



Access the entire church calendar from the home page by clicking on the calendar button.

You can then navigate not only to the current month but upcoming months.

Living Christ Lutheran Church's Vision:

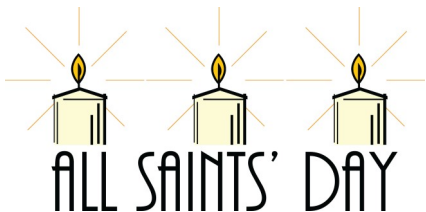


*Embracing Hearts —
Transforming Lives —
Sharing Jesus' Love*

Sunday, October 25th –
Communion Service at 10 am



Sunday, November 1st
Communion Service at 10 am



**November
14th
4 pm**
Christmas In
November
Packing

Nov. 22nd 11:15 am
Congregational Meeting



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The Living Letters

October 2026

You Do Not Have to Earn God's Approval

How Much Are You Worth?

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." — Ephesians 2:8–9

How much are you worth?

That can be a dangerous question because the world measures worth with paychecks, likes, or account balances, but God's view is different.

You learn very early that performance matters. Do well in school and you get a good grade. Work hard, and perhaps you will get a raise or promotion. Do a good job, and someone tells you, "Well done." We become accustomed to thinking, "If I do enough, I will receive something in return."

When you consider your relationship with God, remember that His love is unconditional, which can bring you peace and reassurance.

You begin to wonder: *Have I been good enough? Have I prayed enough? Have I attended church enough? Have I given enough? Have I done enough good things to please God?*

God's Law gives you an uncomfortable answer. No.

If your relationship with God depended upon your performance, no one could stand before Him. You have not loved God with your whole heart. You have not loved your neighbors as yourself. You sinned in your thoughts, words, and actions. No amount of good works can erase your sin.

But then comes one of the most beautiful words in Scripture:

Grace.

Paul writes, "For by grace you have been saved through faith."

Notice what Paul does not say. He doesn't say, "By grace you have been given another opportunity to prove yourself." He doesn't say, "God has done His part; now you need to do yours." He doesn't even say, "Try harder, and perhaps you will be saved." (continued on page 4)



LIVING CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Embracing hearts. Transforming lives. Sharing Jesus' love.

**Worship with us
in-person or online
every Sunday at 10 am.**



inside...

Pg 3 All Saints Day Form
Pg 4 Jews for Jesus Missionary visit
Pg 6 Christmas in November

October Worship Previews and Notes

10/4: Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Assigned Readings: Isaiah 5:1-7
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46



10/11: Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Assigned Readings: Isaiah 25:6-9
Philippians 4:4-13
Matthew 22:1-14

10/18: Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Assigned Readings: Isaiah 45:1-7
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22



10/25: Reformation Day with Holy Communion

Assigned Reading: Revelation 14:6-7
Romans 3:19-28
John 8:31-36 or Matthew 11:12-19

MODERN SERVICE Our next Modern Worship Service will be Sunday, November 22nd, 10:00 am. This is a reminder that every fourth Sunday of the month we will gather for Modern Worship in place of our Blended Service at Living Christ Lutheran Church. All are invited to join us for an uplifting service filled with contemporary modern songs, meaningful worship, and time together in God's Word. It will be a joyful opportunity to praise the Lord in a slightly different style that is modern yet distinctly Lutheran, proclaiming Christ and His promises. We hope you will come and worship with us — and feel free to invite a friend! Due to Reformation Sunday, there will not be a Modern Service in October.



THOSE SERVING US THIS MONTH

Altar Guild:

October - Laura

Communion/Pastoral Assistant:

10/4 Marty
10/11 Art
10/18 Marty
10/25 Art

Lay Readers

10/4 Marty
10/11 Gilda
10/18 Smitha
10/25 Becky7



LCD Projector:

10/4 Patty
10/11 Lynne H.
10/18 Rita
10/25 Smitha

Live Streaming:

10/4 George S.
10/11 Wendy
10/18 Lynne R.
10/25 Wendy

Ushers:

10/4 Jack and Smitha
10/11 Fred and Art
10/18 Bob and George R.
10/25 Jack and Marty

Ushers & Greeters



Welcomer

10/4 Laura
10/11 Nancy
10/18 Laura
10/25 Nancy

November 1st— All Saints' Day

While all believers in Christ in heaven and on earth are His saints, on this day the Church remembers all of God's saints who have died and now see God face to face. Someday we will see God face to face and experience the glory of the Lord. What an awesome day that will be!

Living Christ will be having prayer at the altar for All Saints' Day and commemorate all those Christians who have faithfully departed and are with their Lord. If you have a saint (a baptized believer in Christ) that you would like to remember, please complete the form and turn it into the church office or put it in the offering plate.

Your

name: _____

Faithfully departed: _____

Relationship: _____



(continued from page 1)

He says, "You have been saved."

Paul emphasizes that this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, encouraging you to feel grateful and humbled by His grace.

A gift is different from a paycheck. A paycheck is something you earn. A gift is something someone gives you.

God gives eternal life not because you earned it, but because Jesus Christ lived perfectly, carried your sins, and rose again for you.

That is grace.

So, how much are you worth?

Perhaps that's the wrong question.

The Gospel doesn't direct you to calculate your value by looking at yourself. It directs you to look at Christ.

Look at the cross and see not what you have done, but what God has done for you, filling you with hope and trust in His love.

There you see not what you have done for God, but what God has done for you.

Your salvation isn't based upon the size of your bank account, your accomplishments, your failures, your age, your health, or what other people think about you. It isn't even based upon how successful you think you have been as a Christian.

"By grace you have been saved through faith."

There is nothing to boast about because there is nothing left for you to earn.

There is only a gift to receive.

And that gift is Jesus Christ Himself—for you.

In Christ,

Pastor Bill

*...by grace
you
have
been
saved
Ephesians 2:5
1989*



Missionary Visit

JEWS FOR JESUS MISSIONARY VISIT Laura Barron, who leads their outreach to Haredi (ultra-Orthodox Jewish) women, will be in the Chicago area at the end of October. She would love to share a Message from the Word and ministry update with our congregation. She will be here Tuesday, October 27th at 11 am. A light lunch will be served after her message.

Brief bio of Laura

Laura has served as a missionary with Jews for Jesus since 1989. Raised in a secular Jewish home, she came to faith in Jesus as a young teenager after being invited to church by a friend. Over more than three decades of ministry, she has served in South Africa, Canada, and Israel, earned a master's degree in missiology with an emphasis in Jewish studies, and now co-leads Jews for Jesus' outreach to the Haredim (Ultra-Orthodox Jews), one of the world's least-reached Jewish people groups.

She brings a compelling personal testimony, biblical encouragement, and firsthand insight into what God is doing today among the Jewish people.

Any questions, see Nancy

November Congregational Meeting- November 22, 11:15 am

Do you have questions? At our spring congregational meeting, several questions came up that we did not have sufficient information with us to answer in detail at that time. They were addressed in a follow-up meeting, but I would like to be better prepared this time. The board will be reporting to you on our activities and presenting a budget for next year, but we don't know what you want to know. Please talk with Becky or Marty or Dale by November 1 to request any topics you would like covered. You can also email Becky. We want to be sure to address your concerns. Thank you.



Many, many thanks to everyone who helped with our Wellness Wednesday series this year, especially Kathy and Jen. We had 10-12 or so at each session, and everyone was very enthusiastic about what they came away with. If you

have suggestions for topics for next summer, please let either of them or Becky know.

Here is the list of officers.

Elders - Art

Marty

Board President - Becky

Vice President - Marty

Secretary - Dale

Treasurer - Fred

Directors at Large - Patty - education, fellowship, worship

Smitha - stewardship, communications

Rita - Christian service, outreach



Training Lutheran Pastors in West Africa Mite Goal \$86,000 2026-2028 Biennium

Received as of August 31, 2026 \$ 16,747.65

Students selected by their church body will attend training for the Pastoral Ministry. In countries where witch doctors, Muslims, animism, prosperity preachers, and a mix of all of these is prevalent, to have the pure Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed and taught is vital. The project also hopes to purchase Kindles or electronic books since paper books do not last long in this climate. A web portal will be established to allow teaching and completion of assignments between sessions. The project will send two LCMS Pastors to both Sierra Leone and Liberia to teach principles of doctrine and practice to Lutheran pastors in West Africa. This grant will cover the cost of travel, rental facilities for teaching, lodging, meals, and materials.



Mites Update: Mites are collected the first Sunday of every month at Living Christ. Mites will be collected Sunday, October 4th. \$98.60 was collected in September.



Remember those
who are less
fortunate



CHRISTMAS in NOVEMBER

**Saturday,
November 14th at 4 pm**
(in the church fellowship hall)

Saturday November 14th will be here soon. Donations for the gift bags are being collected in the basket lobby. Kids' coats will be purchased this month, hopefully at some good sales. There will be lists of items needed also in the Sunday bulletin.

We will start at **4 PM**, with dinner to follow after we have filled gift bags and matched kids' coats with accessories.

You are encouraged to invite friends and family; it makes for a fun night, working together and, of course, sharing a meal.

Thank you

Arlene



CHRISTMAS in November

Items to be donated this year:
(not super large size or sample size)

Donated gifts can be placed in basket outside of sanctuary.

Calendars
Deodorant
Dish Soap (small size only)
Greeting Cards
Hair Brush
Hand soap
Kleenex (boutique size)
Lotion
Shampoo
Toothpaste
Toothbrush
Word Find Books



Celebrating You

Celebrating You continues. I have placed sign-up sheets in the Narthex for coffee fellowship. Please continue to do coffee anytime and a treat if you like. If you need instructions on how to make coffee see me!! A big thank you to all who have helped with fellowship it is really appreciated!! Gods blessing.

Patty



Newsletter Help

The helpers for the newsletter for the next several months are listed here.

Thank you to
Gilda and
Linda for
your help
with the Sep-
tember news-
letter.



COMMUNICATIONS

Month	November	December	January
Articles due	10/10	11/10	12/10
Ready to proof	10/15	11/16	12/15
Proofer	Karen	Gilda	Becky
Ready to col- late	10/22-23	11/22-23	12/22-23
Collate team	George R.	Arlene	Linda



Game Night

Join us!

SATURDAY, October 17th

6:30pm to 9 pm

Join us for an evening of fun on Saturday, beginning at 6:30 p.m. We will play your favorite board games. We will have card games and other games including "Racko". Drinks and refreshments will be provided. So, come one, come all, and bring your friends!

See you then.

Any questions, see Rita

Christian Service

Ministries of the Month for October, 2026

The **Ministries of the Month** for October are two very different ministries in the Chicago-land area. One is St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Chicago. It is an old inner city church in Chicago that serves the poor by providing lunches and dinners. St. Matthew is the only Lutheran church in the community with a Gospel-oriented mission to all the homeless and unemployed. The Comedor San Mateo Soup Kitchen provides hot meals to feed the hungry and shares devotions to feed their souls. At the same time, it provides services in English and Spanish in a poverty stricken community of mostly Latino families. During frigid winter temperatures, the soup kitchen's volunteers continue to cook and serve hot meals to the homeless, unemployed, seniors and poor families. The soup kitchen serves 200+ meals twice a week even though donations are down. On any given day the soup kitchen is in operation, many people hear the Word of God and experience His love through the care and compassion of the volunteers and staff at El Comedor San Mateo.

The second ministry is Salam Christian Fellowship. Salam Christian Fellowship is a collaborative Gospel outreach ministry of Lutheran congregations of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and other partnering congregations, organizations, and individuals. Pastor Hesham Shehab serves as the ministries missionary and worship leader. The mission of Salam Christian Fellowship is to proclaim Jesus Christ crucified and risen from the dead, the Savior of the world, to Muslims from the Middle East and North Africa.

Please remember to lift up prayers for these ministries.

Nancy



Puzzle!

Write the words below in alphabetical order inside the squares. Then read down the second column of letters to complete the hidden phrase below.

FEAST, KHAKI, MOUTH,
ESSAY, LLAMA, ORBIT, CARRY,
UDDER, BRUSH, ITEMS,
~~APPLE~~, LEARN, CIDER



P

!

Answer: Praise the Lord!



Is it really October already? And what does October mean for you? Well for the Board of Directors, it is budget time! Yes, we need to be thinking about 2027 already. The chance for a smooth future is enhanced by careful

planning. As the Board gathers information to prepare a budget, each leader, including Board members and commission heads, gather their teams to assist in the planning process. The more thoughts that are shared, the more robust the planning.

So, as you are planning for 2027, how might you assist your church family by offering yourselves to the LORD? Romans chapter 12, verse 1 says, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers [and sisters], in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship." Here Paul is instructing the Romans about your life as a worship offering to God. Not simply the time you spend inside the church building, but time spent in prayer, in ministry (serving others) and in church work (serving your church family). Commissions need members to help plan and then deliver the time and effort to complete each plan. Worship needs volunteers to usher, read, greet, help with live streaming, for example. And we are always in need of new leadership, to assist the Board in reviewing past activities, managing current items, and considering new activities and outreach. Our elections for new Board members are next May 2027. Save the current Board from making calls. Offer your time and expertise in advance of the elections to assist the family at Living Christ Lutheran Church with continuing to be light into our community.

Sincerely, Marty, elder

Memorial Fund

The Memorial Fund of Living Christ is not only for when a dear one passes but also to honor someone. It can be a gift given to the church. A letter will be sent to the recipient and the giver.

All donations can be made:

- ◇ By check made out to LCLC and mailed to the church address or dropped in the offering plate.
- ◇ Made on-line at <https://livingchristlutheran.org/give/>

If a specific ministry of ours touches your heart (food pantry, Christian Service, Christmas in November, etc.) your donation can be restricted to that ministry by adding it to the memo line.

Arlene, Memorial Fund Chairperson

Memorials given::

By Laura in memory of John Im-lah
f

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Starting this month the Prayer Shawl Ministry will no longer be meeting on a regular basis. For some time now we have had only 3 active members. We will continue to knit, crochet and quilt at home in service to those in need.

Some of the projects we have supported in the past include hats and scarves for Christmas in November, lap blankets and hats for Phil's Friends, lap blankets for church members and friends. We have also sent seasonal cards to those members who are unable to attend services and monthly cards for Pastor's nursing home visits.

We plan to continue to support these efforts as we are able. We also hope to make baby blankets for the upcoming Diapers and Donuts event that supports Lutheran Child and Family Services.

If you are an at home crafter and are able to help us support any of these efforts, we encourage you to participate. We have a generous collection of yarn to share. Items can be brought to church and we will find a loving home for your creations. For additional information or questions contact Kathy or Lynne.





Happy Birthday to:

10/2 Lynne
A.J.
10/17 Marvin
10/20 Ed R.
10/22 Colin
10/23 Carol
10/26 Kevin
10/27 Laura
Smitha



**Advent Services-
Wednesdays 7 pm
Dec 2, Dec. 9 &
Dec. 16**

**Christmas Carol
Sing-Along
Saturday, Decem-
ber 5th 2pm**

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Ser-
vice, Dec. 24th 7
pm**

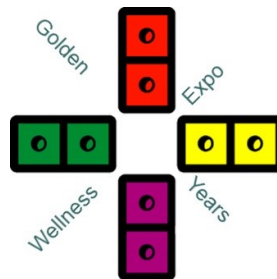
PLANNING AHEAD



Oct. 4	Mites collected after service Gift Card Orders placed
Oct. 7	Wed. Bible Class
Oct. 14	Wed. Bible Class
Oct. 17	Game Night
Oct. 20	BOD Meeting
Oct. 21	Wed. Bible Class
Oct. 25	Reformation Day Service
Oct. 28	Wed. Bible Class
Nov. 1	All Saint's Day Mites collected after the service Gift Card Orders placed
Nov. 14	Christmas in November
Nov. 17	BOD Meeting
Nov. 22	Congregational meeting
Nov. 25	Thanksgiving Eve Service
Nov. 28	Decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas
Dec. 2	Advent Service
Dec. 5	Christmas Sing-a-long
Dec. 9	Advent Service
Dec. 14	Lifeline Screening
Dec. 16	Advent Service
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Service

Gift Cards are not just for Gifts. You can use them for your everyday shopping and gas purchases. It really helps the church get those incidentals that we need. I place a order on the first Sunday of the month. I also have some cards in stock.

Gift Card orders can be placed with Patty by e-mail, in person and by text. Thanks for your orders in advance.



Golden Years Wellness Expo

Monday, October 12th
10:00 am—2 pm
Prospect Heights Park District
110 Camp McDonald Rd.
847-394-2848
Phpparks.org

Official Acts

Release of Mem-
bership:
Susan Wright

Elders:

Art
Marty

LIFELINE SCREENING

Life Line Screening will be here at Living Christ Lutheran Church on Monday, December 14, 2026 offering safe, painless, non-invasive preventive health screenings that are typically not a part of a routine physical. To be more proactive about your health and to live longer for yourself, your family and your community, please register for these potentially life-saving tests today. Learn more by watching this short video: [http://www.lifelinescreeningblog.com/introduction/Three ways to register](http://www.lifelinescreeningblog.com/introduction/Three%20ways%20to%20register): 1) Call toll-free: 866-229-0469 2)

Online: www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle 3) Text: the word circle to 797979

We have some COMPLIMENTARY SCREENINGS available. If you are interested, please contact the church office before you sign up.

