

APRIL 2026

The Communicator

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE LIVING CHRIST

(The following is a newsletter article about Marie Johnson, a long time member of Living Christ. She is 93 years old, resides in Garden View, and is a true delight.)

Garden View Care Center Spotlight on Marie Johnson

Marie was born in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and raised in Detroit, the youngest of four children. Her parents had recently immigrated to the United States from Sweden, and through them learned to read and speak Finnish.



Marie grew up during the Great Depression, a time when her father struggled to find steady work and the family endured significant hardship with food and shelter. She attended the High School of Commerce in Detroit, and after graduating, she met her husband, Carl, through mutual friends. They were married for 37 years and had three children, four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

A year after their marriage, Marie and Carl moved to Texas due to Carl's military service, where Marie worked as a secretary for various companies. After Carl's discharge, they returned to Detroit, where Marie worked as a school secretary for six years before her children were born.

In 1971, the family moved to St. Louis for Carl's job. Following Carl's sudden and unexpected passing in 1991, Marie returned to work and served as a secretary for Junior Achievement until retiring in 1996.

Marie enjoys reading, writing, and being involved in her children's extracurricular activities. Later in life, she loved traveling with friends and visiting places such as Hawaii, Alaska, the Grand Canyon, New York, and Canada. One of her favorite memories is traveling to Sweden and Finland with Carl and their children, where she met many relatives for the first time.

Marie is a kind and sweet woman who can often be found with a good book in hand – be sure to say hello if you see her. We love you, Marie!

(Submitted by Jeanne Calderwood)

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

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:15am, in-person/Facebook live

LCLC Staff

**SECRETARY/OFFICE
ADMINISTRATOR**
CYNTHIA SWAN

**CHOIR
DIRECTOR/ORGANIST**
DAVID EGGERS

PIANIST
GREG OTT

OFFICE HOURS M-F
8:30AM-12:30PM

Articles Due 21st of each
month

THE RESURRECTION

We hold so close to our hearts
The cross where Jesus died,
But so much more than the blood-stained cross
Is that Jesus came back to life

The stone's been rolled away;
The tomb lay open and bare —
They looked for Him, and then the angel said
That He is no longer here

Oh what joy they must have felt
To see Him just once more,
To eat with Him, to drink with Him,
To receive Him back as Lord

So much did He accomplish
Through His death upon the cross
And in His rising from the dead,
He reconciled us back to God

Nothing else could bridge the gap
That sin had wrenched apart —
Now we can freely go to God
And receive Christ in our hearts.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Dave Endorf

February 2026 Treasurer's Report

<u>Category</u>	<u>February Actual</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>
INCOME	\$8,250	\$15,238
EXPENSES	\$7,455	\$16,255
Cong Vitality Team	\$0	\$0
MISSIONS	\$905	\$1,745
OFFICE	\$89	\$240
OUTREACH	\$0	\$0
PROPERTY	\$4,044	\$8,181
STEWARDSHIP	\$0	\$0
SUPPORT	\$219	\$770
WAGES	\$2,198	\$5,211
WORSHIP	\$0	\$108

Total YTD Income \$ 15,238
Total YTD Expenses \$ 16,255
Total YTD Difference -\$ 1,017

2026 General Funds paid to missions are as follows:

Central States Synod \$ 500
Local Missions \$ 500
Outreach Missions \$ 745

Our February offerings of \$8,250 were \$795 MORE than our expenses of \$7,455! Our year-to-date income of \$15,238 is only \$1,017 less than our year-to-date expenses of \$16,255. For the first two months of the year our finances are in pretty good shape.

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

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Randy Henning

Short message this month, because there hasn't been much change. We have had a couple more groups tour the property, but no contracts issued. We will keep at it and, hopefully, we'll get resolution soon.

And you are all familiar with things going on with FMSC. Our trivia night was a big success and now we look forward to a Dine to Donate night in April, a poker tournament in May, and the raffle which will take place in June. If you want to buy a raffle ticket, several of us in the congregation are selling them. We need your help, so please consider buying a \$100 ticket for a chance to win \$5000. Also, we are going to do Adopt a Pallet again, meaning we need to receive \$2500 in donations before the pack. Make checks out to Living Christ and put "Adopt a Pallet" in the memo section of the check. You can give it to me or cash to me as well. Or put it in the collection plate, just make sure you identify it for "Adopt a Pallet".

I think that is it for now. If you have any questions, comments, or issues, see me or send me a note.

SOME THOUGHTS ON CAREGIVING... Time comes for all of us when we need some help: getting older and can't do all the things we used to do; were in the hospital and the crisis is over, they send you home to get better; broke a bone and can't manage tasks of daily living; memory problems that complicate daily living...just to name a few.

So. We are called to help a family member. That can be a daunting task.

Hey. This was a challenge for Jesus. As the son, He had the obligation under Jewish tradition and the 4th Commandment "Honor your father and your mother..."to care for his elderly (presumed widowed) mother. John 19:26-27 When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

If staying at home is not possible, consider assisted living or nursing home. Medicare may pay for nursing home care for a limited time after hospitalization depending on diagnosis. This may allow the patient to recover sufficiently to go home again. Medicaid pays for nursing home care but there are financial requirements to be met.

If staying at home but need some help and some changes, there are many resources.

First: what kind of help is needed? May include modifications to living space, housekeeping, food preparation, shopping, transport to doctors and church, help with personal care. Make a list. Then...

First, family: spouse, children, grandchildren, sisters, brothers, etc. Tasks can be divided up so that the burden is not on one person.

Home care. Most insurance allows home care after hospitalization. Great! Nurse will check medical status; Physical Therapy works on strengthening; Occupational Therapy looks at ability for self care and safety; Home Health Aide to assist with bathing and personal care. So you get a lot of help and advice but for a limited time.

Hired help. Options if needed: Handyman to fix things. Home health aide for bathing. Housekeeper to do cleaning. Shopping and delivery service for food and necessities.

You may need equipment. Bedrails. Hospital bed. Shower chair. Bedside commode. Grab bars (bathroom and steps). Walker, rollator, wheelchair. Ramp on outside steps. Bedside call button/bell/phone. Some equipment may be provided by insurance. Most can be obtained free from St Louis Help 314-897-4357.

FMLA is a federal program to help working family members as caregivers. Search FMLA on the computer for information.

Finally, take care of person cared for and caregivers. Don't want to get depressed, overwhelmed, or feeling overburdened. The person you are caring for need to have as much control as possible given the circumstances and limitations. Cultivate , encourage, and praise success in mental and physical accomplishments. Foster companionship, verbal praise, activities that give pleasure. Listen sympathetically to complaints and acknowledge them. Mental and emotional health is probably more important then physical abilities

Speaking from experience. We took care of Nancy's dad and my mother under hospice. Of course, the ultimate caregiving was raising 5 (FIVE!!) children. (None of whom slept thru the night for a year). But now they are a GREAT help.

THE DIRECTION OF THE *Lutheran Church*

A CHRISTIAN FORUM



HOSTED BY
 **SAINT PHILIP'S**
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
REV. RICHARD E. ASHLEY, M.DIV.
Pastor



REV. ROY E. CHRISTELL

Retired ELCA Pastor
Community Leader & Advocate



REV. KRISTEN KOCH

Director of
Evangelical Mission
Central State Synod
ELCA



REV. DR. KENNETH W. WHEELER

Retired ELCA Pastor
Lecturer | Author
US: The Resurrection of
American Terror

REGISTRATION:

314-531-6318

stphilipsstl.org

18 APRIL 2026
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

2424 ANNIE MALONE DR.
ST. LOUIS, MO 63113

COMMUNITY Baby Shower

honoring
expectant
mothers and
mothers with
babies up to
6 months old

Saturday, May 16

1:00pm to 3:00pm

Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church
8454 Glen Echo Dr., St. Louis, MO 63121

**FREE & OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC!**
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Join us for refreshments,
community resources, games,
door prizes, free baby items & more!

Register by May 9th

Call Cathie (314) 809-4477
clljuly@gmail.com

Hosted by:
the Great Rivers Collaborative & Bridging Ministries



Create Days for 2026

The following are dates for Create Days at Living Christ. Friday mornings at Living Christ 9-11 January through October, ending with the Lutheran World Relief Ingathering on Saturday, October 17th.

April 10

May 15

June 12

July 17

August 21

September 18

October 9

October 17, Lutheran World Relief Ingathering, 9-11 am, (place to be determined)

Any questions, please speak with Kathy Endorf (502)475-4508.



Feed My Starving Children is

beginning the fund-raising events to prepare for the 2026 Food Pack on July 10 and 11 at Atonement. Texas Hold 'em Poker Tournament on **May 16**. **Please see the sign on the tripod next to the FMSC table for the list of items needed and save the date for the Pack.**

2026 Great Rivers Collaborative meeting dates and locations

- May 17 (Living Christ)
- July 12 (Atonement)
- September 13 (Shepherd of the Hills)
- November 8 (St. Philips)

COUNCIL BULLETS

- FMSC Mobile Pack is July 10-11 at Atonement. Upcoming fundraisers for FMSC:
- Raffle tickets are on sale now with the drawing on June 13. See Randy or Erle to purchase a ticket.
- Texas Hold 'Em on May 16 at Atonement.
- Adopt-A-Pallet challenges us to raise \$2500 to pay for one pallet of meals. Checks can be made to LCLC with FMSC in the memo. A chart showing our progress will be up for all to see.
- Noisy collection – each week beginning after Easter to support the Adopt-A-Pallet challenge.
- April Spring yard clean-up – sign up sheet going up soon with a date to be determined.
- Garden beds – sign up sheet going up soon.

50+

Fifty Plus will tour the newly renovated Powell Symphony Hall on Thursday, April 16. The tour will begin at 10:30 and will take an hour and 15 minutes. The cost is \$10 per person. Our lunch destination is to be announced as well as parking arrangements. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the coat room area. We have to finalize arrangements and pay for the tour a week in advance. See Karen Haynes if you have questions or to pay for the tour.

50+ FEBRUARY RECAP

Fifty Plus members and a guest met on February 19 at 12:00 pm at LCLC on the upper level. We enjoyed red and white pasta, pizza, salad and garlic bread. A drink and dessert were also provided for a donation of \$10. We played a very challenging Valentine's trivia game to test our memory provided by Sheila Smart. Prizes were handed out. Thanks to Glenn Mueller and John Meyer for delivering the food order from Celano's.

CVT

Every April Sunday, there will be addressed and stamped greeting cards available for us to reach out and send warm wishes of health and wellness to those members that haven't had an opportunity to attend church. Please contact a member of the CVT/Outreach Committee with any questions. Thanks. Cathie.

APRIL LUNCH BUNCH

APRIL Lunch Bunch will meet at Red Lobster located at 12235 St. Charles Rock Road on April 9 at 11:30 am. The restaurant has been accommodating in the past and looking forward to dining there again. Please call Joyce Meyer at or 314-374-4135 or you can email me at jameyer46@charter.net to reserve a spot. Anyone is welcome to join us!

MARCH LUNCH BUNCH RECAP

Lunch Bunch met at the Sports Café in Bridgeton on March 12 at 11:30 am. The menu included sandwiches, salads, appetizers, pizza and entrees. It is a very busy place but they were able to serve seventeen of us at one table. Always a good social time!

2026 Great Rivers Collaborative meeting dates and locations

- May 17 (Living Christ)
- July 12 (Atonement)
- September 13 (Shepherd of the Hills)
- November 8 (St. Philips)



Celebrate April!



Birthdays

Marjorie	BECKER	4
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Anniversary

Rodney & Maureen	Buchek	3	56
Dave & Toby	Barnes	6	63
Sheila & Levaughn	Smart	9	43
Mark & Susan	Beins	17	16



April Assistants

April 5, 2026

Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Beverly-Jo Arnold

Assisting Minister: Randy Henning

Lector: Dave Endorf

Live Stream: Erle Craig

Musician: Greg Ott & David Eggers

Ushers: Cathie Lehr

Greeter: Jann Mueller

Altar Guild: Joyce Wolf & Ann Schultz

April 12, 2026

Preaching/Presiding: PMA Peggy Schaefer

Assisting Minister: Bill Kaepfel

Lector: Bill Kaepfel

Live Stream: Gary & Laurie Brown

Musician: Greg Ott

Ushers: Jann & Glenn Mueller

Greeter: Kathy Endorf

Altar Guild: Doris S. Marilyn W. & Bill K

April 19, 2026

Preaching/Presiding: Pastor Rick Mueller

Assisting Minister: Bill Kaepfel

Lector: Randy Henning

Live Stream: Rod Wallace

Musician: Greg Ott

Ushers: Glenn Albers & Ann Schultz

Greeter: Joyce Meyer

Altar Guild: Maureen Buchek, Marjorie Becker

April 26, 2026

Preaching/Presiding: PMA Jim Squire

Assisting Minister: Randy Henning

Lector: Cathie Lehr

Live Stream: Marilyn Wiley

Musician: Greg Ott

Ushers: Levaughn & Sheila Smart

Greeter: Jim Stoehner

Altar Guild: Cathie Lehr & Joyce Meyer

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

APRIL 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 NO Exercise Class	3	4 9:00am True Vine womens brunch (UL)
5 Happy Easter 9:15am Worship 11am True Vine	6	7 11am Exercise Class	8	9 11am Exercise Class 11:30pm Lunch Bunch 6:30pm Girl Scouts	10 9am Create Day	11 9am Girl Scouts
12 9:15am Worship 11am True Vine	13 6pm CVT 7pm Council	14 11am Exercise Class 7pm Wedgewood HOA	15	16 10:30am 50+ Powell Symphony Hall 11am Exercise (LL) 6:30pm NCOTC	17	18
19 9:15am Worship 11am True Vine	20	21 11am Exercise Class	22	23 11am Exercise Class	24	25 9:00am Girl Scouts
26 9:15am Worship 11am True Vine	27	28 11am Exercise Class	29	30 11am Exercise Class		

Zoom links for events can be found on our website:
www.lc-livingchrist.org/calendar

Lutheran Church of the Living Christ
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Florissant, MO 63033