandon Jesus' soul to grave or let His holy one see corruption. Oh yes, Jesus cried out in despair. It was a cry of utter anguish. It was a cry of pain and suffering that are unimaginable. But it was still a cry of faith from the One who trusted God. For Jesus didn't just commend His living body on the cross to His Father in heaven, He even commends His cold, lifeless corpse to the Father. God the Father doesn't abandon His beloved Son to the grave, but raises Him to life on the third day.

Prayer – O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Fraternally in Christ,

President Lee Hagan



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod celebrates its birthday on April 26.

Founded in 1847

The roots of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod trace back to 1847, when Saxon and other German immigrants established a new church body in America, seeking the freedom to practice and follow confessional Lutheranism.

Initial members, which included 12 pastors representing 14 congregations from Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Michigan, New York and Ohio, signed the church body's constitution on April 26, 1847, at First Saint Paul Lutheran Church in Chicago, Ill.

Originally named The German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and Other States, the name was shortened to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in 1947 on the occasion of our 100th anniversary. The First President



The Rev. Dr. C.F.W. Walther (Oct. 25, 1811 – May 7, 1887) served as the first president of the church body. As a young pastor, Walther joined the Saxon Germans who immigrated to the United States in 1839, and, at only 27 years old, he was the leader of the group that settled in Perry County, Mo. Dr. Walther played a key role in the founding of the LCMS in 1847, and he served as the church body's first president, holding office from 1847 to 1850 and again from 1864 to 1878.

Walther presided over the young Synod, leading its growth through the years of the great migration of German immigrants. He served as president of Concordia Seminary from 1850 to 1887, and he was editor of *Der Lutheraner*, a leading magazine of the day that reached Confessional Lutherans across the country. Today, Walther is revered as the leading Lutheran theologian of his time, and he's fondly known as the "Father of the Missouri Synod."

DID YOU KNOW

THE LCMS HAS A CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM?

Christ's Care
FOR CHILDREN:
KENYA

Children in Kenya are receiving food, shelter and education through this program. Help us get the message out!

Pass this postcard on to a friend, and invite them to learn about this program directly from existing sponsors and the team in Kenya.

"TELL A FRIEND" EVENT
Saturday, April 2
9:00 a.m. Central time

RSVP to Jennifer Hummel by
March 25 to receive the link to join.
jennifer.hummel@lcms.org / 314-996-1326

All are welcome!



Amid war in Ukraine, the church's mission remains



[CHERYL MAGNESS](#) MARCH 24, 2022



A bombed school in Opytne, a village in the Donetsk region of Eastern Ukraine, reflects the war's devastation. (Getty Images)

On Thursday, Feb. 24, Russia launched an early morning invasion of Ukraine. As the conflict enters its second month, the people of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) continue to pray for those affected and seek opportunities to help.

A coup and an invasion

The LCMS has been working with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ukraine (ELCU), an emerging partner church, for the last four years. The Rev. Serge Maschewski, bishop of the ELCU, studied in the Russian Project at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, in the 1990s. He led the congregations of the ELCU out of the Deutsche Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche der Ukraine (DELKU) — which is affiliated with the German state church, the Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland (EKD) — when the EKD ordered the Ukrainian church to accept women's ordination and the LGBTQ agenda. In the last two years the EKD, in cooperation with others, carried out a coup against the ELCU, taking over the ELCU headquarters in Odesa, Ukraine, and seizing its bank accounts. Maschewski, his wife and their two sons were removed from the building by force and thrown into the street.

The Rev. James A. Krikava, associate executive director of the LCMS Office of International Mission, notes that the coup against the ELCU happened before Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine. Before the coup, an LCMS missionary couple was teaching English in Odesa and Dnipro. Theological seminars for pastors were being held monthly, and another missionary family was preparing to deploy to Ukraine to help carry out this work. But for health reasons the couple had to leave the field, and when violence broke out against the church, the family had to be diverted to Romania. They are now assisting with the relief effort there.

Meanwhile, the LCMS still had one missionary family working in Russia, even after the assault on Ukraine began. The Rev. Jerry Lawson had been teaching at the Bible Institute of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia, an LCMS partner church. Lawson, his wife and their two children were living and serving in St. Petersburg, far from the fighting, and Krikava was checking on them daily.

As the war in Ukraine intensified, however, the notice came that all Americans should leave Russia. This turned out to be a challenge, as flights from Western countries were being banned from entering Russian airspace. To leave by air, the Lawsons would have had to fly to Turkey or a Middle Eastern country in order to get back into Europe.

Ultimately, the Finnish consulate in St. Petersburg offered to take them on a bus of diplomats traveling from St. Petersburg to Helsinki. The border passing was not easy, as in addition to the Russian border guards, there were many Russian army personnel, heavily armed, thoroughly searching all baggage.

“God be praised,” said Krikava, “that the Lawsons made it safely out of Russia. Once they arrived in Helsinki, they were met by pastors and friends from our partner church, the Evangelical Lutheran Mission Diocese of Finland. They traveled to Riga, Latvia, where for the time being Pastor Lawson can continue to teach his theology courses in the Russian Bible Institute, as well as assist with the [Lutheran Livonian Project] in Riga.”

‘Tears of relief’

Elsewhere in Europe, other LCMS missionaries are also ministering to refugees. The Rev. Dr. Christian Tiews, LCMS missionary to Germany, is providing pastoral care to several fleeing Ukrainian families. He recently met one of the families, a mother and her teenage daughter, at the train station in Hamburg (the husband/father had stayed behind to help defend his country). Tiews said that he wasn’t sure how to identify the women, so he held up a homemade blue and yellow sign with their names.

“As the Lord would have it,” Tiews said, “[they] disembarked right in front of me ... with tears of relief running down their faces after five days on the road.” Tiews said that he helped the women find their host and accompanied them to the host’s vehicle.

“When we got there, I asked ... whether they would mind if we had a prayer of thanks for their safe arrival,” Tiews continued. The host looked “skeptical,” saying, “Praying is not really my thing.”

But the Ukrainians agreed, and Tiews prayed with the group, noting that after the prayer, the Ukrainians made the sign of the cross. The next day, Tiews said the women’s host called to let him know they were doing well. Before hanging up, she added, “Thank you for praying last night. I’m not really into all of that religion stuff, but somehow praying to God felt good. It gave me peace.”

‘Miraculous’ outpouring

Krikava said the situation in Ukraine remains “grave” and is “getting more tense each day.” Asked what the church’s role is at times such as this, he replied, “It is the same role as always, except under extreme conditions: bringing God’s people His gifts of Word and Sacrament. I talk to people in Ukraine every day via video. They are starting to look ragged. Their fear is more noticeable. Still, their faces express the depth of their conviction and faith. They remain resolute and relatively calm. It is hard to imagine all they are going through.”

Of the Synod’s missionaries in Eurasia, Krikava said they “deserve an A+. First there was COVID, then persecution — not only in Ukraine, but against our partner church in Finland — and now this war, which is affecting so many. Up to 6 million refugees are predicted. But our missionaries are doing well. Our partner churches in the area are also helping, and the outpouring of prayers and gifts from the people of the LCMS has been miraculous.”



FELC FAMILY PRAYER PAGE



Virus: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)

Disease: Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

A Prayer For Such A Time As This

We pray for those in any need: those who suffer; the sick; the poor; the distressed; the lonely; the unloved; the persecuted; the imprisoned; the unemployed; those who grieve; and those who care for them. Comfort and heal, merciful Lord, all for whom we pray. Give them a firm trust in your goodness; and bring us all into the joy of Your salvation. Father, hear my prayer, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Members of the Armed Forces and Missionaries we support

Please remember to pray for our members, family, and friends on active duty:

- † Franklin LaLonde
- † Chris MacMurray (Camp Casey, South Korea)
- † Jacob Gan Home from Afghanistan and assigned to Fort Rucker
- † Anthony Isaac Holloman AFB NM
- † Geoffrey Gronewald, Chaplain US Army
- † All new military visitors and families

LCMS Missionaries: Rev. Dr. David Preus and his family (Dominican Republic)
Nathaniel & Emma Jensen (Kaiserslauten)

Current Events

- † Pray that we and the nations would put away false gods, but know, trust, love, and follow Jesus
- † Natural disasters recovery and restoration efforts – Weather Channel Petition
- † Prayers for Peace and Justice
- † Prayer for Nation's Leaders and illness; prayer for the Lord to do His will through our local, state, and national elections

Thanksgivings

- † Thanksgiving for Kaison Laroi Boorom (7lbs. 14oz., 21in.)
born to Brian and Madison Boorom on 1/9/22
- † Al Isaac - He has had successful quadruple bypass surgery 10/20/2021. Al is Doug Isaac's (Karen's son-in-law) father. Submitted by Karen B. 10-20-2021
- † Jeff Malam – *update* Surgery went well, and Jeff is recovering at home – 11-21-2021* Awaiting triple bypass surgery on October 26th. His health situation is urgent, and he is not feeling very well. – Submitted by Kim Bradford 10/8/21
- † Todd Meyer - He has recovered from pneumonia, COVID and C-Diff. Had 5 to 8 feet of his lower GI system removed. Is beginning to recover.
- † Flori Scheuermann – Ankle arthritis responding well to treatment
- † Free Women's Center of Pulaski County

COVID-19 Thanksgivings

- † Thankfulness for Vaccine
- † Ollie Schneider – Recovered from COVID

COVID-19 Concerns

- † Scott Bryan – Has COVID Pneumonia. Hospitalized @ Mercy in Springfield. Submitted by Judy Keeth 11-28-2021
- † Maria Candler - Has COVID Pneumonia. Home after being hospitalized @ Mercy in Lebanon.
- † Tom Candler – Positive for COVID, hospitalized
- † Jaroslav Candler - Positive for COVID and caring for his parents
- † SFC Mike Heib – Still hospitalized and recovering from serious complications and long term effects of COVID-19. He has been close to death more than once. Mike is the Sr. Religious Affairs Specialist on Fort Leonard Wood. -Submitted by Martha Strong 7-25-2021
- † John Vaughan

Immediate Needs

- † Rachel Benton – 23 years old. Ongoing seizures/strokes. Seeing neurologist to find out what is happening. – Submitted by Joelle Jones (Rachel is her niece) 3/23
- † Ken and Cheryl Bohannon - their only child Christopher Bohannon committed suicide while they were in the house. Submitted by Susan Rostad 11-10-2021
- † Ralph Bush – Pending Surgery. Ralph is Denise Bush's husband. Submitted 7-4-21
- † Don Colby – Surgery soon 5-26
- † Lexi Crider – Heartland Home in Nevada, MO for troubled young people - Submitted by Karen Boorum
- † Rodney Drees – Recovering from a stroke and beginning to return to some normal activities
- † Ethel Duke (Marcia Euren's Mother) – Had a stroke
- † Joe Duke – has cancer
- † Marcia Euren – Stress fractures in her feet – Heidi Perling 10-28-21
- † Jamie Ann Gan – *update 7-1* Had 3rd surgery that went well. She is home recouping with her baby.
- † Jana Goddard – Has returned home, requires 24/7 observation, family is looking to obtain live in help, but it is hard to come by
- † Darrel Hinrichs – Heart Function down to 20%, scheduled for heart surgery on Feb. 1
- † Candy Holsten – Had knee surgery for torn meniscus
- † Herb and Joan Houser – Ongoing health issues for Herb, have secured their new house, getting resettled.
- † Joelle Jones – *Update* Joelle is home as of Feb 22nd and feeling a bit better. She is taking things slow and trying to get back to normal activities. Joelle had a perforated lung on Christmas Eve. Managing her COPD, afib, and arthritis from stem to stern
- † Michelle Jones – Healing from knee surgery on Thursday, June 17, additional fracture in the knee – Phelps Health, Rolla
- † Charlie LaCasse – In Hospice care – Suzanne Vaughan's brother-Submitted 3/4/2022
- † Irene Leitgeb
- † Marti MacMurray – Had tumor removed from tongue last week and is back in hospital. Chris MacMurray's mom – Submitted 3-6-2022
- † Tim Matthews - 37 year old from Fishers, Indiana. On January 31, 2022 he contracted COVID which put him in the Indianapolis Hospital ICU due to breathing problems and put him on the vent a couple weeks ago and since then did a trach so he can learn to breathe on his own so he can go into rehab facility to gain strength of everyday living at home to get muscle and weight back on and eating a normal diet again, he is in Palliative care at this time. Tim is currently on dialysis waiting hopefully for his 4th kidney transplant when he gets better in time. He is married to his wife, Charrisa and 2 year old daughter Alexandra. He is a true believer in prayers, he and his family are members at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Indianapolis. -Submitted by Cheryl Teague 3-13-2022
- † JD Mattison – Struggling with very low blood sugar and other health issues that puts him under high stress- Submitted by Kim Bradford 4-14-2021

- † Clark Mullins – Parkinson's Diagnosis and lung cancer
- † Marion Munson
- † Ingrid Ozee – Had Surgery on November 30 recovering well
- † Renate Phillips – Stage 4 liver failure and fatty liver, cancer also diagnosed in the Liver as well – Submitted by Elfriede Stoffregen
- † Bill Rostad – Osteopathic Surger(ies) – from the ground up over the next year
- † Pastor Ben Schumacher – managing the symptoms of Parkinsons and looks forward to growing opportunities of ministry
- † Mike Statton – Suffered a heart attack on 3/22. Had 2 blockages repaired. -Submitted by Joelle Jones (Mike is her nephew) 3/23
- † Mr. Robin Stillwell – *Improving, but not out of woods yet – update 3-18-2022* Diagnosed with lung cancer 7-19-2021 – Dona Jo's husband – Submitted by Joelle Jones 7-19-2021
- † Roberta Thornsberry – Most recent Cancer removal from her foot needs to heal, deep but had not spread, now looking to identify the cause of lost red blood cells
- † Linda Tucker – Hospitalized and waiting for diagnosis- Submitted by Joelle Jones 3-18-22
- † John Vaughan
- † Brenda Webbink – Starting Chemotherapy – Submitted by Joelle Jones 3-18-22

Long Term Needs/Chronic Needs

- † Marolyn Baxter - Cancer
- † Ann Marie Boerner (Capps) – Has been suffering with severe abdominal pain for over a year and hasn't found a diagnosis. Submitted by Johnna Boerner 7-4-2021
- † The Boettger Family – Joann and Tim are separated
- † Barb BonGiovanni – Prayer for a healthy spiritual life in Christ, prayer for Barb's children that they bring her to church to hear the Word
- † Dan Boorom – Hematological Oncology, working with Drs. Gabine and Ali
- † Kassy Boorom – Diagnosed with Hashimoto's
- † Ray Crosby – Health issues
- † Fulton Dobbs
- † Sharon & Duane Green – Sharon on Oxygen due Cancer – Submitted 12/10/2017 by Cheryl Teague
- † Roger Heimsoth – In Veteran's Home in Warrensburg, wife passed away recently – Joelle Jones
- † Finnigan Heine – 4 years old and struggling to gain weight and hit growth milestones – Great-Grandson of Elfriede Stoffregen
- † Fayette Hunter – struggling with Fibromyalgia – Submitted by Kim Bradford 1-27-22
- † Doug Isaac – Pain management – Submitted by Karen Boorom
- † Mary Jones – backpain, Kidney treatment continues
- † Liz Joyce – *update 8/24* a trip to the ER confirmed a slipped disc. She is in a back brace for the next couple of weeks along with meds for pain management. Ongoing back and hip pain
- † Linda Keener – The back has been repaired, Hip and Right Hand is next
- † Marge Kohl – Marge also has stage 6 Alzheimer's – Submitted by Susan Rostad (Marge is her mom) 11-2-2020
- † Marian Kubinski
- † Ken Merrill – illness – Submitted 11/2013 by Mitzi Sparks
- † Sydney Merrill – illness – Submitted 10/17/2013 by Mitzi Sparks
- † Jenny Miessler – Personal problems – Submitted 4/20/2016 by Bev Richard
- † Stephanie Mitchell – Initial diagnosis of autoimmune thyroid disorder and fibromyalgia

- † Velda Myers – Complications from Congestive Heart Failure sent her to the Hospital on Wednesday 12/30 (Chris Myers'-Mother)
- † Anthony Nolting – Diagnosed with ALS – submitted by Joelle Jones (he is a cousin to her children on the Holsten side)
- † Ed Pyatt – Had a stroke on 7/6, will be hospitalized for the foreseeable future
- † Dwayne Richard – Parkinson's diagnosis (3-16) – Submitted by Bev Richard
- † Jane Robinson – *update from Joan 2-15* Jane is now in hospice. Kidney and congestive heart failure. Although she is stable the outlook is not good. (Houser family)
- † Susan Rostad
- † Melvin and Joan Rust
- † Ben Paul Schumacher – MS affecting his right arm & hand, no longer able to write
- † Mary Smith – Neurology doctor restricted Mary from driving due to Alzheimer's
- † Donna Thomas – Chronic Lung ailments – had back surgery for pain relief
- † Becky Vogel – Systemic Osteoarthritis
- † Ron Weaver – Accident, broke his neck and is paralyzed. At home (update from Joelle Jones 11/4/20)
- † Jerome Welliver – Submitted by Ron Hinchman
- † Lisa Weinhold – Systemic Rheumatoid Arthritis
- † Mike Wilson – Rheumatoid Arthritis/Sciatica/Carpal Tunnel
- † Donna Wogan
- † Kathy Wortham (& Joanne)– *update 2-22-2022 – Kathy is now in hospital.
 *Update (11-30-2021) * Kim Bradford has provided housing in her Cabin for Kathy and her sister while they continue to look for other options. Kathy and her sister are in need of a new apartment. Their lease is not being renewed this year after 16 years of living there. This transition will be very difficult on Kathy for many reasons. (11-21-2021) *Update* Kathy had knee surgery on 4-30-21. Lives alone and struggling with several health issues plus she is unable to walk. She is hoping knee replacements will help. – Submitted by Kim Bradford 4-6-21
- † Samantha – diagnosed with rare form of cancer and undergoing chemotherapy – Submitted by Heidi Perling 2-10-21

Prayer for those near death and grieving the loss of loved ones

- † The Family of Mary Heimsoth
- † The Family of Carol Mitchell – Carol is Judy Keeth's sister.
- † The Family of Doris Schneider – Passed away in December 2021 - Cousin to Vernetia Evans
- † The Family of Donna Springs

Pray for:

- † All members of the medical field
- † Teachers, Students, and Parents at home during this time
- † School Students, especially their bus rides to and from school
- † Christian Education: Teachers and Students that all grow in faith and thankfulness

Please contact the office with prayer requests to be added and updates to existing requests.
 573-336-4464 or office@felclcms.org