

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

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Pianist

As Scheduled

Ministers: All members of Gloria Dei

**Caring Sharing Serving
Reaching**



2 0 2 5

AUGUST WORSHIP SCHEDULE

August 3 – 8th Sunday after Pentecost

August 10 – 9th Sunday after Pentecost

August 17 – 10th Sunday after Pentecost

August 24 – 11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 31 – 12th Sunday after Pentecost

August, a month dripping with summer's honeyed glow and the anticipation of autumn's arrival. But did you know it holds biblical significance?

August is often associated with abundance, harvest, and fruition in both agricultural and spiritual contexts. Throughout the Bible, we find numerous instances where God's provision and blessings are manifested during this time, signifying a season of abundance and great blessings.

In the Gregorian calendar, the month of August holds a special significance with its biblical roots and symbolism. While the term "August" does not appear explicitly in the Bible, exploring the interconnected themes and events recorded within its pages reveal deep spiritual insights and prophetic symbolism.



A Message from Pastor Matthew Cephus

Finding Your Roots

To know one's identity is a pivotal task in life. In our formative years, we may be swayed by who or what others want us to be, leading us to become someone we really are not. The search for our identity is certainly part of the great interest in family history and genealogy as we learn about our ancestors. Sometimes this information is welcome, but sometimes it is not. In the search process, we may discover previously unknown facts about who we are and where we come from that are in conflict with what we thought to be true. For some, this can lead to an identity crisis because we are not the person we believed ourselves to be. Finding your roots can be tricky business. I recall something my friend told me about a question his dad asked his grandfather. He asked why he didn't look up his relatives who happened to live in a different part of the state? His grandfather's reply was very pragmatic: "Either they would be so high-toned that they wouldn't know you, or they would be so poor that they'd want to borrow money." But still, we want to know who we are and where we come from.

When it comes to faith, many people are also in a search process. We are looking for who we really are in life. This becomes more urgent at different points in life: as we grow in our youth; as we leave home and start off on our own; as we settle on a career path; as we marry and have a family; as we retire, cope with aging, and face our own mortality. We can spend a lot of time and energy in life fretting about the identity question as this relates to the big picture of who God is and what is our relationship to Him. We need not worry about this. The good news is that God himself has declared who we are. The wonderful words of the Lord to his people through the prophet Isaiah remind us of this: **"But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: 'Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior'" (Isaiah 43:1-3a).** "I have called you by name, you are mine." Those are wonderful words! We have been given an identity and a sense of belonging in the Lord. He tells us that not only has He created us, but He has also redeemed us. To redeem, in its original sense, means to buy something back that has been taken from you. So, what does that mean?

If God has created us (and this is what Scripture teaches in Genesis 1-2), then we originally belonged to him. But our identity and belonging as God's own children, created in his own image, were hijacked by a force bent on our destruction. This is what Scripture calls sin; a twisting and perversion of God's original plan and purpose for his creation (of which we are but one part). Our human history has been one constant rebellion against God as we try to make God in our own image with all of the terrible things that have come about through this warped reality. Like genealogy, when we start digging in our history, we may find some pretty ugly things. That is certainly true of our faith history.

Our faith story doesn't end with brokenness and shattered plans. God's plans are not so easily thwarted! In amazing love, God chose to send his only Son on a rescue mission to deliver his creation from destruction and death. Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God's own Son, we have been given a new identity. In fact, in Jesus we have been given a new life! In the cleansing waters of Holy Baptism, we are united with Jesus and everything that Jesus has done becomes ours (see Romans 6:1ff.). A great exchange has taken place through which Jesus takes our sin and shame, bestowing on us his righteousness and blessing. This is where our new life and identity begin – in Jesus and what He has done for us.

Finding our roots means that this takes work on our part. We press on, we persevere, even when the work we are doing doesn't seem to produce any results. It is big-picture stuff as the pieces slowly come together. The same is true in our faith story. We press on and persevere, even when it feels like there's nothing to show for it. We trust that **"he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion in the day of Christ Jesus"** (Philippians 1:6). Knowing who we are begins with knowing Whose we are. The same word that God spoke through Isaiah He speaks to us today: **"I have called you by name, you are mine."**

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS Stewardship Ministry - August 2025

Jesus' transforming presence

“But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, ‘Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost’” (Luke 19:8-10 NIV).

Who knew, all those kids sitting in Sunday school were getting a lesson in stewardship! Generations of children have very often heard lessons based on the familiar account of Zacchaeus. The diminutive tax collector's curiosity surrounding the person and ministry of Jesus is what the Holy Spirit used to set him on a collision course for a total stewardship transformation. This transformation, according to the text of Luke 19, is not just about this life. This stewardship transformation is about eternity as well!

Remember the story: Zacchaeus was a tax collector. Do not think of friendly neighborhood IRS agents. This was more like a toll booth operator, but the governing authorities did not set the toll. They would contract men to staff roadside booths and tax the commerce that was passing along the road. This was an enterprise full of greed and graft. The tax collectors would take as much as they could and only pass on a portion to the government. The rest did not go into the community chest either! It went into the pocket of the tax collector.

This is why the people had such disdain for Jewish tax collectors. They were seen as both crooks and traitors. They were crooks in that they extorted their compatriots and others in the toll process. But worse, they were seen as traitors because their efforts supported the occupying Roman authorities. That is the real reason that the people would not make way so that short Zacchaeus could see Jesus.

For this reason, he runs ahead and climbs a tree. He had heard all the stories. He wanted to see this Jesus with his own eyes. Mercy is on display. This hated crook and traitor gets a direct audience with Jesus — at Jesus' own request! Jesus invites Himself to Zacchaeus' house. This is where the transformation is about to take place!

Notice how Jesus does it. He does not preach a three-week sermon series, nor does He ask Zacchaeus to make a pledge. There is nothing programmatic about Jesus' approach. But Zacchaeus is completely transformed! The transforming force is the very presence of Jesus!

Direct time with Jesus takes a crooked, selfish, criminal and makes him the most faithful steward.

This new life of stewardship is marked by the promises made. First, he gives half of his ill-gotten gains to the poor. These are people whom he would not have defrauded at all! Yet, after spending time with Jesus, they are His first concern. Only after this does he double the requirement of the Levitical law on fraud. And what does Jesus say is the result? Salvation!

Doing the acts of stewardship does not save. Rather, the faith in Jesus that is created by the Holy Spirit is what saves! This is critical for us to confess. Failed stewardship can and will cut you off from God. The only antidote for failed stewardship is the presence of Jesus.

We do not need to run ahead and climb a tree for this presence of Jesus. He makes Himself available to us every week in the Divine Service. He speaks His Word of invitation to us in the pages of Holy Scripture. This, and this alone, transforms us from sinner to saint, from owner to steward of all that belongs to the Lord.

Do you want to become a more faithful steward? Spend more time with Jesus. Make the Divine Service a weekly priority. Feast on Christ's body and blood weekly! This is the great gift that brings salvation from God's House to yours!

Spring Mission Offering Complete

Gloria Dei's Spring Offering has concluded, with a \$1,000 donation sent to the Central Avenue Salvation Army in mid-July. Thank you for your support. Donations for the food shelf are still welcome, including non-perishable items via our "grocery cart." The Salvation Army continues to need food, hygiene products, and monetary gifts to support our local families.

Simply Giving Program

Endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union

The *Simply Giving*® Program is an automated stewardship program that helps members live generously. It's a convenient, safe and simple way for individuals to make automatic payments to nonprofit organizations through electronic funds transfer (EFT) directly from checking or savings accounts. Thrivent Federal Credit Union has contracted with industry leader Vanco Payment Solutions to provide electronic payment processing services at reduced rates – so your generosity goes further. To get started, call Vanco Payment Solutions at 800-675-7430.

Gloria Dei is Always in Need of Altar Care and Ushers for the Summer Months!

The summer months are always very busy for everyone, but if your schedule permits, please consider signing up for a Sunday of Altar Care or to Usher. **You don't have to take the entire month**, just the Sunday(s) that work for you. Sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin boards in the front lobby as you walk in. If you are interested, but need a refresher on what the duties include, please contact the church office and arrangements can be made for training. Thank You!

Free Community Dinner at Faith United Methodist Church

Faith United Methodist Church, 2708 33rd Avenue NE, will hold a free community dinner Thursday, August 14, from 5-6 pm. Everyone is welcome.

FREE Community Dinner at St. Timothy's

August 12 @ 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Join St. Timothy's and the local community on Tuesday, August 12, from 5 pm to 6:30 pm (or until the food is gone) for their drive thru community dinner. All are welcome so spread the word! St. Timothy's Lutheran Church is located at 825 51st Avenue NE, Columbia Heights.

SACA's free produce distributions

Southern Anoka Community Assistance will distribute free produce in partnership with Second Harvest Heartland on the second and fourth Saturday of the month, July – September, 8:30-11:30 am (or while supplies last). Distribution takes place in the SACA parking lot at 627 38th Ave NE. SACA Food Shelf distributes up to 10,000 pounds of fresh fruit and vegetables at each event. These events are completely free and open to the public. No need to sign up. Distribution will take place Aug. 9 and 23, Sept. 13 and Sept. 27. Attendees remain in their cars and drive up to SACA's parking lot to pick up their boxes of produce.

REMEMBER TO BRING IN YOUR CANS!

We are always collecting cans with the proceeds going to the Mission of the Church Council's choosing.



St. Anthony Village Fest Schedule

FRIDAY, August 1st

9:00am–3:00pm Village Blood Drive

7:00pm-8:00pm Parade on St Anthony Blvd – *Sponsored by Fredrickson & Byron*

8:00pm-10:00pm VillageFest Block Party @ Central Park

SATURDAY, August 2nd

8:00am 5K @ Stadium Track – *Organized by SAVHS Track & CC*

9:30am-11:00am Tot Trot @ Stadium Track – *Organized by Kids Fitness Together*

10:00am–2:00pm Wiffle Ball Tournament – *Organized by Voyagers*

11:00am Beer Tent Opens

Noon-2:00pm Music by DJ “The Pulse”

Noon-9:00pm Inflatables, Games and Food Booths

Noon-5:00pm Silent Auction

Noon-5:00pm Vendor Fair – *Organized by St. Anthony Chamber of Commerce*

Noon-5:00pm Petting Zoo – *Sponsored by Monarch Bus Service*

1:00pm-3:30pm Bingo with St. Anthony City Council @ Central Park Pavilion

2:00pm Bags Tournament – *Organized by Voyagers*

2:00pm Medallion Hunt – *Organized by Voyagers*

2:00pm-4:30pm Music by “KSavageRBeast”

3:00pm-3:30pm Dead Phone Throwing Contest – *Sponsored by Salo Sister City Assoc.*

3:30pm-4:00pm Partner Carrying – *Sponsored by Salo Sister City Association*

4:30pm-6:00pm Music by Stank Theory @ Central Park Pavilion

5:30pm-7:30pm Meat Raffle & Shake a Day Tip Boards – *Sponsored by NE Lions Club*

7:00pm-9:30pm Teen Headquarters

7:30pm-11:00pm Music by 120 Minutes – *Sponsored by Hunter Inc.*

9:45pm Fireworks!!! – *Sponsored by NE Lions & Village Orthodontics*

National Night Out, Tuesday, August 5

Join Pastor Matthew, his family and our McKinley neighbors between 30th and 31st Streets for National Night Out on Tuesday, August 5 from 6 – 8 pm. **Stop by the church’s front lawn for this annual community-building event that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.** There will be scheduled visits from emergency personnel, including the Minneapolis Police K-9 Unit and a fire truck.

Did you know that millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states each year? Get involved to help make our community safer and more connected.

Open Streets Central Avenue – August 2 @ 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

The Audubon Neighborhood Association and the Coalition of Northeast Minneapolis Neighborhoods invite you to enjoy Central Avenue NE from Lowry to 14th on Saturday, Aug. 2, 11 am-5 pm. Two stages, Lucha Libre wrestlers, interactive art installations, beer garden, food, music, face painting, tons of resources.

Plants and Pollinators

Tuesday, Aug. 5 or Thursday, Sept. 4, 5:30-6:30 pm, at Broken Clock Brewing Cooperative, 1712 Marshall Street NE, Ste 100. Bring on the butterflies with Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR). Your yard can help to support songbirds, pollinators and wildlife, and look beautiful. During this free happy-hour workshop with nature educator Angie Hong, FMR talk about what to plant, how to get started, where to buy native plants and where to find additional support for planting projects. Choose from one of two dates, Aug. 5 or Sept. 4. All are welcome, but registration is required. For more information and to register, visit <https://fmr.org/events/plants-pollinators-and-pints-native-plant-gardening-nature-educator-angie-hong>

Aladdin Jr. at NE Middle School

Families and theater enthusiasts are invited to come enjoy Disney's Aladdin Jr., presented by Minneapolis Community Education. This elementary and middle school production will be performed at Northeast Middle School, 1830 St. Anthony Parkway, on Wednesday, Aug. 6 at 6 pm and Thursday, Aug. 7 at 2 pm and 6 pm. Doors open 30 minutes before showtime – Tickets are \$5 at the door. Contact: Lifelong.Learning@mpls.k12.mn.us.

Heights Monarch Festival

The National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge encourages communities to create habitats for the monarch butterfly and other pollinators and educate residents about how to make a difference. As part of the Monarch Pledge, the City will hold a Monarch Festival on Thursday, Aug. 14, from 4-7 pm, Huset Park, 3965 Jefferson Street NE, with activities and entertainment celebrating pollinators.

Polish Picnic –

August 16 @ 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Polish Picnic open to the community is on Aug. 16, 12-6 pm at Huset Park West, 530 Mill St. NE, There will be Polish food for purchase, Dolina Polish Folk Dancers, music provided by Craig Ebel Polka Band and Joe Macko on accordion. Children and adult crafts, Polish movies and more. Sponsored by Columbia Heights and its Sister City Lomianki and the Polish American Cultural Institute of Minnesota (PACIM) and other Polish organizations. Information and food tickets at [Polish Picnic 2025 – PACIM](#)

Northeast Community Band at Huset Park

Now in its 27th year, the Northeast Community Band will perform its final concert of the season at Huset Park, 3965 Jefferson Street NE, Wednesday, August 20, 6:30 pm. The band rehearses on Thursday nights at Edison High School during the school year. Each year, the band awards a scholarship to an Edison senior to encourage them to continue their musical journey. See you there!

Take it to the Streets, Community Outreach Event

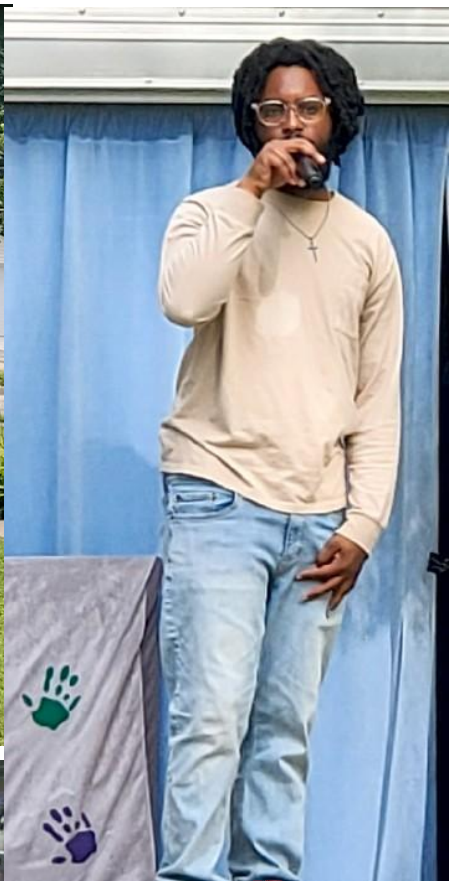
Thank you to everyone who attended the Fourth Annual **"Take it to the Streets"** BBQ and Picnic on Saturday, July 19th. Everyone had a great time. The featured gospel music, family-fun games and bouncy house made the event a huge success!. Thank you to Chef Ken, who did an amazing job on the grill. A special thank you to ALL the volunteers who helped with the set-up, serving the food, and the clean-up – this was a BIG job! The FREE event was the perfect summer get-together and was a great opportunity to make new friends and connect with people in the neighborhood and surrounding community. What a better way to share God's love.

Building relationships and making disciples.

Take it to the Streets July 19, 2025







BBQ







"CARRY OUT A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS,
WITH NO EXPECTATION OF REWARD, SAFE
IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT ONE DAY
SOMEONE MIGHT DO THE SAME FOR YOU."

- PRINCESS DIANA

Time of Grace

Time of Grace connects people to God's grace—his love, glory, and power—so they realize the temporary things of life don't satisfy. However, through Jesus we have access to the eternal God—right now and forever.

Pastor Mike Novotny

Pastor Mike Novotny serves as the lead speaker for Time of Grace, where he shares the good news about Jesus through television, print, and online platforms.

Sundays KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 AM

Subscribe to Time of Grace to be delivered to your email inbox daily. It's easy to subscribe to resources that'll keep you rooted in Jesus. Just select which types of resources you would like to receive and they will be sent right to your inbox www.timeofgrace.org/subscribe

Main Street Living

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9 am and is an LCMS program that features pastors from the WFTC, and can be viewed on channel 29/9-2, (On Comcast this is channel 10)

The first half hour is a reproduction of *This is the Life*, a Lutheran Hour Ministries program made popular in the 60s, 70s, and 80s. The second half hour is a modified Lutheran worship service, which is produced locally.

For more information or to watch the programs, visit www.mainstreetliving.com and select the "Twin Cities" tab.



JULY OFFICIAL ACTS

None

THE LUTHERAN HOUR

WCCO 830 AM Radio

Heard each Sunday morning at 6:05 am

Hosted by Rev. Michael Zeigler (unless otherwise noted)

August 3 "Proclaim His Glory" (John 5:30-47)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

Of course, we should search the Scriptures, but we search them for Jesus, the One to Whom the Scriptures point.

August 10 "Writing Him Off" (Luke 4:21-32)

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus
After Jesus claimed the Old Testament was written about Him, the people of His hometown wrote Him off.

August 17 "The Stuttering Man of Destiny" (Exodus 4:10-12)

Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann

Archives August--Dr. Oswald Hoffmann recounts the story of Moses.

August 24 "Gideon, the Farmer General" (Judges 6:1-8:27)

Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann

Archives August--Dr. Oswald Hoffmann recounts the story of Gideon, an unlikely military leader.

August 31 "Life Narrows Down" (John 1:6-8, 19-28)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

"Life narrows down and crisis comes. There, in the narrow place stands Jesus."




Daily Devotions from

The Lutheran Hour Ministries

With several ways to read and listen, you can get your daily dose of Scripture when you need it. Visit lhm.org/dailydevotions to subscribe for email delivery to your inbox, sign up for the podcasts, or download the app for your mobile device – all for **FREE!**

AUGUST 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 3014 McKinley Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418 612-781-1989 website: www.gloriadeilcms.org email: info@gloriadeilcms.org					1 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	2 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
3 8th Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship Service w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	4 <i>Church Office Closed</i> 7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)	5 5:30 pm National Night Out Block Party	6 7:30 pm SLAA Group Mtg	7	8 5 – 7 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	9 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
10 9th Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship Service w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	11 <i>Church Office Closed</i> 7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)	12	13 7:30 pm SLAA Group Mtg	14	15 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	16 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 4 – 5 pm Living Word Board Meeting 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
17 10 th Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship Service w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	18 <i>Church Office Closed</i> 7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)	19 5 – 7 pm GDLC Council meeting	20 7:30 pm SLAA Group Mtg	21	22 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	23 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
24 11 th Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship Service w/HC and Guest Pastor 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	25 <i>Church Office Closed</i> 7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)	26	27 7:30 pm SLAA Group Mtg	28	29 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	30 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
31 12 th Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship Service w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA						

Special Occasions for Special People



1st **Carin Anderson**
1st **Roselyn Norman**
6th **James Sather**
8th **Keven Henslin**
26th **James Norman, Jr.**

8th **Keven & Robin Henslin**
22nd **Tim & Norma Harris**

AUGUST SERVANTS			
Elder: Karmon Christopherson			
Altar Care			
		3rd 10th 17th 24th 31st	
Ushers		Counters	
3rd Dale Raschke and Wade Billmeyer 10th Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli 17th Tom and Patty Lyrenmann 24th 31st		3rd Dale Raschke and Wade Billmeyer 10th Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli 17th Tom and Patty Lyrenmann 24th Shirley Holzinger and Verlayne Sather 31st Sandy Westling and Tom Harris	
Eternal Light		Flowers	
3rd 10th Roselyn Norman, In Memory of Bob & Muriel Heyer 17th 24th Shirley Holzinger, In Memory of Dad's birthday (27th) 31st		3rd 10th 17th 24th 31st	



AUGUST

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

CHURCH WORKERS — AUGUST 1-15

Pastors; deaconesses; Lutheran school teachers; directors of Christian education, Christian outreach and family life ministry; parish musicians. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) is blessed with many faithful church workers who assist and lead people in participating in the fulfillment of the Great Commission, while building up the Body of Christ.

Remember God's work through the Synod's church workers as you pray:

1. *with thanksgiving for the many dedicated church workers in the LCMS, who share in our joys and sorrows. Ask the Lord to comfort and defend them from every assault of the devil.*

2. *for the Synod's pastors, that they would hold fast to the Word of God and find strength to continue preaching God's truth in an increasingly anti-Christian culture.*

3. *for the Synod's deaconesses. Pray that they would be equipped with all things needful to love and serve people in every situation.*

4. *that God would bless the work of directors of Christian education, as they develop educational ministries for children, youth, adults and families.*

5. *for the Synod's directors of Christian outreach, that God would guide their efforts to support a congregation's or organization's outreach and evangelism work.*

6. *for directors of family life ministry. Ask that God would guide their vital work to strengthen the families in our congregations.*

7. *for teachers and administrators in Lutheran schools, that they would model Christ-like behavior*

for students and incorporate the Gospel message into each and every day.

8. *for directors of parish music, that they would find joy and satisfaction in their work of enhancing the worship life of the church.*

9. *for the Synod's commissioned lay ministers, who work under a pastor's guidance to support a church's efforts in evangelism, Christian education, parish administration and other areas that are God-pleasing.*

10. *for missionaries, who leave home and family to work in faraway lands. Ask God to give them strength, wisdom and protection as they do His work.*

11. *for those involved in Specialized Pastoral Ministry, who serve the ill, imprisoned, aging, troubled and isolated. Give thanks for their service to people in the midst of tragedy or crisis.*

12. *for military chaplains, who put themselves in harm's way to minister to members of our armed forces. Ask God to keep them safe as they share Christ's love with our servicemen and women.*

13. *for the health and well-being of all church workers, that they would utilize opportunities for rest and renewal.*

14. *with thanksgiving for every person who volunteers in a congregation as an elder, an usher, a Sunday school teacher or in another capacity. Praise God that He calls His people to support full-time church workers in a variety of ways.*

15. *with thankful hearts for the blessings God gives to His people through full-time church workers. These faithful men and women care for us, pray for us and teach us the Word of God.*

THE CHURCH — AUGUST 16-31

“The Church is the congregation of saints [Psalm 149:1] in which the Gospel is purely taught and the Sacraments are correctly administered. For the true unity of the Church it is enough to agree about the doctrine of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments” (Augsburg Confession VII).

Remember God’s work through the Church as you pray:

16. *with thanksgiving to God for raising up voices in every age and generation as He continues to call people to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

17. *that God would raise up in our own time faithful pastors and church workers who will preach Jesus Christ crucified and risen, for the edification of His people and for the sake of those not yet of the faith.*

18. *with thanksgiving that God does His bidding through unworthy and unlikely people. Pray that He would keep us from thinking more highly of ourselves than we ought and keep us focused on the proclamation of the Gospel.*

19. *that God would give us faith so that we may not fear in times of trouble nor fall away in times of prosperity.*

20. *for the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above to be given to us, so that*

God’s Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edification of Christ’s holy people.

21. *that the Church would work together in God-pleasing unity and that their joint efforts would further God’s kingdom.*

22. *for Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind.; and other institutions that prepare servants for the Church, that they would properly prepare men and women to serve God and His Church.*

23. *with thanksgiving for every person and organization that supports the work of the Church. The prayers and financial support of God’s people enable the Gospel to be shared at home and around the world.*

24. *for young people, that the Lord would lead them to serve Him and bless His people.*

25. *for us, that when we are tempted to focus on the things*



of the world or on ourselves, God would direct our attention to His Word and will.

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

27. *with thankful hearts to God for sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross and rise again so that we might have the forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life.*

28. *that we would joyfully study the Sacred Scriptures as a light to our path and gratefully make*



use of the Lutheran Confessions to help us understand and apply the Scriptures.

29. *with thanksgiving for shepherds in the Church’s history and pastors today, whom God uses to guide His flock.*

30. *that God would keep all Christians from being led astray by false teachings, and instead bring them to a deeper knowledge of Him.*

31. *that we all would be given a trust in the saving Gospel and a great passion to spread its joy with others in our lives.*

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

