

Sunday to Sunday

A Journal of Our Daily Walk with Our Redeemer, Christ Jesus
For the week of December 28, 2025 - January 4, 2026

Birthdays This Week

- 29 Emma Campbell
- 29 Monica Foster
- 29 John Frohn
- 29 Mary Lazzeri
- 30 Elizabeth Burner
- 30 Savannah Edwards
- 31 Jane Howlett
- 1 Wade Pellman
- 3 Judi Burner
- 3 Michele Urbon

Baptismal Birthdays This Week

- 28 Heidi Armbruster
- 28 Barb Ellerbrock
- 29 Bethany Fritz
- 30 Charlie Church
- 30 Donna Church
- 30 John Church
- 1 Glenn O'Briant
- 1 Mary Tipton
- 3 Jessica Hibbert

Anniversaries This Week

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| 28 Kody and Briana Linder | 7 years |
| 3 Gary and Kathy Hyer | 51 years |
| 3 Chet and Barb Vahle | 50 years |

Snow Removal – Our new contractor will only clear the sidewalks when snowfall is 2 inches or more and they will not use ice melt. We need **volunteers willing to shovel** and **spread ice melt** on **Saturday** and **Sunday** for **services**.

Current Dollar for Missions project: 45-year-old insulation in the **chancel ceiling** at **Wittenberg Lutheran Center, Normal** has **fallen from its original place under the roof**. It needs to be **replaced**, in what figures to be an expensive job calling for ingenious work involving a high ceiling. This DFM project is for **\$10,000**. For more, see <https://www.cidlcms.org/ministry-dfm-current-project.html>

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES The final exam care packages have all reached their destinations. I am pretty sure there were lots of smiles as they opened the packages. Each contained some "favorite things" to help students as they prepared for the end of the term. Here is a snippet of what students responded when asked the following: "What have been your favorite things to receive in your care packages?" Responses: The tootsie rolls! Also the tide pods! I use those strictly for my scrubs, it is the only thing I have found that gets the formaldehyde smell out of them!, Laundry pods and candies around finals, The sweet treats and Mac and cheese, Little squishy animals!, Coffee K cups, popcorn, Any of the fun snacks, The snacks, Snacks!

Offerings donated to Lutheran Bible Translators from the **Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class** for the month of **Nov.** were **\$192.00**

LWML wants to remind everyone if you have an immediate need to donate items to our rummage sale, we have space in the Sunday School classroom area. *We do not accept clothes or TVs.* **Thank you for all donations** and remember that **all proceeds go to missions**.

Coats and more for ECFC The Coats for ECFC help serve the at-risk population that is usually below the poverty level. Many times, these children have a single parent, a missing parent who may be incarcerated or are homeless. These children show up without coats due to circumstances that they have no control over. A new coat means the world to them. Children learn best when they are clean, fed, and clothed. A coat can change their world. Their faces light up, bodies are warm, and their minds are ready because they feel the comfort and warmth of the coat. In addition to new coats, other items are also welcome donations: hats, gloves, mittens, sweatpants, sweatshirts, underwear and socks for both boys and girls, sizes 3, 4,5 and 6. Please leave your donations by the Christmas tree by the south entrance. We will continue to collect these items through February.

For the week of December 28 on KFUE AM850 & kfuo.org: Here at KFUE, we celebrate Christmas for all 12 days of the season! From **now through January 6th**, tune in for special programming featuring sacred music, Scripture readings, and greetings from missionaries and chaplains across the LCMS! As always, you can find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or in the KFUE Radio app.

Come join us in Sunday School! Youth of all ages participate in many ways each week. They serve as ushers in collecting offering. Each week one youth attends to altar care by lighting the candles with a remote and when appropriate, changing the colors of the altar cloth linens. The youth read Bible verses for the weekly devotion. They can also volunteer to help lead actions for songs, The first Sunday of the month a puppet play is presented by the older kids as our opening devotion. Both birthdays and baptismal birthdays are celebrated with our treasured vintage pink cake. Wanda Spohr provides piano accompaniment during opening. Cyndi Ott and Melissa Knapp lead the Sunday School opening. Gretchen Wolfmeyer organizes and leads the monthly puppet plays during opening.

Twice each term, a Bible Bowl is held where the first grade through high school students get to "buzz in" answering questions about the Bible. In the spring, the Sunday School youth will help prepare the college care packages by making cards for the students and filling boxes. Once our opening is done, the youth can choose a snack and drink on their way to their classroom. The Sunday School teachers are currently covering Old Testament stories for the younger grades and world religions for the upper grades.

Our Preschool and Kindergarten class is led by Gina Eickelschulte. Cyndi Ott leads the 1-4 grade class. The junior high and high school class is led by Gretchen Wolfmeyer. Pastor Eden leads the adult Bible class in the fellowship hall. Ask your child about what they are doing and learning in Sunday School each week.

All are invited to come join us from 10:15 - 11:15 for Sunday School! The youth meet in the Sunday School opening room next to the fellowship hall. We hope you can join us soon!

This Week at Our Redeemer

Sunday, December 28: *Christmas 1*
9:00 AM Christmas Musicales Streamed online
No Bible Class or Sunday School

Monday, December 29:

Tuesday, December 30: 7:00 PM Choir

Wednesday, December 31: *New Year's Eve (DS IV)*
6:00 PM New Year's Eve Service

Thursday, January 1: *New Year's Day*

Friday, January 2:

Saturday, January 3: **5:00 PM Holy Communion**

Sunday, January 4: *Christmas 2 (DS 1)*
9:00 AM Holy Communion Streamed online
 10:15 AM Bible Class or Sunday School

Response Last Weekend to God's Grace

Attendance	Dec. 21	Offerings	Dec. 21
Sunday at 9:00 AM	40	Needed Each Month	\$33,872.35
Total Attendance	87	Received Last Month	\$28,704.47
<i>Total Communed</i>	<i>113</i>	Received This Month	\$23,437.17
Adult Bible Class	20	Needed This Year	\$406,468.21
Sunday School	23	Received This Year	\$351,003.00
Advent 3 Mid-Week	42	Received This Week	\$9,811.00

Scrip Update:

Week ending:	10-Nov	16-Nov	23-Nov	30-Nov	14-Dec
Profit:	\$22.50	\$72.50	\$107.19	\$58.62	\$151.08
# orders:	1	7	11	6	17
Profit/Order:	\$22.50	\$10.36	\$9.74	\$9.77	\$8.89
Overall Profit:	\$2,741.79	\$2,814.29	\$2,921.48	\$2,980.10	\$3,140.06

Thank you for your continued support of Lutheran education.

Read Through the Bible in 2026! Please consider joining our group to read through the Bible in 2026. We're using the free Bible app and The Bible Recap plan online or their paper guide. Contact Gretchen in the office to get set up.

Youth Night All junior and senior high youth are invited to gather with the youth from St John and Our Redeemer/St. James at KrazyTown Trampoline Park. **Sunday, January 18, 3-6pm.** Cost is \$10 to jump and an extra \$4 if you need jump socks. We also have an hour in the golf simulator and will have board games to play. Friends are welcome to join us. Students need a signed waiver. Parents, please do that online prior to coming. The waiver can be filled out at this link [Waivers](#)

Good News for the St. James School Tuition Endowment Fund! Once again, ORLC is blessed to have an anonymous donor offer to **match up to \$5,000.00 in donations** to the endowment fund. This **matching challenge will run until the end of the year.** If you are not familiar with this endowment or have any questions about it, please check with any of the committee members.

Checks should be made out to: **ORLC St. James School Tuition Endowment Fund**
 Committee: Michele Clevenger, Marty Otto, Monica and Larry Foster, Jerry and Becky Lunt

Matching Fundraiser: Tuition Assistance Fund for St. James School. Looking for another way to help students at St. James Lutheran School in addition to ORLC's Endowment Fund? ORLC Voters have approved up to **\$10,000 in matching funds** to go to the **Tuition Assistance Fund** at St. James School so whatever you donate will effectively be doubled! This **matching challenge will run to the end of the year.** If you are not familiar with this fund, each year St. James offers tuition assistance to families of students not assisted by our Lutheran congregations. The **need for the next school year** is estimated to be **\$22,000.** **Please make checks payable to: "ORLC" with "SJLC Tuition Assistance Fund"** in the **memo line.** Your donation will only be used for Tuition Assistance to St. James school families. *Contact Ryan Vaughn with questions.*

December 28, 2025 - We can face competing priorities when we think about planning our estates someday. As we wrap up this year long consideration, we must ponder whether we see our estate plan as an expression of our Christian faith or just giving up on life. As we complete this year, we keep in mind that in Christ, we will never finish but simply transfer into the glorious life the Lord has prepared for us. We never let death have the final word, for Jesus has conquered it. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can assist you in putting your life-celebrating plan together. Contact Scott Radden at 618-977-4049 or scott.radden@lfnd.org

Rev. Dr. Peter Scaer, SPEAKER FOR LLL Convention 2026 **Mark your calendars: March 21, 2026,** at Christ Lutheran Church, Normal, IL, the Lutheran Laymen's League will have their Annual Convention. And EVERYONE IS INVITED. Our speaker will be Rev. Dr. Peter J. Scaer, Chairmen and Professor of Exegetical Theology at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana. He is often on: CTSFW Lectionary

Podcasts, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty podcasts, Facebook and You Tube. His topic will be “Act Like Men: Be Strong in Christ.” For more information, email delorisblessman@yahoo.com .

Celebrate 100 Years in Clayton with Concordia Seminary 3 p.m. Sunday, April 26, 2026

Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus Concordia Seminary is celebrating 100 years at its iconic Clayton, Mo., location — and we want you to be part of it. Plan to join us for a special chapel service Sunday, April 26, 2026, honoring our milestone anniversary with the theme: “O Christ the Living Stone – a lasting legacy, a firm future.” Won't be able to attend in person? Plan to watch the livestream at csl.edu/live