FAMILY OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMC

November 2026

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JOINING HANDS Vol. 16 Issue 11 №. 194

Worship

Sundays 10:00 AM
Holy Communion

November 1 All Saints' Sunday
Leviticus 19:1-2
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

November 8 24th Sunday after Pentecost
Deuteronomy 6:4-5
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

November 15 25th Sunday after Pentecost
Leviticus 19:18
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

November 22 Christ the King Sunday
Deuteronomy 34:10-12
1 Corinthians 15:20-28
Matthew 25:31-26

November 29 First Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 64:1-9
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
John 1:1-14

Sunday School

Sunday School
9:00 AM

From Pastor Phil

Sacrifice of Thanksgiving

In the United States we trace Thanksgiving back to the Feast of Celebration by the Pilgrims after their first great harvest in the New World.

But where did the Pilgrims come up with the idea of a great feast as way to offer thanks? That is part of a much older traditions that goes back to Leviticus chapter seven.

Among all the other sacrifices described in Leviticus, was the Sacrifice of Thanksgiving. Whereas most of the sacrifices described in Leviticus were for atonement of sin (forgiveness), the Sacrifice of Thanksgiving was out of pure gratitude for the provisions of God in life. It does not expect a response from God. It is itself a response to the goodness and faithfulness of God.

The Sacrifice of Thanksgiving was divided. One portion was dedicated to God. Another was designated for the church. The last portion was shared with the community in a feast – including the poor and needy. This highlighted the unity of the community and the blessings all received rather than just one individual or one family.

Thanksgiving in our culture is always in danger of being more indulging in what we want the holiday to be than pure gratitude or the provisions of God in our lives and the celebration of the goodness and faithfulness of God. If the family cannot gather, if the meal is below expectations, if the football game is disappointing, or when a cherished tradition cannot be completed – we consider Thanksgiving to be ruined because it has not met our vision of what it should be.

In Philippians we learned about contentment in all circumstances. Contentment is linked to thanksgiving. We may not have all we want. The day may not go as anticipated. But the day is not about us. The day is about remembering in Christ we have all things – in this world and in eternity – we have every reason to give thanks.

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistants



November 1 Jeff Shuey & Jim Vassar
November 8 Jeff Shuey & Jim Vassar
November 15 Jeff Shuey & Jim Vassar
November 22 Jeff Shuey & Jim Vassar
November 29 Jeff Shuey & Jim Vassar

Lectors



November 1 Shirley Smith
November 8 Shirley Smith
November 15 Linda Grover
November 22 Jeff Shuey
November 29 Jim Vassar

Communion Bread Bakers



November 1 Tom Nahm
November 8 Lynn Miller
November 15 manna
November 22 Wanda Phares
November 29 Melissa Jameson

Coffee Brewers

The Java Café is open with snacks available.

Happy Birthday

November 6
Martha Arter
November 7
Kathy Kaufman
November 10
Grace Heck
November 16
Emily Cholodewitsch
November 18
Thomas Bean
Jamie Cholodewitsch
November 19
Charon Kline
November 25
Andy Kimmet
November 27
Barb Trout
November 28
Rob Stine II
November 29
Bailey Nelson





A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has answered the call to serve in our mission and ministry. Not just to those who are visible to all in the tasks they take on, but to those who work behind the scenes. Not just to those we see as doing big, important things, but to those who are faithful in those things that don't get the honor that is warranted. Appreciation also to those who are limited in doing tasks but huge in praying each day faithfully.

Spiritual Growth Opportunities

Youth Sunday School
November 1 -
November 8 -
November 15 -
November 22 -
November 29 -





Women of Faith will meet Thursday, November 5, 2026, at 6:00 PM and will be filling Operation Christmas Child boxes for Samaritan's Purse.



If you need a ride to church on Sundays, can provide a ride, please let David Murray know. Also, if you can visit any of our shut-ins, please let David know.



November Mission Baskets will be Angel Tree for the Salvation Army. We will have a tree with boys and girls tags on it for items that may be purchased for the children.





Also, ALL OCC Boxes need to be at the church by Sunday, November 15, 2026.



Family of Faith is to work the Sharing Kitchen on Monday, November 9, and Thursday, November 12, 2026, at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. We need 5 people each day (2 at 10:30 AM & 3 at 11AM), if you are able to help, please see Dave Murray to sign-up.



All Saints' Sunday
and All Saints' Day is Sunday, November 1, 2026, when we remember those loved ones from our congregation that have been called home to our heavenly Father as saints to dwell with Him, since last year's All Saints' Day.

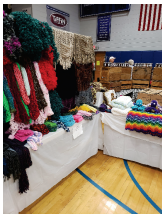
Name	Died
Donald E. Arter, Jr.	May 6, 2026
Janet Mae Sellers	June 20, 2026
Joan E. Perry	June 25, 2026
Grace Elizabeth McKechnie	September 20, 2026



Midweek Bible Study and Discussion Our discussion about John's Gospel will continue through November on Tuesdays at 1:30 PM. All are welcome. Midweek discussions will take a break in December to accommodate schedule needs or everyone heading into the Christmas season.



Veterans Day On Sunday, November 8, 2026, we will be honoring our veterans as Veterans Day is Wednesday, November 11, 2026.



Craft Show Family of Faith has a space at the Mohawk craft show Saturday, November 21, 2026 from 9am to 3 pm. If anyone has any crafts they would like to donate, Linda Grover would be happy to take them. Any questions, talk to Linda.



Pie, Cookie, & Candy Sale
Congregational Care sponsoring a Pie, Cookie, & Candy Sale on Sunday, November 22, 2026. So if you are making pies, cookies, or candy for the holidays, could you please make some extra and bring it to church for November 22, 2026.
Looking for a chance to have pie, cookies, or candy for Thanksgiving gatherings but don't have the time or skill to do so? Make a donation and take it home with you. Just want a sweet treat? Buy a slice of pie.



This year we will host the cooperative Thanksgiving Eve worship at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, November 25, 2026. We will be joined by members of First Christian and other local churches. There will be an informal fellowship time after the worship service.



Thursday, 26, 2026



Our church office will be closed on Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27, 2026, for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



Sunday, November 29, 2026 is the beginning of Advent. This will be our first Christmas in our new facility. We are asking as many members as possible to participate in getting our worship area prepared for Advent and Christmas. Many hands make light work. **Join us at 9:00 AM on Saturday, November 28, 2026.**



Sunday, November 29, 2026

Join us as we start the celebration of the Advent season and anticipate the coming birth of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Thank You's

In last month's newsletter, the Finance Team presented a list of cost items that totaled 3500.00 and that we were seeking donations to help offset the cost. I'm happy to report that we quickly exceeded the amount requested and still have additional commitments that may be coming in soon. Once again, this congregation has stepped up to meet a challenge, and for that, I would like to extend a huge thank you!

God Bless!

Dan Miller, Finance Team Leader



Deadlines: Bulletins - Thursday each week. Newsletter - the 25th of each month.

Please be mindful of the deadlines, so that the production of these important materials can be done in a timely fashion.

Above and Beyond

Now that we are in our facility, where do we go from here? Has the need to give above and beyond our regular giving disappeared?

We cannot consider continuing our facility renovation until our debt on the current renovation is paid. Above and Beyond Giving toward the building fund will progress us to that goal.

Once the debt is paid, we need Above and Beyond Giving toward the second phase of renovation: the classroom and small group meeting spaces. There may be costs to equip these spaces as well as construction costs.

When the classrooms are completed, the third phase renovation can be done: taking the west wing of the building and making it our worship and large group seating area. This would allow our multi-purpose room to better serve its purpose.

In addition to internal renovation there will be costs to improve the grounds, sidewalks, and parking areas. We are now owners of a building with possible unexpected expenses in maintenance and repair.

The danger in having a building is that it has the potential to take monetary resources away that are needed in mission and ministry. We exist to do mission and ministry. Giving to that purpose should never be transferred to facility. That is why we call giving to the facility Above and Beyond Giving. Without reducing what you place in regular giving, consider what you are being called to do Above and Beyond.

Vision Team Highlights

- Pastor's Report - Pastor Phil: Preaching and Teaching 2026-27: Pastor Phil distributed the teaching schedule for 2026-2027. He will be preaching from the Gospels beginning Advent until Easter.

CRU Pizza Party: there will be a CRU party here Saturday, October 17, 2026. There will be students from Heidelberg and Tiffin University. This is a thank-you for their help moving us out of the mall.

- Finance - Dan Miller: Dan said that we need to start budgeting for next year.

The congregation did step up in giving towards what was listed in the newsletter.

Dan gave the current financials, we may need to do an appeal at the annual meeting.

The QR code isn't being used too often.

The new internet service is up and running. There are a few bugs, but it is much faster than what we had before.

- Facilities - Jeff Shuey: Sign Update: the sign is here and they are in the process of installing it. The sign was made in one day.

HVAC Update: it has been repaired and it is working.

Winter Parking Lot Snow Plowing: an announcement will be made next Sunday to see if anyone might know of someone.

Fall Projects in October/November: Jeff said that he has the next two weeks free and will work on the gutters along the back parking lot.

Also, the hole where the birds are getting in needs to be "plugged."

- Worship - Kathy Falter: Sunday Morning Technology: only Pastor Phil and Teresa know how to turn on the screens, etc. Other people need to learn. Kathy said that she would like to learn.

Plans for Thanksgiving: Pastor Phil said that the Thanksgiving Eve service will be held here. The service will be at 7:00 p.m. and refreshments will be served afterwards.

Hanging of the Greens: the first Sunday of Advent is November 29. We need to decorate for Christmas before then.

- Spiritual Development - Beth Nahm & Zo Redman: Future Activities and Programming: They are discussing possibilities for adult programs.

Amy Schwartz is teaching the children's Sunday School. Amy is using Peggy's 3-year teaching plan.

Garage Sale: the sale will take place Saturday, October 17, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Trunk or Treat: goodies will be passed out October 25, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

- Congregational Care - Dave Murray: Oktoberfest Update: Dave said that we will come in the Friday before to make sure everything is ready for the potluck.

Shut-In Communion: Dave visits shut-ins the third Sunday of each month. Tom Nahm visits those members at the Willows.

Beth said that there are lap robes in storage that can be given to the shut-ins.

- Outreach - Julie Engle: Upcoming Mission Baskets: October: Christmas boxes due November 15 & November: Angel Tree for the Salvation Army

Blessing Box Update: It is up and running.

- Volunteer Coordination - Jim Vassar: Jim has one person interested in chairing the Worship Committee, but no one for Congregational Care.
- President's Report - No Report

Contact Information

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Praying Angels Ministry
Prayer Requests: 419.619.6904 or E-mail: hiettgirl1@aol.com

Office Hours: The church office is open from 2-5PM, through the week.

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