



PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

44 CHAPEL ROAD – KENMORE, NY 14217

(716) 875-5485

www.pilgrimkenmorelcms.org

A Congregation in Mission, Community and Service

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

NOVEMBER 2025

PASTOR: Rev. David Walsh

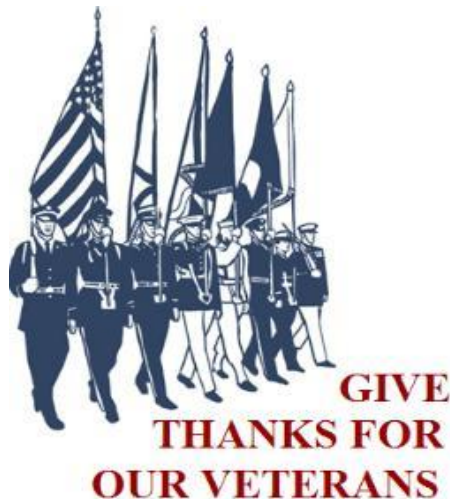
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM

EDITOR: Mary Werth

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY: 6:00 PM

ASSOC. EDITOR:

WORSHIP: 10:00 AM





We continue to look at the Divine Service by continuing with the hymn of the day or otherwise called the sermon hymn. We call the hymn by those names because it points to the hymn's purpose, which is to prepare the hearer for the sermon that is about to be preached. I will pretty much pick the hymn based on the text that I am preaching for that Sunday. Ruth and I use a book called "Lutheran Service Book Hymn Selection Guide." The book suggests hymns based on both the liturgical time of year and the readings for that particular day.

Next of course is the sermon itself, in which I as the Pastor, or a guest Pastor or our field worker Albert, will preach God's Word. This includes an understanding of the text, liturgical context, law and gospel, and encouragement to live a holy life as a redeemed child of eternity. We follow the sermon with the offering and then the offertory which is based on the words of King David in psalm 51: 10-12. In the text, King David is asking the Lord to restore his heart to that of a faithful believer and to remind him of the promises of eternal salvation given to God's people. This is appropriate after the sermon because of the reminder in the proclamation to be steadfast children of God knowing that we need His help to do so.

Then comes the Prayer of the church, in which the liturgist, myself or Albert, will bring the church's prayers before the Lord. If you have people that need praying for, please write them on the prayer cards in the pews. The Prayers of the Church go back to the Old Testament in which the priests and the prophets brought the prayers of the people before the Lord, and Scripture tells us that the Lord hears our prayers.

This brings us to the end of the Service of the Word, the second part of the Divine Service with the first part being confession and absolution. We will continue next month with the service of the Sacrament, the third part.

I figured I would also introduce you to Albert Ho, our field worker from Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary in St. Catharines, Ontario. Here is what he had to say about himself:

"I'm in my final year of seminary, so God willing, I'll be receiving my first call in May. I was born in Toronto, Ontario, but grew up in Calgary, Alberta. I went to McGill University in Montreal where I did a Bachelor of Arts in Classical Studies. During my undergraduate studies, I served in the Canadian Army Reserve as an Infantry Officer and retired during my first year of seminary in St. Catharines in 2022. I studied abroad at Westfield House in Cambridge, England in the 2022-2023 academic year, and that year I also had the opportunity to visit even more of our sister churches in Europe, namely The Evangelical Lutheran Mission Diocese of Finland and the Independent Evangelical - Lutheran Church (SELK) in Germany. I returned from vicarage in Winkler, Manitoba this past July. A great lesson impressed on me in all my travels is that the body of Christ is not limited by blood or borders. We truly are one in Christ, and it is an especially joyous thing when this unity is also joined by the concord of being one in confession. As such, I am excited to continue my formation for the pastoral office among my brothers and sisters in Kenmore, NY."

Christ blessings

Rev. David J. Walsh



SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE NOVEMBER 2025

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

WEEKEND OF	Nov. 1, 2	Nov. 8, 9	Nov. 15, 16	Nov. 22, 23	Nov. 29, 30
READER (Sat/Sun)	Pastor/ Albert Ho	Pastor/ Albert Ho	Pastor/ Albert Ho	Pastor/ Albert Ho	Pastor/ Albert Ho
USHERS	Mike Wuerch/ Dianne Wuerch	Tim McGuan/ Melody Keef	Ed Walsh/ Tim McGuan	Jim Hartz/ Mike Wuerch	Jim Hartz/ Mike Wuerch
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Jim Hartz	Ed Walsh	Mike Wuerch	Eric Fellner	Ed Walsh

(If you cannot serve on the day scheduled, please notify Tim McGuan (716) 418-5484, Ed Walsh (585) 747-1503 or Dan Griebel (716) 259-9704. ALSO, PLEASE CALL AMBER SO SHE CAN CORRECTLY PUT THE CHANGE IN THE BULLETIN. Thank you.)



COUNTERS

(IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO COUNT THE DATE YOU ARE ASSIGNED, PLEASE LET JIM HARTZ KNOW.)

Nov. 2	Nov. 9	Nov. 16	Nov. 23	Nov. 30
Dianne Wuerch	Mike Wuerch	Sue Holway	Carolyn Alessi	Dianne Wuerch
Delores Zeeb	Jim Hartz	Kathy Farkas	Janice Vogel	Nancy Loster



November BIRTHDAYS

Ed Walsh

Nov. 26

(If you would like your birthday and/or wedding anniversary in the newsletter, please contact Mary Werth by phone at 716-534-6922 or email: madragon99@yahoo.com. You can also leave a note in my mailbox. Thank you.)



On Sunday, October 12th, we celebrated Pastor Appreciation Sunday.



(The cake was delicious!)

On Sunday, October 19th, we celebrated the baptism of Frank Michael Alessi.

(You can't see it, but he wore a cute bow tie.)





ESTHER CIRCLE

Our meeting this month will be on Monday, November 17th, at 12:30 p.m. at the church. All women of Pilgrim are welcome to attend.

We completed the book study on “The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe” by C. S. Lewis. We thank Margaret Walsh for her time in preparation and leading the study. November 3rd is the deadline to register for attending the LWML Buffalo Zone Event at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Clarence on Saturday, November 8th. Please RSVP to Sharon McGuan. More information on this event is on the flyer posted.

Thank you to those who donated to Ben and Ella Goehring’s mission to Romania. Continuous donations are always welcomed. There is information on the announcement board, and it was in the October newsletter.

REMINDERS:

The mite donations have increased! Keep saving that loose change! Mites go to Karen Smith. There is also a collection box in the rear of the sanctuary. NOW, we need to shop at Dash’s! The receipts are about \$500 short for the required goal of \$5000 by December. If we all do a shopping spree to Dash’s, we can achieve this goal as we have done in other years. Receipts go to Sue Holway; cancelled stamps to Sharon McGuan. Again, all these outreaches help support various mission projects. Thank you!

It’s November, a time for Thanksgiving with family and friends. Most of all, we give thanks every day to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for his everlasting LOVE. May you all have a blessed Thanksgiving!

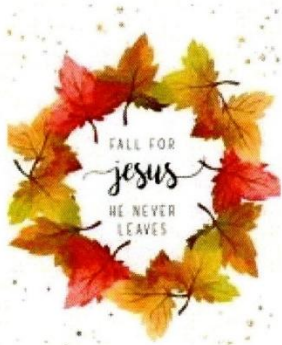
Carol Obot



“God gave us five senses; it is sheer ingratitude to worship him with any less.”
—Martin Luther

“Greed says the more you get, the more you have. Christ says the more you give away in love, the more you are.”
—Frederick Buechner

“Thanksgiving, after all, is a word of action.”
—W.J. Cameron



IT'S HAPPENING!!!

LWML FALL EVENT

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2025



You won't want to miss what's happening in a short amount of time. So, mark your calendars to be a part of the last LWML gathering of 2025!!!

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

8900 SHERIDAN DRIVE

CLARENCE, NEW YORK

AGENDA:

- 8:30-9:00AM** REGISTRATION \$5.00 followed by goodies supplied by Board
9:00AM Voting followed by Installation of our new officers by Pastor Browne
10:00AM Devotions
10:30AM Speakers: Delegates to National Convention & LWML President
11:00AM Hands on Project
NOON: Homeward bound, ready to share the day with your church home congregations. Spread the news!!! LWML—Women in Mission!!

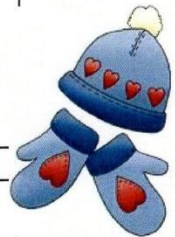
Please RSVP by November 3rd to: Sharon McGuan

716-803-3767 or salmcg23@gmail.com

O Give Thanks unto the Lord for He is Good!

There will be an ingathering of winter hats and gloves. These items will be given to The Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Buffalo, who are sponsoring Brunswick Block Club. These items will be distributed to their neighborhood community families in need. Yes, snow is coming and children and adults need protection from the winter elements.

Ladies, your help is needed!!! Giving of Mites is down, but the need is still there. Can you do something at your church to promote giving to Mites? How about a fundraising event? Any one interested in a spaghetti dinner? Put your hands together and pray for the funds to come. **God is Good!**





Sunday school will be held on November 9th at 9:00am. The lesson, the third in the series “Kings, Prophets and Exiles”, will focus on the forgiving, loving, and renewing Grace of God as He reestablishes Ezra, Nehemiah and His people in Jerusalem following 70 years in exile. Through scripture and craft, students will remember that our God loves and forgives each one of us through the merits of Jesus who reestablishes us in His kingdom. We hope to see you in Sunday school.



The 69th Annual Christmas Candlelight Vesper Service at First Trinity Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, December 14th, at 5:30 pm (pre-service sing at 5 pm).

ADVENT

A Season of Preparation

The long view of Advent

Advent is about preparing not only for Christmas but also for Jesus' return. According to Scripture, that won't be the calm, silent scene described in Christmas carols.

In 1928, Dietrich Bonhoeffer preached: “It is very remarkable that we face the thought that God is coming so calmly, whereas previously peoples trembled at the day of God We have become so accustomed to the idea of divine love and of God's coming at Christmas that we no longer feel the shiver of fear that God's coming should arouse in us. We ... [forget] the serious aspect, that the God of the world draws near to the people of our little earth and lays claim to us.”

God is love; we'll be in good hands at the end of time. But during Advent, also be in awe of God. Embrace a reverent fear of the Lord that reminds you how profound it is that God chooses again and again to draw near and lay claim to you.

A Day to Honor Our Veterans

Pilgrim Lutheran's Blessing Box to Support Our Community.



Esther Circle applied for a Thrivent Action Team \$250 grant to buy nonperishables to start up Pilgrim Lutheran's Blessing Box.

Thank You Sue Holway, Donna Vogel, Carol Obot, Sarah Walsh, Sharon McGuan.

Crystal Gempko and Nancy Loster will be collecting donations plus managing the Blessing Box.

Please consider donating nonperishables, paper products, etc. or helping in any way.



To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you so much for your help. I've recently fallen on hard times, and for the first time in my life, I've had to rely on the help/charity of others. I felt compelled to say thank you for your help. I absolutely appreciate it.

I wanted you to know that there is someone out there who is very thankful for what you're doing. As difficult as it was to open this box, I was so glad it was there. So, thank you again.

Sincerely,

B.B.

Catechesis page: We encourage you to put this on your fridge and learn God's Word and things that help us better understand it together.

November 2025

Did you know? November 1st is All Saints Day (the day after All Hallows Eve referenced last month). It celebrates the unity of the Church Triumphant (those in heaven) and of the Church Militant (those of us still alive).

Bible verse of the month: "Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!" - Psalm 107:1

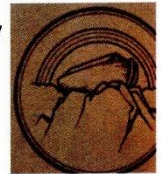
Catechism: The Close of the commandments and its explanation:

What does God say about all these commandments?: He says: "I, the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generation of those who love Me and keep My commandments." Exodus 20: 5-6

What does this mean? God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

Liturgical seasons and colors (look on the altar and pastor) for November: All Saints Day- White, Weeks after Pentecost-green

Christian symbol of the month: Ark and rainbow-November 29th is the observance for Noah whose main story is found in Genesis 5:30-10:1 and who is mentioned in various other places in the Bible. He is best known for building an ark as commanded by God for him, his family, and 2 of every unclean animal and 7 of every clean animal to be saved from a global flood. After the flood waters receded he left the ark and saw a rainbow that God put into the sky as a promise to never flood the entire earth at once again. Noah is noted for his faithfulness.



Hymn of the month: (definitely check out the other verses in the hymnal, for the sake of space we have v. 1 only here) -For All the Saints LSB#677

For all the saints who from their labors rest,

Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,

Thy name, O Jesus be forever blest

Alleluia! Alleluia!

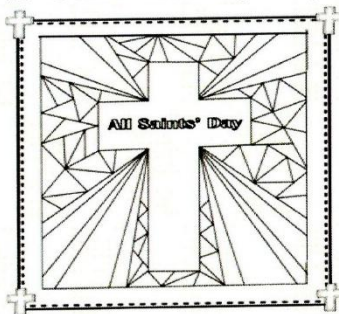
Church festivals, observances, Saint Days in November

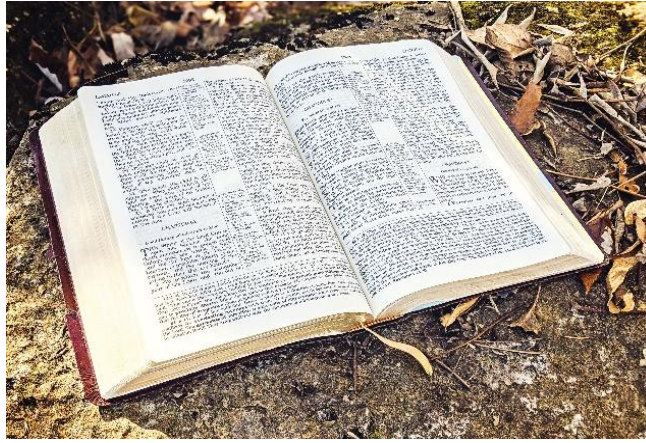
1st-All Saints Day 8th-Johannes von Staupitz (Luther's Father Confessor)

9th-Martin Chemnitz (birth) (Pastor and Confessor) 10th-Martin Luther's birthday 11th-Martin of Tours (Pastor)

14th-Emperor Justinian (Christian Ruler and Confessor of Christ) 19th-Elizabeth of Hungary

23rd-Clement of Rome (Pastor) 27th-Thanksgiving 29th-Noah 30th-St. Andrew (Apostle)





This month, we finish the Gospel of Mark and begin the Epistle to the Hebrews.

Nov. 1 – Mark 11:1-19	Nov. 9 – Mark 14:22-42	Nov. 17 – Hebrews 2	Nov. 25 – Heb. 9:1-10
Nov. 2 – Mark 11:20-33	Nov. 10 – Mark 14:43-65	Nov. 18 – Hebrews 3	Nov. 26 – Heb. 9:11-28
Nov. 3 – Mark 12:1-17	Nov. 11 – Mark 14:66-72	Nov. 19 – Hebrews 4	Nov. 27 – Heb. 10:1-18
Nov. 4 – Mark 12:18-37	Nov. 12 – Mark 15:1-20	Nov. 20 – Hebrews 5	Nov. 28 – Heb. 10:19-39
Nov. 5 – Mark 12:38-44	Nov. 13 – Mark 15:21-41	Nov. 21 – Hebrews 6	Nov. 29 – Heb. 11:1-12
Nov. 6 – Mark 13:1-23	Nov. 14 – Mark 15:42-47	Nov. 22 – Heb. 7:1-10	Nov. 30 – Heb. 11:13-31
Nov. 7 – Mark 13:24-37	Nov. 15 – Mark 16	Nov. 23 – Heb. 7:11-28	
Nov. 8 – Mark 14:1-21	Nov. 16 – Hebrews 1	Nov. 24 – Hebrews 8	



Remembering The Saints



When Paul wrote to the church in Rome, he addressed his letter “To all God’s beloved ... who are called to be saints” (Romans 1:7, NRSV). Paul regarded his fellow believers as people who have responded to the good news of Christ by choosing to follow and serve God.

The New Testament emphasizes that Christians are God’s beloved — special people set apart to receive his grace and to be his witnesses. All people whose minds and hearts are devoted to God are “called to be saints.”

About 700 years after the church began, leaders designated November 1 as All Saints’ Day to honor people whose lives reflect Christ dwelling within them. Because of what God has done for us, all Christians can wear the label of saint.



Cyber Corner for November

Hello readers, in my last article I left you with how it is possible for malware to be put on your phone and have your call redirected to the hackers. And things like this can happen even with the precaution that I have told you about. Like not downloading anything you do not know. Or clicking on something in an email or text message. For example, a legitimate web site could have had code injected into it that both you and they do not know about; and now you have something on your computer or phone that that is do who knows what. Then, especially with AI, these scams are getting so sophisticated that even security experts are having a hard time detecting them. However, there are some additional tools you can and should incorporate to help protect yourself. Again, I cannot tell you enough that nothing is full proof.

First, I cannot express the importance of a good Anti-Virus software and while there are low cost and even free ones, this is one area you should not skimp on and get a good one. Anti-Virus software protects your PC and other device like your phone from Malware and viruses; but a good one will do more like protect you when you are going to web site, that may have harmful code on them. They will monitor your internet connection for any harmful software that any be out there; mine even warns me of risky text messages I get. It will constantly monitor your system and if it finds a virus it will either get rid of it or quarantine it; depending on how you set it up. I can tell you my software has found and caught many over the years. Now any anti-Virus program will have a way to send you updates and you must keep up with having them installed at least weekly; and most you can set it to have them do this automatically. Now, anything that I or anyone else recommend there will always be people that will say that it is junk and theirs is the best. In the different tools that I am talking about here, I can at least tell you I have used and extensively researched; except for the VPN I will talk about later in this article. So, for an Anti-Virus I recommend (Norton 360). I have used this for years, and big corporations even use it, though they have a corporate version. Also, I check pretty much every year, and they are usually either 1st. or 2nd for top Anti-Virus software in a number of places like PC magazine. Other good ones are Malwarebytes, McAfee, Avast, and TotalAV; though I have not used the last two they are usually rated up there with Norton. Good ones will also search the Dark Web and report to you what they find and what you need to do. Norton also comes with a Password Manager, storage to back up your data, and a VPN, and an app for your phone as well. However, whatever you get I cannot emphasize enough that this is the most important thing you can do to protect yourself. And you really need to do this if you do nothing else.

Next is a good VPN (virtual private network) is a software (though there are hardware VPNs too) that is used to send your data on the network over an encrypted network; that is private. It hides your IP address (this identifies your device and where you are). So, in short, they cannot see your data

and where it came from. Now I have heard people say you do not need a VPN because if you go to a web site that has HTTPS (as opposed to HTTP), as I have told you to do, it is encrypted anyway, so why would you need a VPN? So first, while we should, we do not always look to make sure we are going to an HTTPS (that is an encrypted site). Then some sites that we have to go to are not HTTPs sites. Then some sites will first take you to an HTTP version and then redirect you to a HTTPS version of their site; given a hacker just enough opportunity to perform a Man In the Middle attack. Then even if the site you are going to is HTTPS your data, on its way there, is not encrypted. Finally, if you do mistakenly, maybe through Phishing attack, go to a bad site, they will make it look like it is HTTPS but will not be. A VPN protects your data from your device on through to where you are going and hides your location. To explain the differences in VPS would get very technical but after doing a lot of research I like NordVPN it seems to be the strongest and incorporates a lot of security that they use on the dark web. Now, like any of the top tools, it does cost, but again in most reports it is rated either 1st. 2nd. as a top VPN. However, if you get Norton Anti-Virus 360 it comes with a VPN. Though while it is very good it is not as good as NordVPN. So, besides encrypting your data the VPN helps hide you and your data from hackers, and ISPs (internet service providers); for some people that matters; but always remember if the government or police want to see you and your data, they will even with the best tools. Only mention this because again nothing full proof. It all depends on how valuable what you have is to them, and what resources they have.

Next in the line of tools you should have is a good password manager. The one thing you never want to do is store your passwords in text or Excel files, on you devise or anywhere. Now, I have sad in other articles that you should have a password that looks like this (H&7^6Y dhMJ237#48I je9\$s%5), and no two passwords that you use should ever be the same. How are you going to remember them not to mention you should be constantly changing them? A good password manager will let you know if the passwords you use are strong or weak and if they are duplicated. It will also let you know when you should be replacing them; and will give you an option to let them generate it for you. For this I like NordPass, yes this is the same people I recommend for your VPN. Again, before I got this, I heavily researched it and found they are one of the best. Their policies are so strong that even the people that work there do not have access to your passwords. They offer very high security regarding storing your passwords, notes, and credit cards, and will even auto fill your username and password in sites for you when you log on to a site. They also will let you know if they find your passwords on the dark web. Now, as I said earlier, Norton Anti-Virus 360 comes with a Password manager, but I feel this is much better. This also costs either yearly or monthly depending on how you go, but whatever you do, do not get a free one; it could even belong to a hacker.

Lastly, I want to talk about your browsers like Edge and Google Crome, that you use to go to the web sites you visit. Taking some time to learn about the security settings on that can be a study in itself, but worth it. Here you must have a balance if you set all the security, they have good luck on using it. One of the biggest things you want here is to prevent people from tracking where you are going and what you are doing on the web. This was largely used so companies can market you by seeing what interest you have. But hackers also will use this to learn about you and develop Phishing attacks as well as others. Here I am going to give you a free tool to use called DuckDuckGo (a privacy browser). After doing research, I found this is the browser they use on the dark web to provide anonymity to their browsing, though it might be a different version; because on the dark web you definitely want to do anything you can to hide yourself. Now again Norton – Anti Virus 360 provides something similar. If you feel this is a lot you are right, but it is only the basics. Experienced

security people and hackers do all this and a lot more. As I mentioned, they have attempted to hack me, and open accounts in my name, a few times this year alone. A friend lost a few thousand due to a phishing attack. As I also said, I have been hit with viruses, and attempts have been made to attack my online accounts. So far these have not gone anywhere with me because of everything that I have said in other articles and the fact that I do all the things I have mentioned in this article. And still, I am constantly looking deeper at what I need to do further. Well, enough with the doom and gloom, in my next article I go back to telling you about some more scams I have been informed of; it will make for a great Christmas gift.



R. C. Gaitlan, 21, walked up to two patrol officers who were showing their squad car computer equipment to children in a Detroit neighborhood. When he asked how the system worked, the officer asked him for identification. Gaitlan gave them his driver's license, they entered it into the computer, and moments later they arrested him because information on the screen showed Gaitlan was wanted for a two-year-old armed robbery in St. Louis, Mo.

In a U.S. guide to setting up a new computer: TO AVOID CONDENSATION FORMING, ALLOW THE BOXES TO WARM UP TO ROOM TEMPERATURE BEFORE OPENING. (Sensible, but the instruction was *inside* the box.)

Can't see an end. I have no control and I don't think there's an escape. I don't even have a home anymore. Think it's time for a new keyboard.

What does a computer programmer wear? Whatever is in the dress code.

Wife texts husband on a cold winter morning: "Windows frozen, won't open."

Husband texts back: "Gently pour some lukewarm water over it and then gently tap edges with hammer."

Wife texts back 10 minutes later: "Computer really messed up now."

A day in the life of an IT guy.

Customer: "Hi, my computer isn't working."

IT Guy: "OK, what happens when you try to turn it on?"

Customer: "Nothing."

IT Guy: "Can you check to see if it's plugged into the outlet?"

Customer: "Uhhhh, I dunno. It's pretty dark back there..."

IT Guy: "...Can you turn on a light?"

Customer: "Nope. The power's out."



Mite Explanation and History

Based on the Biblical account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1–4), the Mite Box is intended for regular contributions of "mites" — offerings above and beyond the support given to congregations and the LCMS. Mite Box contributions amount to millions of dollars that fund district and national [mission grants](#) and implement the LWML program.

[Mite Boxes](#), available from the district, zone, or LWML office, are distributed to every woman in a society, and often to each member of the congregation. Local groups submit Mite Box offerings to the appointed district officer.

The Widow's Mite

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth, but she, out of her poverty, put in everything — all she had to live on" ([Mark 12:41–43](#)).

Mite Boxes — How They Began

Perhaps inspired by the various "cent" or "mite" societies of the early 1800s, the Woman's Mission to Woman (Baptist) urged members in its first circular letter in 1871 to use their new Mite Box to raise funds. The entire family was encouraged to contribute. The garnet-colored paper box had an opening on the top and the words, "Woman's Mission to Woman," in gold letters on the side.

Over the years, many Lutheran Ladies Aid societies used a box to gather funds in support of local and synod ministries. Under the original 1928 Lutheran Women's Missionary Endeavor organizational plan, each woman in every congregation would receive a Mite Box if she participated in the Ladies Aid. Receipts from the 92 Ladies Aid societies totaled \$6651.31 in 1930.

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, formally recognized by the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in 1942, required by the newly adopted constitution and bylaws, that 25% of all missionary contributions be given to the national organization, shared from the districts.

Times and Mite Boxes Change

Mite Boxes have changed in color and design over the years, but what has never changed is the dedication of freely given offerings for the purpose of reaching out to others with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Districts still retain 75% of mite offerings for the work of the LWML at that level. National mites fund over \$1 million in mission grants.

LWML Eastern District (includes Buffalo Zone LWML) 2024-2026 Mission Grants

(PLEASE TURN IN YOUR MITES OFTEN SO WE CAN MEET THESE GOALS. THANK YOU.)

NEW GRANTS APPROVED FOR THE 2024-2026 BIENNIUM

MISSION GRANTS

Delegates voted to approve a 2024-2026 Mission Goal of \$140,394, Mite Goal of \$65,000, and Grant Goal of \$32,500. Mission project grants for a total of \$33,989.53 (including the 2022-2024 overage of \$1,489.53) will be funded over the next two years. Projects to be funded in the following order include:

1. GRANT H Request to construct a new well for clean water for The Olivia S. Washington Schools of Liberia. Requested by LWML Member Beth Quinn, Philadelphia Zone.
\$5,000
2. GRANT C Request to produce Braille and specialized Large Print Bibles and other Christian materials. Requested by Shellie Knupp, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, N. Tonawanda, NY, Niagara Zone.
\$5,000
3. GRANT A Funds are requested to purchase supplies for 50 Blessing Bags Ministry. Requested by LWML member Rebecca Bessell, St. Paul Lutheran Church & School, Hilton, NY, Genesee Zone.
\$2,000
4. GRANT B Request to cover printing costs for 400 copies of "How Can I Understand?" for Southeast Asian Families (Lutheran Heritage Foundation). Requested by Cathie Geske, Grace Lutheran Church, Hop Bottom, PA, Anthracite Zone
\$2,000
5. GRANT E Request to replace the gym floor at the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch Minot, ND campus. Requested by LWML Member Susan Bell, Philadelphia Zone.
\$3,000
6. GRANT D Request for the repair/replacement of the air conditioner unit in the Tiemann Chapel at Pinnacle Lutheran Church, Rochester, NY. Requested by LWML Katherine Ippolito, Genesee Zone.
\$4,900
7. GRANT F Request to support monthly "Lunch and Learn" program at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Clarence, NY. Requested by LWML Member Susan Tichy, Buffalo Zone.
\$3,550
8. GRANT G Request to purchase sets, costumes and props for Glorify Performing Arts, West Chester, PA. Requested by LWML Member Rebecca Futti, Philadelphia Zone.
\$2,500

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY TO MITES SO THAT ALL MISSION GRANTS CAN BE FUNDED

2025–2027 Mission Grant #3

Portable Laundry Trailer

Forged by Fire Services

About This Mission Grant

When disasters strike, Forged by Fire Services, a disaster response organization of the LCMS Southern District, is deployed to the Gulf Coast Region and beyond. Sharing the hope in Christ, they provide human care to the victims, volunteers, and first responders affected by natural and man-made disasters. After a disaster, one of the needs of the people and volunteers are clean clothes, but there may be no facility for laundry service available.

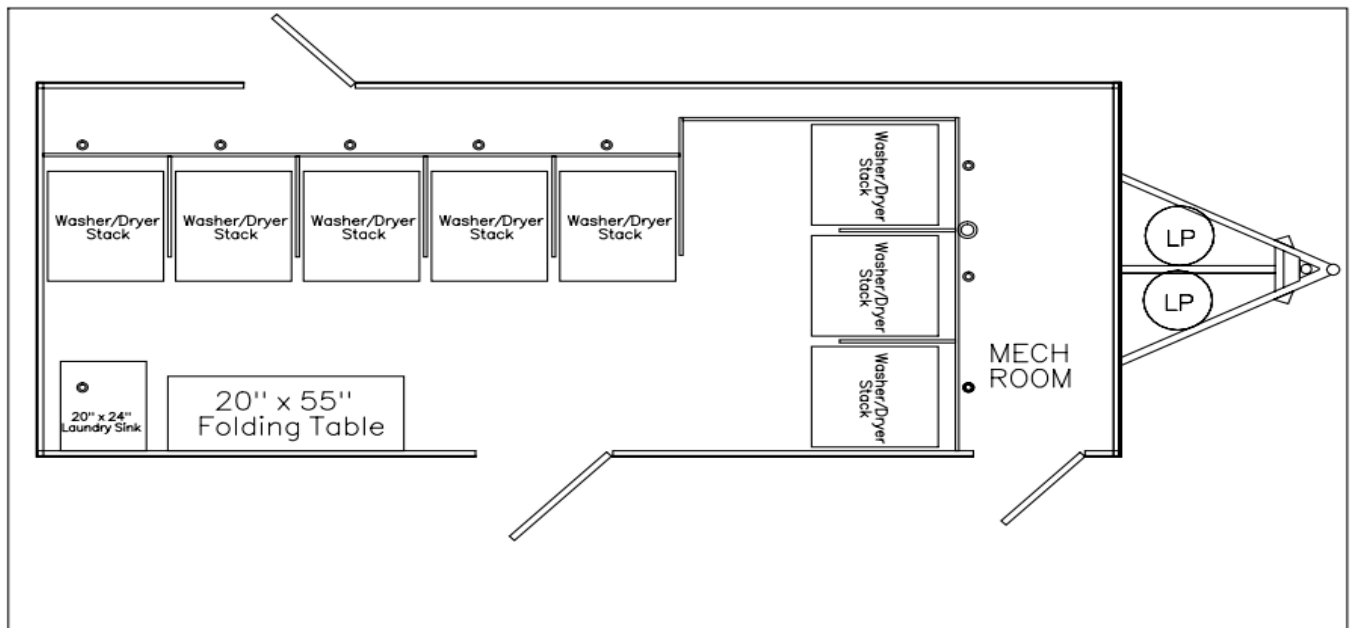
Forged by Fire Services would like to provide laundry service by obtaining a professionally built eight-station laundry trailer with all the supporting equipment. The laundry trailer would be set up in the parking lot of an LCMS church. When offering the service, the LERT trained volunteers have an opportunity to talk to the people about the grace, mercy, and love of Jesus Christ. This grant will provide funds for the purchase of the portable laundry trailer.



Exterior photo for the laundry trailer



Interior photo from front for the laundry trailer



Layout sketch for laundry unit



660 MASON RIDGE CENTER DRIVE

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141-8557

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Thred Is Helping People Share Their Faith Online

“Do you feel like your spiritual life is a part of your social media life?” This is the question Thred (thred.org) asks, and in the internet-driven world we live in, it’s an important one for Christians. Research indicates that nearly 5 billion people use social media worldwide, with the average person spending a whopping 2.5 hours each day drinking from that well. That’s a lot of communication going on!

Thred understands that connecting with people can be complicated, and sharing matters of faith online can be even more daunting. “Thred’s number-one downloaded content piece is the helpful guide, *Engaging in Spiritual Conversations: How to Overcome the Obstacles to Sharing Your Faith*,” says Rachel Tichich, manager of digital strategy and development for LHM. “It embodies a core piece of Thred’s philosophy, and that is simply this: your story matters.” But telling that story can be a challenge.

To address this, at the beginning of 2025 Thred launched two FREE resources. “The first was *The Search for Self*. It reminds users that as Christ-followers we identify as children of God, which in this image-oriented world we live in is not always easy to remember,” Tichich says. “The other piece is *Not My Job*. This resource encourages people to see their place in the Gospel narrative and inspires them to talk about what God has done and is doing in their lives.”

Thred’s current push is to create an email series to its 21,000-plus followers that gives people tangible tips and easy-to-use writing prompts for sharing their faith on social media or through text message or email. “Through the distribution of these resources, Thred is seeing an increase in followers on Instagram and Facebook as well, where it also continues to publish content throughout the week,” says Tichich.

All this resource development requires a lot of writing. To do this, Thred employs the skilled pens of several creative individuals who produce content for Thred’s courses, email series, Influencer sermon kit, and blogs, which come in six distinct flavors: Calling & Purpose, Culture & Faith, Digital Evangelism, Spiritual Discipline, Spiritual Identity, and From the Thred Desk.

“We’re attempting to communicate with our audience in a way that feels familiar, warm, and accessible,” says Andréa Vasilo, LHM’s content writer. This is Thred’s mission from start to finish: helping people find their digital voice to share their faith and take the story of Jesus to the ends of the world.



DO YOU KNOW WHERE THIS IS LOCATED IN CHURCH?



Thankful garland

Celebrate the season of gratitude by creating a colorful Thankful decoration.

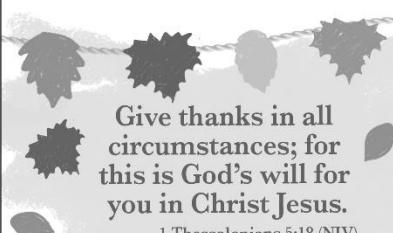
What you need:

- Construction paper in a variety of fall colors
- Pencil, marker, or crayons
- Yarn, ribbon, or raffia
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Spray bottle filled with water
- Real leaves (Optional)
- Wooden or plastic beads, cereal with holes (Cheerios, Froot Loops, etc.), or any dried pasta with a hole (Optional)



What you do:

1. Draw or trace leaf shapes onto construction paper.
2. Lay the paper flat and spray with water until the paper is completely wet.
3. Crumple the wet paper into balls.
4. Open the paper and let the sheets dry flat.
5. When dry, cut out each leaf.
6. On each leaf, write the name of one person or thing you're thankful for.
7. Punch a hole in each leaf.
8. Lace the leaves, beads, cereal, and pasta onto the yarn, ribbon, or raffia.
9. Tie the ends and hang your garland.



Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV)



PUZZLE

GIVE PRAISE

Solve this puzzle to read a Bible verse about praising God for all his blessings.

Directions: In each group, circle the word that doesn't belong. Then write the circled words on the lines below.

1 Give Take Grab	2 peanut praise pear	3 temple house LORD	4 proclaim past present	5 name boy lad	6 ruin destroy make
7 pine acorn known	8 train nations bus	9 done donut muffin	10 Sing Sleep Yawn	11 she him girl	12 sun praise moon
13 tell fast slow	14 red all blue	15 horrible dreadful wonderful	16 acts sisters aunts		

_____ to the _____, _____ his _____;

_____ among the _____ what he has _____.

_____ to _____, sing _____ to him; _____ of _____ his _____.

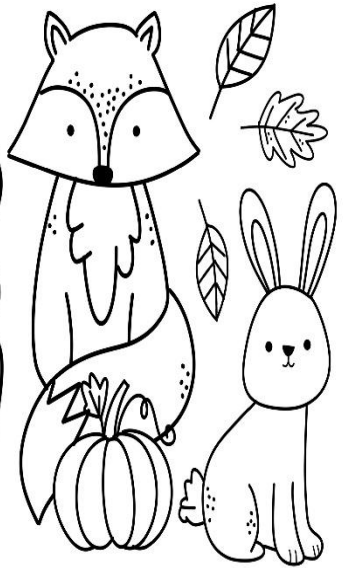
PSALM 105:1-2, NIV




Answer: Give, praise, Lord, proclaim, name, make, know, nations, done, sing, him, praise, tell, all, wonderful, acts

**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE
DECEMBER NEWSLETTER IS NOVEMBER 24TH.**

THANKS GIVING



Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**HIS LOVE ENDURES
FOREVER.** Psalm 136:1, NIV

Decorate the
Scarecrows.

Ideas: faces, hair & clothes



What are you thankful for?

How many
pumpkins
can you find?

Draw your favorite
Thanksgiving Dinner!