

Sunday to Sunday

A Journal of Our Daily Walk with Our Redeemer, Christ Jesus
For the week of January 4 - 11, 2026

Birthdays This Week

- 5 Brady Essington
- 6 Phyllis Ashby
- 6 Addison Buss
- 6 Linda Knowles
- 7 David Showman Jr.
- 7 Ruth Hall
- 9 Lennox Hines
- 9 Canaan Mayfield

Baptismal Birthdays This Week

- 3 Jessica Hibbert
- 6 Myley Longcor
- 8 Tony Bowles
- 9 Mark Vahle

Anniversaries This Week

- 8 Tony and Susan Bowles 41 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!

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**.

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](#)

Offerings donated to Lutheran Bible

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

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.

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!

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.

This Week at Our Redeemer

- Sunday, January 4:** *Christmas 2 (DS 1)*
9:00 AM Holy Communion Streamed online
 10:15 AM Sunday School Bible Bowl – No Adult Bible Class
- Monday, January 5:** *No School*
- Tuesday, January 6:** *Pastors' Conference at LCoSJ*
School Resumes
- Wednesday, January 7:** **10:00 AM Bible Study** Streamed online
11:30 AM Holy Communion
 2:00 PM Banner
- Thursday, January 8:** 6:45 AM Coach House Bible Study
 9:00 AM Quilters
 6:30 PM LWML Meeting
- Friday, January 9:**
- Saturday, January 10:** **5:00 PM Holy Communion**
- Sunday, January 11:** *Baptism of Our Lord (DS III)*
9:00 AM Holy Communion Streamed online
 10:15 AM Bible Class and Sunday School

Response Last Weekend to God's Grace

Attendance	Dec. 28
Sunday at 9:00 AM	84
<i>Total Communed</i>	80
Children's 7PM	74
Candlelight 9 PM	125
Christmas Day	53
12/25 Communed	52

Offerings	Dec. 28
Needed Each Month	\$33,872.35
Received Last Month	\$28,704.47
Received This Month	\$31,409.52
Needed This Year	\$406,468.21
Received This Year	\$358,975.35
Received This Week	\$7,972.35

Scrip Update:

Week ending:	23-Nov	30-Nov	14-Dec
Profit:	\$107.19	\$58.62	\$151.08
# orders:	11	6	17
Profit/Order:	\$9.74	\$9.77	\$8.89
Overall Profit:	\$2,921.48	\$2,980.10	\$3,140.06

Thank you for your continued support of Lutheran education.

Thank you to the family for Christmas card and gift. It is much appreciated. Hope you have a wonderful New Year. **God Bless, Erica, Allie and Nix**

Thank you so much for the lovely and useful gifts from LWML. Everything was much appreciated and made me feel so special. **God Bless You, Shirley Foster**

Thank you. 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.*

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 csi.edu/live

For the week of January 4: **KFUO Radio**, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at kfuo.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: **@KFUOradio** on [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [Instagram](#). **CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE AM850 & kfuo.org:** A blessed New Year and Happy Epiphany! This week on Sharper Iron (*weekdays at 8 AM*), we're launching into a new study of the book of Genesis. Tune in to Thy Strong Word (*weekdays at 11 AM*) as we begin "The Magnificent 37", a new series on the miracles of Jesus! On the Coffee Hour this week (*weekdays at 9 AM*), we have some fun things to share, including a new series on the history of the Augsburg Confession with Dr. Cameron MacKenzie and an introduction to this year's Searching Scripture theme! Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or in the KFUE Radio app.

January 4, 2026 - We live in a "I can do it myself" culture. That has been cultivated by our access to technology. Yet the question is, "Do I need help to create my Christian estate plan?" This month we consider that your estate plan represents the biggest collection of decisions with far more impact than any others in life. To begin with, a good estate plan will include a good attorney, who can take your goals and put them down into carefully crafted, precise documents. Without an attorney, you risk allowing your will to be contested, or making mistakes that could leave something out you wished to do. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can get you ready to meet with your attorney. Contact Scott Radden @ 618-977-4049 or scott.radden@lfnd.org.

For the week of January 11: **KFUO Radio**, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at kfuo.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: **@KFUOradio** on [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [Instagram](#). **CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE AM850 & kfuo.org:** On Sharper Iron (*weekdays at 8 AM*), we've begun a new study in the book of Genesis! This week's study will take us through chapters 2 and 3. Tune in for Thy Strong Word (*weekdays at 11 AM*) as we look at the miracles of Jesus in the Gospels! Don't forget to join us for Concord Matters this weekend (**1/17 at 10 AM**) — we're continuing our study of the Lord's Prayer with the 5th Petition! Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or in the KFUE Radio app.

January 11, 2026 - We live in a "I can do it myself" culture. That has been cultivated by our access to technology. Yet the question is, "Do I need help to create my Christian estate plan?" This month we consider that your estate plan represents the biggest collection of decisions with far more impact than any others in life. But what is the value of meeting with an LCMS Gift Planning Counselor if I already plan on meeting with an attorney? The answer is, that your counselor can assist you in getting organized, thinking through your goals and becoming specific about them, and encouraging you to spend time considering who you might choose for a personal representative, trustee or the one named in your power of attorney documents. This decision should be carefully made, not rushed. Prayer should be included. Your LCMS Gift Planning Counselor can help you get started now. Contact Scott Radden @ 618-977-4049 or scott.radden@lfnd.org.

January 18, 2026 - We live in a "I can do it myself" culture. That has been cultivated by our access to technology. Yet the question is, "Do I need help to create my Christian estate plan?" This month we consider that your estate plan represents the biggest collection of decisions with far more impact than any others in life. If you are planning gifts to family, it is a wise idea to discuss these with family, imparting Godly encouragement for faithful stewardship. A ministry gift might include a discussion with current ministry leaders. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help facilitate these discussions. Contact Scott Radden @ 618-977-4049 or scott.radden@lfnd.org.

January 25, 2026 - We live in a "I can do it myself" culture. That has been cultivated by our access to technology. Yet the question is, "Do I need help to create my Christian estate plan?" This month we consider that your estate plan represents the biggest collection of decisions with far more impact than any others in life. Estate planning is more than a task such as filing your income taxes online. Your attorney, financial advisor, insurance representative and tax advisor all have a responsibility to help you plan well. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help make sure all the communication is working with all these people, also making sure that your goals are being respected. Contact Scott Radden @ 618-977-4049 or scott.radden@lfnd.org.