

**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**

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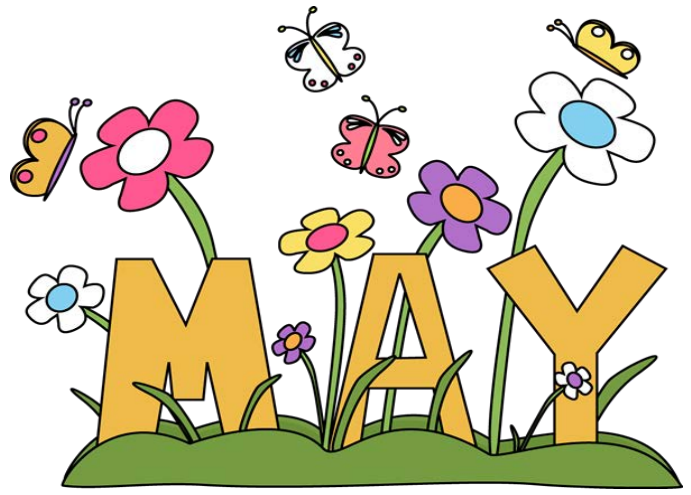
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**Pianist**

As Scheduled

**Caring, Sharing, Serving, Reaching**



2026

## MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- May 3 Fifth Sunday after Easter w/HC
- May 10 Sixth **Sunday after Easter (Mother's Day)** w/HC
- May 17 Seventh Sunday after Easter w/75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
- May 24 Pentecost Sunday Joint Service w/HC and Guest Pastor Rev. Dr. Lucus Woodford, District President
- May 31 Holy Trinity Sunday w/HC

### The Ascension of Our Lord (May 14)



Ascended Lord, You send the Holy Spirit to work through Your Word and Sacraments in Your church. Keep the church today in Your peace. Though Your kingdom comes even without my prayer, I pray that it would come to me today also as I hear, read, and meditate on Your Word. Keep me mindful each day to thank You for Your mercy and to look eagerly for Your return in glory. Amen.

# The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

## LCMS Stewardship Ministry | Newsletter article – May 2026

### *A Better Way*

*Originally published in May 2023*

**Our Savior calls us to follow Him in generosity. “For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you” (John 13:15). We cannot give our lives for the salvation of the world, of course. Praise God, that job is already done! But with hearts full of thanksgiving for what Jesus has given us, we can follow His example of generous giving. And Jesus’ generosity is not merely an example. Our Lord also commands us to act according to our gifts: “The one who contributes, [let him give] in generosity” (Rom. 12:8).**

So, when we bring offerings to the Lord, we should strive to heed His command and follow the pattern He has established for us. Jesus did not give us leftovers. He gave His best. We should not give leftovers, either, but the first and best of what He has given us. Jesus did not give as an afterthought — He gave according to the plan of salvation God established from the foundation of the world. So, when it comes to our own offerings, we should make a thoughtful plan to give generously, in proportion to the way He has blessed us. Like the Macedonian Christians, who gave according to their ability, and even beyond their ability (2 Cor. 8:3), we should honor the Lord by giving a generous portion of the income that God provides us.

We should also give freely, just as Jesus gave freely for us. There is no compulsion involved in our works of love and our offerings to the Lord. We do not give grudgingly, but willingly and cheerfully, **each “as he has decided in his heart,” as the Lord says** (2 Cor. 9:7). There is no New Testament ceremonial law involved here. Rather, we are free to give as generously as our Savior has given for us!

In the same way, our Lord teaches us to give generously out of our love for Him and for our neighbor. **Jesus shows us that genuine love is always love “in deed” (1 John 3:18). It is love that sees our neighbor in need and gives generously to help him. It is love that hears the Word of the Lord and does what it says. If we truly love, we give generously. If we give without love, our giving is not truly following Jesus.**

Finally, we follow Jesus in generosity when we support His Gospel ministry and other works of mercy. The people of Israel gave generously to construct and support the operation of the tabernacle, for that was the place where the Lord received the Old Testament sacrifices, through which He bestowed the forgiveness of sins on His people. So, they gave abundantly, so abundantly that they had to be told to stop giving! (Ex. 36:5–6). In the same way, we should bring generous offerings to support the **Lord’s work. We support our congregations in the preaching of His Word, Baptism and the Lord’s Supper, which bestow His gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation, and we take care of those who are poor and needy.**

Our Savior calls us to follow His example in generous giving. Let us then, with thankful hearts, rededicate ourselves to following Him in generosity



# From the Desk of Pastor Matthew Cephus May 2026 Newsletter

## Now What?

Sometimes in life, having gone through a significant milestone event, after it's over we may ask ourselves, "Now what?" Where do we go from here? What's next? I think there is a bit of this in the closing chapter of John's Gospel. John chapter 20 is about Jesus' resurrection from the dead and his appearing to the disciples. [John 21 ESV - Jesus Appears to Seven Disciples - Bible Gateway](#) continues the story of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances. It begins like this:

*After this [Jesus' appearance to the disciples and Thomas] Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.*

We're not told why Peter had this itching to get into a boat and go fishing. He was, after all, a fisherman by trade, and so maybe this got him back into what was familiar territory for him – sort of Peter's happy place. He had spent the last three years as one of Jesus' disciples, going all over Judea and Galilee following Jesus. Together with James and John, Peter was part of that inner circle among the twelve. With the other disciples, he had experienced the trauma of his Teacher's betrayal and arrest; his trial and death by crucifixion; his own denial of Jesus when he was on the hot seat and being questioned by people who recognized him as one of Jesus' followers. And now his resurrection from the dead! After all of this, Peter's world must've been spinning like crazy! Maybe he just needed to clear his head by going back to his comfort zone, which was fishing. After all, this was the very thing he was doing when Jesus first called him and his brother, Andrew, to "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" ([Mark 1:16-18](#)). So now, everything had come full circle for Peter as he returned to being out on the water. And Peter wasn't alone. As we read above, there were other disciples who went with him. It was sort of a guys' night out there on the Sea of Tiberias, one of the names for that body of water we usually call the Sea of Galilee.

After all that Peter and the other disciples had been through, I wonder if they had any "Now what?" thoughts running through their minds. Yes, Jesus had suffered and died upon the cross, and now he had risen from the dead – as shocking and hard to believe as this was for those first disciples. They had seen him with their own eyes. They saw with their own eyes the wounds in his hands and side. They had actually touched his resurrected body. Did Peter think that with Jesus now risen from the dead, that his days of following Jesus were over? Did he think that because of this he needed to return to fishing as his back-up plan? Scripture doesn't tell us what Peter's thoughts were, so we can only imagine. But we can easily see ourselves in Peter's place as he grapples with this new reality of Jesus' resurrection and what this meant for him. The questions are real: Where do we go from here? What's next?

Those questions would soon be answered by the risen Christ who stood on the shore at break of day, calling out to the men in the boat: "Children, do you have any fish?" The original language is more descriptive and is phrased in such a way as to reflect a negative answer. We still do this today: "You haven't caught any fish, have you?" Jesus already knew the answer, but he wanted Peter and the others to tell him. "No," they reply. And then Jesus tells them to cast their net on the right side of the boat, and to their utter amazement, they find that they aren't even able to haul the net in! It is literally overflowing with fish, and we're even told the exact number and quality: 153 *large* fish! All of this

mirrors Luke's account of Jesus' calling Peter to be his disciple, and so you might want to read [Luke 5:1-11 ESV - Jesus Calls the First Disciples - On - Bible Gateway](#). After feeding his disciples breakfast on the beach, Jesus then restores Peter in a three-fold way that corresponds with Peter's three-fold denial of Jesus in the courtyard of the high priest after Jesus' arrest. "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Jesus asks Peter this three times. Twice here, Jesus uses the word *agape* for love when he asks Peter. This word is used in the New Testament to differentiate God's love from human love. *Agape* carries with it the sacrificial, self-giving meaning of God's saving love for us that is made known in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. In reply to Jesus' questions, Peter replies using a different word for love (*philos*), meaning the bonds of love between friends. Not the same, which means that Peter (like us) still had a lot to learn from Jesus.

In this Easter season as we celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord (Thursday, May 14), our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration as a local church (Sunday, May 17), and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (Sunday, May 24), we may ask ourselves: "Now what?" What does the good news of Jesus' life and ministry, his death and resurrection, mean for my life and the life of the world? After Jesus had this conversation with Peter, it closed with Jesus telling Peter to do what He first called Peter to do: "Follow me" ([John 21:19](#)). That's our calling today as well: follow Jesus as He leads us through the ups and downs of this life to life eternal. Jesus promises that He himself will be with us always, even to the end of the world ([Matthew 28:20](#)). So, now what? Where do we go from here? What's next? We go into the daily tasks of life in all the places where God has called us to be and to serve. Our homes and families, our places of work, learning, and recreation – all of these places are our mission field where we are to follow Jesus, serving as his hands and feet and mouth. It's where we get to help people understand that we have a God with *agape* love vs. *philos* love. We worship and serve a God who gave his own Son to suffer and die in our place, and then raised him from the dead, assuring us that our sins are all forgiven and that we have a place in his kingdom as his beloved children.

We may not always have a clear-cut, specific answer about "Now what?" in life. The Lord often chooses to reveal "Now what?" to us only in smaller, bite-sized chunks that we can more easily digest. If He were to reveal the *whole* "Now what?", we would likely be so overwhelmed and dumbfounded that we would just drop in our tracks. So, God gives us what we can handle, all by his amazing grace. May the Lord help us to see where He is at work in the world and follow where He is leading as we ask that question, "Now what?"



# Easter at Gloria Dei



# Easter at Gloria Dei



# Easter at Gloria Dei



## Surge in Fraudulent Social Security Statement Emails

The Social Security Administration (SSA) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is warning the public about a significant increase in government imposter scam emails that falsely claim to provide access to **a recipient's Social Security statement. Clicking links within the email may lead to identity theft, financial loss, or compromised data.**

These messages are not from Social Security. Anyone who receives one should delete it immediately and report it.

**Official SSA communications originate from email addresses ending in ".gov."** These scam emails are designed to appear legitimate and often use official-looking language, logos, colors, and formatting to mislead recipients into clicking links or downloading attachments. Once clicked, the links may install malware or direct victims to fake websites intended to steal personal and financial information.

Common Warning Signs Include:

- Messages claiming your Social Security statement is ready to download
- Embedded links or attachments labeled as statements or documents
- Messages creating urgency or pressure to act immediately
- **Sender addresses that do not end in ".gov"**

What the Public Should Do:

- Do not click links or open attachments in unsolicited messages.
- Do not respond or provide personal information.
- To access or set up your Social Security account, go directly to [ssa.gov/myaccount](https://ssa.gov/myaccount).
- Report suspicious emails immediately.

If You are a Victim:

Individuals who clicked a link, downloaded an attachment, or provided personal information should take immediate action:

- Stop all communication with the suspected scammer.
- Contact financial institutions to protect accounts.
- Report the incident to the SSA OIG at [oig.ssa.gov/report](https://oig.ssa.gov/report).
- **File a complaint with the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at [ic3.gov](https://ic3.gov).**
- Report the scam to the Federal Trade Commission at [ftc.gov](https://ftc.gov).
- If financial loss occurs, contact local law enforcement.

Reminder:

The SSA and SSA OIG will never:

- Demand immediate payment
- Send unsolicited attachments or direct download links
- **Threaten legal action, arrest, or benefit suspension because you don't agree to pay immediately**
- Ask you to pay with gift cards, prepaid debit cards, wire transfers, cryptocurrency, cash, or gold bars
- Offer to move your money to protect it

SSA OIG urges the public to remain vigilant and share this information with friends, family, and community members, particularly older adults, who are frequently targeted by these scams.

For more information on Social Security-related scams or to report suspected fraud, visit [ssa.gov/scam](https://ssa.gov/scam).



## May/June Spring Offering

The 2026 May/Spring Offering will go to Trinity First Lutheran School located at 1115 East 19th Street, Minneapolis. **Use your "May Mission Offering" envelopes to make a donation.**

Trinity First School is located in the heart of Minneapolis and provides a Christ-based education to children through the eighth grade. The school sees itself as a family and joyfully gives thanks to God for each child He leads to their school.

The School works to be known as a high-quality educational center for children, their families, and the community. They strive to support and encourage learners to become productive citizens of our country here on earth, and ultimately fellow citizens of Heaven!

Students and their families will experience this school as a growing family that learns together, supports one another, serves together, and shares the love of Jesus with one another.

Trinity First is 100% faith focused and faith is integrated into everything they do. 70% of their students are on full scholarships. With class sizes averaging 15 students, they strive to meet each **students' needs.**

## Mark Your Calendars!

### Pentecost Sunday is May 24 with a Potluck Luncheon

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the joint service on Sunday, May 24 celebrating Pentecost Sunday. The 10:30 am service will be followed by a potluck luncheon. Bring your favorite mouth-watering dish to share. Sign-up sheet for food can be found on front lobby bulletin board.

*Please note the later start time for this service.*



Gloria Dei will participate in the Annual Northeast Garage Sales!

If you have clutter you would like to donate to the garage sale, now is the time.

**It's not too early to start gathering those unwanted items.**

As in the past few years, Mary Piper is planning the garage sale in conjunction with the Fifteenth Annual 2026 NEighbors Garage Sale! The sale will run Thursday, Friday and Saturday, June 18 – 20. If you have **items you would like to donate to be sold at the garage sale, please bring them to Mary's house** on or before Sunday, June 14 (2955 Benjamin Street NE, leave them at the side garage door). All proceeds will benefit Gloria Dei.

The garage sale is always a great community event. If you have an interest in helping with any aspect of the sale, please let the office know OR speak with Mary directly – many volunteers are needed to make this sale a success. All help is welcome – a little or a lot!

All items not sold will be donated to the local area thrift stores.

***The Fifteenth Annual NEighbors Sale Days are Friday, June 19 and Saturday, June 20  
8 am to 5 pm (hours may vary at individual locations). Rain Date Sunday, June 21***



## **POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY CONCERT**

A special concert celebrating Polish Constitution Day will take place at Holy Cross Catholic Church, 1621 University Avenue NE, on Saturday, May 2, 7 pm. Presented on the eve of the historic Constitution of May 3, 1791, the program will feature the Holy Cross Choir and a chamber orchestra performing sacred music by Polish composers spanning more than four centuries. The concert explores Poland's rich choral tradition from the early Baroque period to the modern era, with several works rarely heard in the United States. Free.

### **Celebrating with Purpose**

On Saturday, May 2, **Grumpy's NE, 2200** Fourth Street NE from 1-8 pm, outdoors, rain or shine, will host a food drive to benefit The Food Group, this is a pay-what-you-can-afford, cash-only event (suggested donation is \$20). **Grumpy's will supply food, Country Mike, Rude Girl, Whiskey Rock 'n Roll Club, Heartless, Trompe le Monde and Cars for Skids** will provide the music.

### **LNENA Annual Meeting**

Hear updates from elected officials, learn about upcoming projects, and have the opportunity to vote in the Board elections. Rep. Sydney Jordan, Sen. Doron Clark, MPRB Commissioner Dan Engelhart, Ward 1 Council Member Elliott Payne and Ward 3 Council Member Michael Rainville will attend. Saturday, May 2 at 3 pm, Sociable Cider Werks, 1500 Fillmore Street NE.

### **Flower sale at Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church**

**Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church, 1701 St. Anthony Parkway, will hold its Annual Flower Sale over Mother's Day weekend, Thursday, May 7, 12-7 pm; Friday, May 8, 9 am-7 pm; Saturday, May 9, 10 am-4 pm and Sunday, May 10, 10 am-2 pm.** Plants supplied from Pletschers Greenhouse. Saturday will feature "Family Fun Day on Ulysses" with hot dogs, sodas and fun activities for kids while you shop. Portion of proceeds go to Little Kitchen Food Shelf. Info: [mountcarmelmpls.org](http://mountcarmelmpls.org).

### **Friends School Plant Sale**

#### **Mother's Day Weekend, Minnesota State Fair Grounds – Grandstand Building**

Friday, May 8, 9 am – 8 pm

Saturday, May 9, 10 am – 6 pm

Sunday, May 10, 10 am – 2 pm (where everything left is 1/3 off)

**Every May since 1989, on Mother's Day weekend, the Friends School, a kindergarten through 8th grade Quaker school in St. Paul's Midway neighborhood.,** has put on what has become one of the biggest fundraising plant sales in the U.S.

This three-day sale, almost entirely run by volunteers, offers more than 2,000 plant varieties at affordable prices. And every purchase helps support a great cause — the Friends School of Minnesota. Some call it the great Minnesota get-together for gardeners!

The plant sale's planners have worked hard to make sure their plants have not been treated with neonicotinoids, common pesticides that are now suspected of killing bees and other pollinators. Friends School Plant Sale is committed to doing everything we can to bring you plants grown without the systemic pesticides called neonicotinoids. Until neonics are banned, we will continue to ask about neonic exposure in the plants that we order, particularly new plants from new growers, and to refuse to sell any plant we have concerns about.

*On Sunday, all remaining plants are 1/3 off.*

### **Drive-Through Community Dinners**

St. **Timothy's** Lutheran Church Drive Thru Community Dinner is Tuesday, May 12 – 5-6:30 pm (or until the food is gone). Free and open to all. Please spread the word!!

Career and Resource Fair presented by East Side Neighborhood Services

**Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM – 12 PM**

ESNS Gym located at 1700 Second Street NE Minneapolis

Questions? Contact Lisa Cain, 612-596-1990, [lisa.cain2@hennepin.us](mailto:lisa.cain2@hennepin.us) or Cindy Larson, 952-703-7758, [cynthia.larson@state.mn.us](mailto:cynthia.larson@state.mn.us)

St. Anthony Community Services May Community Luncheon

Lunch provided by Culver's. St Anthony High School Choir will perform. Thursday, May 14, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, St Anthony Community Services, 3301 Silver Lake Road NE. Cost: \$15; registration required 612-706-1176.

### Free Community Meal - May 14 @ 5 – 6 pm

Faith United Methodist Church, 2708 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE, holds a free Community dinner every second Thursday of the month, from 5-6 pm. Everyone is welcome. Upcoming dates are May 14, June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8, November 12 and December 10. Mark your calendars.

### *Art-a-Whirl® 2026 at California Building*

The California Building will open for Art-a-Whirl® 2026, presented by the NE Minneapolis Arts Association (NEMAA), on Friday, May 15, 5-10 pm, Saturday, May 16, 12-8 pm, and Sunday, May 17, 12-5 pm. The event will feature a range of open art studios, guest artists, activities, and food offerings. Patrons will be able to visit more than 50 art studios, get hands on with demos, classes and community art projects, and listen to live music from a variety of local musicians. A special focus on ICE Out and Community Building will be present throughout many of the studios. Food and drink will be available from the on-site café Mojo Coffee Gallery, including coffee, delicious pastries and lunch options. Additionally, Tacos Los 4 Carnales MN will be serving Mexican cuisine from their food truck outside the building. The event is free, though some activities and demos may require prior registration and fees. Details: [www.californiabuilding.com](http://www.californiabuilding.com).

### *Alight-A-Whirl*

Alight-A-Whirl is an art sale – the weekend of Art-A-Whirl – benefiting refugee families in Minnesota and around the world. The sale is sponsored by Alight (formerly American Refugee Committee), a Minnesota-based international humanitarian organization serving four million refugees and displaced people. The sale will be held May 16 and 17 at 1325 Quincy Street NE, Suite A1.

### **RECURRING COMMUNITY WELLNESS WALKS**

Adults looking to connect with nature, meet new friends and move their bodies are invited to join free Wellness Walks at Silverwood Park. Walks are held twice a month: the second Wednesday of the month at 10 am and the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5 pm, hosted by Amber Hanson, LN, CNS of Whole You Nutrition. For more details and to secure a spot, please register online at <https://l.btrr.to/vTrVs> or email [amber@wholeyounutrition.com](mailto:amber@wholeyounutrition.com).

### Plant Swap Party - May 30 @ 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Graco Park, 810 Sibley Street NE, Saturday, May 30, 12-4 pm. Bring something to trade—plants, cuttings, seedlings, seeds, pots or tools—or just come by and see what you find. Use the repotting station. Not into plants? Hands-on art and craft activities will be held throughout the afternoon, visit the photo booth. Bonus: MPRB will give away a limited number of flower, vegetable, and herb plants—first come, first served.



### The Lutheran Witness

If you would like to receive The Lutheran Witness magazine mailed directly to your home, please let the office know before May 31. The cost is \$27.82 (\$2.31/per issue) for 11 magazines (June/July are a combined edition). This price does include the District News Insert). You will be invoiced through the church office. Thank you!

### Main Street Living TV Program

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9 am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with an episode of This is the Life. The worship service will begin at 9:30 am featuring a guest pastor each week.

On Comcast this is channel 10

For more information or to watch the program, go to [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com) and select the "Twin Cities" tab.

### A Message from Our Treasurer . . .

We recently received some inquiries regarding making donations to special projects. The Building Maintenance Fund is always a good choice. This fund is used for the many smaller building needs that arise. Your continued contributions are appreciated.

Thank you for your generous giving!

*Dale Raschek, Gloria Dei Treasurer*



## 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 has served God's people in full-time ministry since 2007 in Madison and, most recently, at The CORE in Appleton, Wisconsin. He also 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](http://www.timeofgrace.org/subscribe)**

## THE LUTHERAN HOUR

**WCCO 830 AM Radio**

**Heard each Sunday morning at 6:05 a.m.**

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

May 3 "Planning Is Everything" Psalm 146:3-4  
Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)  
Offer up your plans to God in prayer and see what God does with them. Let your plans become prayers that lead you to praise.

May 10 "The King Who Reigns" Luke 24:36-53  
Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Jason Broge  
If Easter tells us that Jesus the King has won, then Ascension tells us the King is reigning, and His reign is good.

May 17 "**Don't Despise Small Beginnings**" Acts 1:14  
Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler  
Our small efforts to become the people Jesus saved us to be might seem insignificant, but small efforts compound.

May 24 "Misery Loves Company" Acts 2:38  
Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler  
It's often said, "Misery loves company." Christ comes to us in our misery with God's love and mercy.

## OFFICIAL ACTS

**April – None**



# May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	2 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
3 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter 10 am Worship w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship  6 pm NA	4 <b>Pastor's Day Off</b> Church Office Closed  7pm Beginners Alanon (downstairs) 7 pm AIAnon (upstairs)	5	6  11 am Bible Study  6 pm Neighborhood Block Meeting	7	8 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	9 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
10 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter <b>MOTHERS' DAY</b> 10 am Worship w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship  6 pm NA	11 <b>Pastor's Day Off</b> Church Office Closed  7pm Beginners Alanon (downstairs) 7 pm AIAnon (upstairs)	12	13  11 am Bible Study	14 <i>Ascension of Our Lord</i>	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 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter 10 am GDLC 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Service 11 am 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Presentation 12 pm Luncheon  6 pm NA	18 <b>Pastor's Day Off</b> Church Office Closed  7pm Beginners Alanon (downstairs) 7 pm AIAnon (upstairs)	19 5 – 7 pm GDLC Council Meeting	20  11 am Bible Study	21 6 pm Neighborhood Block Meeting	22 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	23 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
24 Pentecost Sunday Joint Service 10:30 am Worship w/HC Guest Pastor Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford, President, Minnesota South District Followed by a Potluck Luncheon  6 pm NA	25 <b>Pastor's Day Off</b> Church Office Closed  <u>MEMORIAL DAY</u>  7pm Beginners Alanon (downstairs) 7 pm AIAnon (upstairs)	26	27  11 am Bible Study	28	29 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	30 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
31 The Holy Trinity 10 am Worship w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship  6 pm NA						



<b>May Birthdays</b>		<b>May Anniversaries</b>	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Kevin Morelli	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mike & Deb Panning
11 <sup>th</sup>	Karmon Christopherson, Tom Lyrenmann	18 <sup>th</sup>	Tom & Patty Lyrenmann
19 <sup>th</sup>	Wade Billmeyer	26 <sup>th</sup>	Larry Schlais & Wenda Schwoch
29 <sup>th</sup>	Andrew Panning, Pat Scott		

## MAY SERVANTS

**Elder: Daniel Carlson and Jason Matasovsky**

### Altar Care & Ushering

Sign up for Altar Care and Ushering on the church entry bulletin board for the Sunday(s) that work best for you.

You don't have to take the entire month, just one Sunday! Thank You ☺

### Counters

3<sup>rd</sup>     **Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli**  
 10<sup>th</sup>    **Tom and Patty Lyrenmann**  
 17<sup>th</sup>    **Shirley Holzinger and Verlayne Sather**  
 24<sup>th</sup>    **Sandy Westling and Tom Harris**  
 31<sup>st</sup>    **Dale Raschke and Wade Billmeyer**

### Candles

### Flowers

3<sup>rd</sup>  
 10<sup>th</sup>    Shirley Holzinger –  
           In Memory of Mom  
 17<sup>th</sup>  
 24<sup>th</sup>  
 31<sup>st</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup>  
 10<sup>th</sup>  
 17<sup>th</sup>  
 24<sup>th</sup>  
 31<sup>st</sup>





THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

# Pray For Us Calendar

## LCMS MISSIONARIES ON HOME SERVICE — MAY 1-15

Every other year, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's (LCMS) international missionaries spend approximately two months in the United States on "home service." During this time, they reconnect with the individuals, congregations and groups who support their mission work. Home service also gives them a period of rest and renewal and the chance to spend time with their families.

*Remember God's work through missionaries on home service as you pray:*

- 1.** for the LCMS missionary families who will be on home service. Ask the Lord to keep them safe during their travels.
- 2.** for God's hand to guide and bless the details and logistical arrangements that are a necessary part of missionary home service, such as transportation and housing.
- 3.** for missionary families to be able to visit as many congregations and other groups as possible, while managing their limited time in the United States.

- 4.** for the Lord to guide missionaries as they prepare their presentations. Ask Him to help them to share their stories and ministry news with those who have so faithfully supported their ministry.
- 5.** for missionary families. Pray that God would give emotional, physical and spiritual strength as they travel, share with supporters and meet new friends.
- 6.** for missionary children. Pray that God would provide them with the opportunity to know that they are a vital part of their family's ministry.
- 7.** that many congregations all over the United States would

*welcome missionaries into their churches for mission presentations, Sunday school, children's messages, celebration luncheons, Bible studies and other activities.*

- 8.** that congregations and other groups would experience a revitalized interest in praying for missionaries and supporting their work, especially after visiting with them face-to-face and hearing about what God is accomplishing through them.
- 9.** that as missionaries share their experiences, the listeners would consider serving as a missionary themselves — in a short-term, long-term or career capacity.
- 10.** for the families of visiting missionaries, that they would enjoy their time together and mutually encourage one another.
- 11.** for God to comfort and sustain the missionaries who are not able to see family and friends in the United States this year. May the

Holy Spirit comfort them with His presence and assurance of God's calling to serve far from home.

- 12.** that missionaries would have an easy transition back to life in the United States — even for a short time during home service — with minimal effects of reverse culture shock.
- 13.** that the Lord would raise up supporters for missionaries who are struggling to finding the resources necessary for their ministry.
- 14.** with thanksgiving for the many forms of support and the joys the Lord provides to missionary families as they serve Him.
- 15.** that the conversations started during home service would continue long after the missionary has returned to the mission field. Pray that through ongoing communication, missionaries and supporters would encourage one another.

## PARTNER CHURCHES — MAY 16-31

The LCMS has 38 partner churches around the world. A partner church is a church body with which the LCMS has full altar and pulpit fellowship. Many LCMS partner churches also are members of the International Lutheran Council, a worldwide association of confessional Lutheran church bodies. Some LCMS partner churches came into existence through LCMS-supported mission efforts, while others have historic roots that pre-date the LCMS or that are sourced in the mission efforts of other Lutheran church bodies.

*Remember God's work in His Church as you pray:*

**16.** *for all LCMS partner churches, some of which only have a handful of congregations.* Pray that they would never feel alone in their service to Christ and His Church.

**17.** *for LCMS partner churches in Latin America and the Caribbean.* Pray that God's Word would continue to spread throughout these countries to bring the Body of Christ together in fellowship and to be witnesses to His love.

**18.** *for LCMS partner churches in Africa.* Pray that God would strengthen Lutheran Christians in this region to carry out their work for His name's sake.

**19.** *for LCMS partner churches in Asia,* that God would guide and strengthen Lutheran Christians

in this region, especially in areas where it is difficult or dangerous to do His work.

**20.** *for LCMS partner churches in Eurasia.* Pray that God would continue to use His Word as a light to those in darkness and as a stronghold for the life of His Church.

**21.** *with thanksgiving for all the missionaries who serve partner churches,* that they would remain faithful in their tasks and be witnesses to the Gospel through acts of mercy.

**22.** *for those who serve in leadership positions in LCMS partner churches around the world,* as they guide, nurture and shepherd their people.

**23.** *for the laypeople of LCMS partner churches around the world,* that they would be fulfilled by God's Word and Sacraments.



**24.** *that God would continue to raise up faithful servants for His Church in locations around the world.*

**25.** *for the Lutheran church bodies around the world interested in fellowship with the LCMS.* Pray that God would guide the consideration process according to His will.

**26.** *in thanksgiving for those who pray continually for those who serve where spreading God's Word is difficult or dangerous.*

**27.** *for Lutheran churches around the world that are dealing with strife between their members.* Pray that the Lord would guide them to a peaceful resolution that would strengthen their witness to the community.

**28.** *for the Lutheran churches in Eurasia as they seek to minister*

*to the refugees in their midst.* Pray for safety for both the church workers and the refugees.

**29.** *for all projects currently going on in LCMS partner church bodies,* that each one would have the volunteers and resources necessary to carry out the work of the church as it shows mercy and provides physical and spiritual care for people around the world.

**30.** *for safe travel between and within countries in each world region.* Pray that pastors, missionaries, medical teams and all who travel to assist partner churches would be kept safe and healthy, that the Gospel might be proclaimed to the far corners of creation.

**31.** *for all those still living in darkness,* that the Gospel will be their light and life.

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