

**M A Y 2 0 2 5**

# The Communicator

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE LIVING CHRIST

We all carry marks of our past. As we pass from one thing to the next, we retain memories, different behavioral traits, expressions, and/or scars and “triggers”. During my seminary training I thought it would be appropriate to somehow commemorate major life-changing events by getting a new tattoo each time. So, I drew up a tattoo for my right shoulder.

The tattoo is a basic Christian fish shape with the Greek letters “ΙΧΘΥΣ”, or “IXTHUS”, meaning: I – Jesus, X – Christ, Θ – God’s, Υ (or υ) – Son, Σ – Savior placed inside the fish. The “I” extends above the fish and forms a cross. This is that mark of my being of service to God. People would often remind me, “Just remember, tattoos aren’t easily removed.”

I am often reminded of this mark on my life and the thought of many other life-changing events. Tattoos remembering the calls into pastoral ministry at Trinity, Light of the Valley, Christ the Cornerstone, Unity, Peace, and Living Christ Lutheran Churches. Other imprints to remember my Grandpa Joe, Grandma Irene, Aunt Carole, and Step-mother Connie are also on the list for future visits to the ink shop. However, these other tattoos were never imprinted on me.

Realizing the cost of continued visits to the tattoo parlor, it didn’t seem to be the top priority with other demands. Not to mention, they would probably be rarely openly visible very often in order to avoid any distractions or misconceptions. Yet, the permanence of these memories hasn’t been lost. In fact, I still bear actual physical scars from life during those times (not of my choosing).

Through the scars I am reminded of unintended moments where attention was on something else, estimates weren’t correct, or actions didn’t match what was intended... either by me, or by another. We call these things “accidents” sometimes. As if there is no intentional, expected, deliberate, or predictable explanation or meaning to what caused the scars. At the same time, through these so-called accidents we also learn lessons, discover meaning, find commonality, and gain wisdom. What causes the scars and the presence of them contradicts the thought of them being accidents. In fact, they are of great value!

John writes in chapter 20, “*Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”* The scars are a testament to the events we have experienced, not intended as a reminder of things we regret. So, the scars on the body or on the heart are there as imprints of something we survived. They are a witness that speaks for itself into the depths of our personalities, lessons learned, and wisdom gained.

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Find us on Facebook - Lutheran Church of the Living Christ ELCA

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FROM PASTOR MATT - Cover

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## Weekly Gatherings

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:15am, in-person/Facebook live

### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:30am, in-person

### TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

10am, in-person

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## LCLC Staff

### PASTOR

MATT HELFRICH

314-914-4776

### SECRETARY/OFFICE

ADMINISTRATOR

CYNTHIA SWAN

### CHOIR

DIRECTOR/ORGANIST

DAVID EGGERS

### PIANIST

GREG OTT

OFFICE HOURS 8:30AM-

12:30PM

Articles Due 21st of each  
month

Having seen the scars on Jesus hands and side, we dare not ask for him to suffer another crucifixion. There remains no more need for sacrifice, the requirements of righteousness are satisfied, and is given to the world freely by what Jesus did perfectly the first time – once and for all. We are once and for all, eternally imprinted by what Jesus Christ did for us. It's more than a tattoo, it's the kind of imprint that doesn't stretch out or fade on everyone who is marked by God.

While our tattoos and scars might serve as a reminder of a smaller, more personal, memory – the scars on our resurrected Lord are the witness of the ultimate “non-accident”. And you can't erase, redraw, or remove that in any way, ever. Remember the greatest good in all things.

Peace,  
Pastor Matt

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**  
**Randy Henning**

March 2025 Treasurer's Report



May, 2025

Nothing much new to report this month. As far as the church sale is concerned, nothing really new except a new prospect has entered the picture. It is a church, so with that and the non-profit we are hoping to get offers from, either of those two would make more sense to us. We'll see how it goes. The church just entered the picture, so be patient.

As for other things, keep your eyes open for events being planned to support our Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) pack coming in July. There is a flyer posted on the bulletin board with a couple of those. On May 12 there will be a Dine to Donate event at Panera's on St. Charles Rock Road. 25% of all proceeds will go to support FMSC. Secondly, a golf tournament on June 7 at Lockhaven Golf Course in Godfrey, IL. Flyers for the event can be found on the bulletin board, along with information on how to register. Finally, donations for FMSC are always welcome. We are trying to raise enough (\$2500) to adopt a pallet. Right now, we are at about \$1850, so we still need more. See the thermometer outside the sanctuary for progress.

That's it for now. We have a number of opportunities to do God's work. Let's do it.

Category	March Actual	YTD Actual
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>\$12,853</b>	<b>\$30,428</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$13,547</b>	<b>\$41,775</b>
Congregation Coord	\$0	\$0
Cong Vitality Team	\$0	\$0
MISSIONS	\$1,116	\$3,116
OFFICE	\$143	\$667
OUTREACH	\$450	\$450
PASTOR FUND	\$0	\$0
PROPERTY	\$2,202	\$9,674
STEWARDSHIP	\$0	\$0
SUPPORT	\$1,698	\$5,484
WAGES	\$7,878	\$22,195
WORSHIP	\$60	\$190

Total YTD Income           \$ 30,428  
 Total YTD Expenses       \$ 41,775  
 Total YTD Difference      -\$ 11,347

2025 General Funds paid to missions are as follows:

Central States Synod       \$ 3,000  
 Outreach/Local Missions   \$ 116

Our March offerings of \$12,853 were very close to meeting our expenses of \$13,547, leaving us with a March deficit of only \$694. However, our year-to-date expenses of \$41,775 and year to date income of \$30,428 leaves us with a deficit of \$11,347 as of the end of March 2025. We still have 9 months left this year to turn our deficit into a surplus.

If you have any questions, please call or email me. Thanks.

Dave Endorf, Treasurer  
 dave.endorf@gmail.com  
 502-612-3518

## May Nurse's Note: Cathie Lehr RN, MSN

### *Older American Month*



In the United States, the month of May is dedicated to recognizing the contributions of older adults, highlighting aging trends, and reaffirming commitments to serving them in the community. "Flip the Script on Aging" is the theme presented for 2025 to draw attention to actions promoting recognition and opportunities for older adults to stay socially connected.

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) is a government agency participating in research and implementing changes to monitor and improve living needs for older adults and disabled people. ACL promotes a shift in how society views and interacts with older adults and those with disabilities and challenges negative stereotypes and misconceptions about aging and disability.

On the ACL web site, you can view information published that describes some of the common themes that are beginning to emerge from the experiences, insights, and recommendations to improve health and safety for older adults and disabled people. It includes input on factors that influence the aging experience, such as affordable and accessible housing; aligned health care and supportive services; accessible communities; age-friendly workplaces; and sufficient, high-quality long-term services and supports.

### **Here are some other ways you can participate:**

- Share facts about the mental, physical, and emotional health benefits of social connection and how it contributes to overall well-being with older adults.
- Seek resources and encourage participation to help older adults engage in community events, social clubs, church functions, and volunteer opportunities.
- Connect older adults with local services such as transportation, that can help them overcome obstacles to achieving or maintaining meaningful relationships.
- Challenge professional and personal networks to prioritize meaningful social connections and share the benefits.
- Consult with physicians concerning a change in an older adult's interest and participation with socializing.



# Word Search with a Trivia Twist

1

1. Who called Jesus the Lamb of God? (John 1:29)
2. Fill in the blank: Paul says that the Law was our \_\_\_\_\_ to bring us to Christ. (Galatians 3:24 NKJV)
3. Fill in the blank: The waters returned and covered the host of Pharaoh and there remained "not so much as \_\_\_\_\_ of them." (Exodus 14:28)
4. On what mountain was Moses on when he saw the burning bush? (Exodus 3:1)
5. How many mites did the poor widow put in the temple treasury? (Mark 12:42)
6. Moses fled Egypt because he did what to an Egyptian for smiting a Hebrew? (Exodus 2:11-15 NKJV)
7. What name means "God with us"? (Matthew 1:23)
8. Where did God tell Joseph to take Mary and Jesus to keep them safe? (Matthew 2:13)
9. In Nebuchadnezzar's dream, the image's chest and arms were made out of what material? (Daniel 2:32)
10. What was Luke's occupation? (Colossians 4:14)
11. John said that what can overcome the world? (1 John 5:4)
12. Which missionary companion had a godly Jewish mother and a Greek father? (Acts 16:1 NKJV)
13. On what site did Solomon build the temple? (2 Chronicles 3:1)
14. What high priest in King Josiah's reign discovered the Book of the Law while repairing the temple? (2 Kings 22:8)
15. What object of the children's are set on edge? (Ezekiel 18:2)
16. What was the name of the gate that the sons of Hassenaaah built? (Nehemiah 3:3)
17. How were Esther and Mordecai related? (Esther 2:7)

W	P	N	A	B	T	P	Y	E	G	G	T	T	I	N
M	N	H	U	P	A	V	Y	H	T	O	M	I	T	O
F	U	N	Y	S	E	E	H	O	R	E	B	S	A	C
I	A	G	E	S	K	S	T	N	Z	O	I	T	W	O
A	E	I	O	U	I	G	T	E	E	T	H	I	H	U
H	F	C	A	F	L	C	K	Y	P	O	I	J	U	S
T	W	A	W	H	L	E	I	A	P	T	L	I	C	I
O	A	W	I	M	E	Y	B	A	N	K	K	B	O	N
T	X	T	Q	T	D	E	P	O	N	Y	I	B	I	S
V	R	U	U	L	H	E	L	E	U	N	A	M	M	E
X	Y	L	A	T	M	E	P	E	O	P	H	O	A	X
J	I	E	N	T	O	N	E	S	D	D	R	I	V	L
S	H	H	L	E	U	R	Q	N	S	I	L	V	E	R
F	O	R	S	A	K	E	N	M	A	F	T	R	E	S
J	M	I	A	S	E	K	T	H	T	N	I	R	O	C

18. David said he never saw the righteous be what? (Psalm 37:25)
19. What church worshiped on the first day of the week and brought offerings for the suffering saints in Judea? (1 Corinthians 16:1-2)
20. What edible substance did Samson find in the carcass of the lion he killed earlier? (Judges 14:8)



Panera Fundraiser for FMSC



Enjoy a delicious meal on May 12 and help raise funds for the Feed My Starving Children North County July MobilePack. Panera Bread will give us 25% of the proceeds from sales at the centrally located Bridgeton store (12226 St. Charles Rock Road). A paper or digital copy of the Panera flyer must be used when you order in person. Flyers are available on the fmscnoco.org fundraising page. You can also order online at panerabread.com and enter code FUND4U.

Drive Out Hunger Golf Tournament



Enjoy a day on the links and help raise funds for the Feed My Starving Children North County July MobilePack. Entry fees are \$100 per person and \$400 per team and include greens fees, cart, range balls, dinner, on-course beverages, and more. Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum sponsorships are available.

To learn more, visit the Golf page on fmscnoco.org.







How can you engage in the 2025 Synod Assembly? Learn more at: [www.css-elca.org/assembly](http://www.css-elca.org/assembly)

**Pre-Assembly Hearings**

We are now just six weeks from the Central States Synod Assembly. Please observe the deadlines published below. If someone else is processing your registrations on your behalf, we encourage you to confirm that your registration is complete. **There will be no on-site registration available.**

**Pre-Assembly Hearings: (via Zoom)**

 <p><b>Voting Member Orientation</b> Thursday - May 22 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. <a href="#">Join Zoom</a></p>	 <p><b>Resolutions Hearing</b> Tuesday - May 27 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. <a href="#">Join Zoom</a></p>
 <p><b>Compensation Guidelines Hearing</b> Wednesday - May 28 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. <a href="#">Join Zoom</a></p>	 <p><b>Budget Hearing</b> Thursday - May 29 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. <a href="#">Join Zoom</a></p>

Leading up to the assembly we will be holding online hearings to share information and answer questions about proposed resolutions, compensation guidelines and the 2026 budget. These sessions are open to all members of the synod, not only registered voting members.

Additionally, we are offering two separate orientation sessions for voting members. The first is the evening of May 22 online and the second takes place the afternoon of June 5 just prior to the opening of the assembly. These sessions will be helpful information for all voting members and will cover voting systems and assembly procedures. Voting members are free to choose either session.



**The next fundraiser for FMSC is June 7 at Lockhaven Golf Club in Godfrey, IL. More details to follow.**



**The next GRC meeting is on Sunday, May 18, 2:00 pm at Zion Ferguson.**

## FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

FMSC "Adopt a Pallet" fundraiser. A pallet costs \$2500 and provides 8000 meals. LCLC's participation/progress toward the \$2500 goal is displayed on the thermometer in the lobby/narthex. Make checks out to "Feed My Starving Children" or "FMSC", put "Adopt a Pallet" in the memo section, and get them to Randy Henning or place them in the collection plate. Cash can be placed in an envelope labeled "Adopt a Pallet". Please talk to Randy with questions or comments.

## RIDES TO CHURCH OR OTHER

If you, or someone you know, needs a ride to church or to a doctor appointment or store, or other, please call Cathie Lehr 314-809-4477, or Marilyn Wiley 314-223-7155. They are happy to take you to your destination and bring you back home!

Thank you Cathie & Marilyn!!!



## OUTREACH

OUTREACH - Living Christ continues to provide a meal on the 4th Wednesday of each month in 2025 for Room at the Inn. If you are interested in this Outreach project, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Meals should be made for 25 people (15 adults and 10 children), and can be meat or main dish, two vegetables or side dishes, fruit and dessert. Meals should be delivered by 5:00 p.m. to Drury House at Marygrove, 2705 Mullanphy Lane, Florissant. Keep track of your expenses, save receipts, fill out a check request form, and put into the Treasurer's mailbox for reimbursement from Outreach. Any questions, please speak with Kathy Endorf (502) 475-4508. Dates available are Wednesdays, August 27, September 24, October 22, and November 26. Thank you!

## WORSHIP SERVICE WITH ZION @ LIVING CHRIST

We will have worship service at LCLC with Zion Lutheran Church on May 25th.

Following worship service we will have a potluck to follow in our lower level. We will also be celebrating our time with Pastor Matt as this will be his last Sunday with us.

Please join us so we can wish him well!

## COUNCIL BULLETS

- **The Community Baby Shower is on Sunday, May 4, 2:30-4:30 pm at Zion Ferguson.**
- **The next GRC meeting is on Sunday, May 18, 2:00 pm at Zion Ferguson.**
- **Money is still being collected to reach our goal of \$2500 to Adopt-A-Pallet for FMSC.**
- **The next fundraiser for FMSC is June 7 at Lockhaven Golf Club in Godfrey, IL.**
- **Laurie and Gary Brown are attending the 2025 Synod Assembly in Olathe, KS on June 1-7.**

## 50+ OUTING FOR MAY

## MAY LUNCH BUNCH

We are planning to travel to Aerie's Winery on THURSDAY, May 22. The location is 800 Timber Ridge Dr. in Grafton, Illinois. They have a skylift with open or enclosed chairs for \$12 round trip to the restaurant with great views of the Mississippi river and Grafton surrounding area. The address for those planning to take the skylift is 3 W Clinton, Grafton. To drive up to the restaurant, turn right off Broadway onto N Mulberry St. to Timber Ridge Dr and follow the signs to the winery. Maps, menu and signup sheet will be on the bulletin board. Wine and beer are available with lunch at the restaurant. For those sharing rides, plan to meet at the church at 10am for a 40 minute drive to Grafton. Lunch is planned for 11:30.

Lunch Bunch will be dining at Irma Jeans on May 8 located at 2109 Charbonier Rd. at 11:30 am. Lunch bunch is a nice way to enjoy a meal and enjoy fellowship. We welcome everyone to attend. For reservations contact Joyce Meyer at 314-374-4135 or email 314-838-3741.

## APRIL LUNCH BUNCH RECAP

Lunch Bunch dined at the Sports Café on April 10 at the Sports Café at 3579 Pennridge Dr, Bridgeton. The menu included sandwiches, salads, appetizers, pizza, pasta and other choices. Thirteen diners enjoyed lunch and lively conversation in a reserved room and the staff member was efficient and attentive. We welcome everyone to attend.



## RECAP 50+ April 23

FIFTY PLUS toured Fast Lane Classic Cars at 427 Little Hills Industrial Blvd, St Charles, MO. We met there and toured three show rooms. There is an impressive collection of classic cars and memorabilia to view. Lunch followed at Massa's Italian Restaurant at 3761 New Town Blvd for the 21 people attending. Thank you Levaughn and Sheila Smart for arranging a fun outing for 50 PLUS!

## CREATE DAY

**the next Create Day** to work on the quilts for Lutheran World Relief will be **Friday, May 2, 9:00am-11:00am,**

June 6,  
July 18,  
August 8,  
September 12,  
and October 3.



We are tying quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Everyone is welcomed!





# Celebrate May!

## *Birthdays & Anniversary*

### Birthdays

Benjamin	PARKER	4
Trudy	LEARMAN	6
Alethea	SUMNER	7
Doreen	EDWARDS	8
Susan	BEINS	17
Daniel	BROWN	22
Jenna	BESSERMAN	22
Elvera	REGAN	25

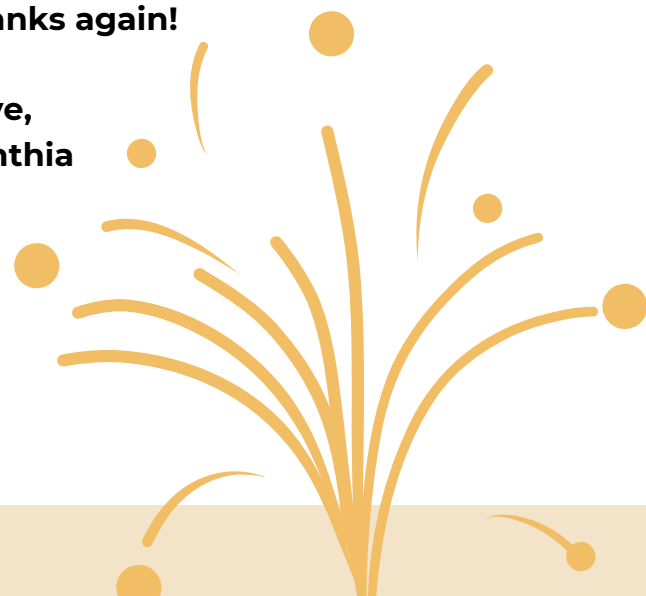
### Wedding Anniversary

James and Doris	Stoehner	11th	62yrs
Gary and Laurie	Brown	27th	42yrs

# Thank You

**I would like to thank everyone for remembering me for Administrative professionals Day. Words cannot express my thanks and gratitude. You guys are amazing. Thanks again!**

**Love,  
Cynthia**



# *May Worship Assistants*

**May 4**

**Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt**

**Assisting Minister: Angela Bennett**

**Lector: Gary Brown**

**Live Stream: Gary & Laurie Brown**

**Musician: David Eggers**

**Ushers: Ann Schultz & Glen Albers**

**Greeter: Jim Stoechner**

**Altar Guild: Doris Stoechner, Bill Kaepfel & Marilyn Wiley**

**May 11**

**Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt**

**Assisting Minister: Randy Henning**

**Lector: Laurie Brown**

**Live Stream: Rod Wallace**

**Musician: Greg Ott**

**Ushers: Levaughn & Sheila Smart**

**Greeter: Judy Holmes**

**Altar Guild: Maureen Buchek & Marjorie Becker**

**May 18**

**Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt**

**Assisting Minister: Bill Kaepfel**

**Lector: Dave Endorf**

**Live Stream: Marilyn Wiley**

**Musician: David Eggers**

**Ushers: Doris & Jim Stoechner**

**Greeter: Jann Mueller**

**Altar Guild: Cathie Lehr & Joyce Meyer**

**May 25**

**Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt**

**Assisting Minister: Angela Bennett**

**Lector: Randy Henning**

**Live Stream: Erle Craig**

**Musician: Greg Ott**


**Ushers: Cathie Lehr & Marilyn Wiley**

**Greeter: Ann Schultz**

**Altar Guild: Karen Haynes & Sheila Smart**

**\*\*\*If you are unable to serve on your assigned date,  
please swap with someone or find a replacement\*\*\***

# MAY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 11am Exercise Class	2 9am Create Day 11am Bells	3
4 8am Vocal Choir 9:15am Worship 10:30am Adult Forum 11am True Vine	5	6 10am Bible Study 11am Exercise Class	7 9am Church Inventory Crew	8 11am Exercise Class 11:30 am Lunch Bunch 6:30pm Girl Scouts	9 11am Bells	10 9am Girl Scouts
11 9:15am Worship 10:30am Adult Forum 11am True Vine	12 6pm CVT 7pm Council	13 10am Bible Study 11am Exercise Class 6:30pm Wedgewood	14 9am Church Inventory Crew	15 11am Exercise Class 6:30pm NCOTC	16 11am Bells	17 9am AAUW (LL)
18 9:15am Worship 10:30 am Adult Forum 11am True Vine 2pm GRC Meeting @ Zion Ferguson	19	20 10am Bible Study 11am Exercise Class 6:30pm Chesley Manor	21 9am Church Inventory Crew	22 11am Exercise Class 10am 50+ Aerie Winery	23 11am Bells	24 9am Girl Scouts
25 8am Vocal Choir 9:15am Worship w/Zion @ LCLC 10:30am Potluck LL 11am True Vine	26 Memorial Day 	27 10am Bible Study 11am Exercise Class	28 9am Church Inventory Crew	29 11am Exercise Class	30 11am Bells	31

Zoom links for events can be found on our website:  
[www.lc-livingchrist.org/calendar](http://www.lc-livingchrist.org/calendar)

**Lutheran Church of the Living Christ**  
**2725 Concord Drive**  
**Florissant, MO 63033**