



12145 W. EDGERTON AVE. | HALES CORNERS, WI 53130 | 414-427-9337

<http://www.messiahhalescorners.com> ✠ Email: LBernthal@MessiahHC.org

Luke Bernthal, Pastor

Paul Tiefel, Principal

Levi Schaller, Teacher

Carrie Reim, Teacher

Phone: 402-389-2147

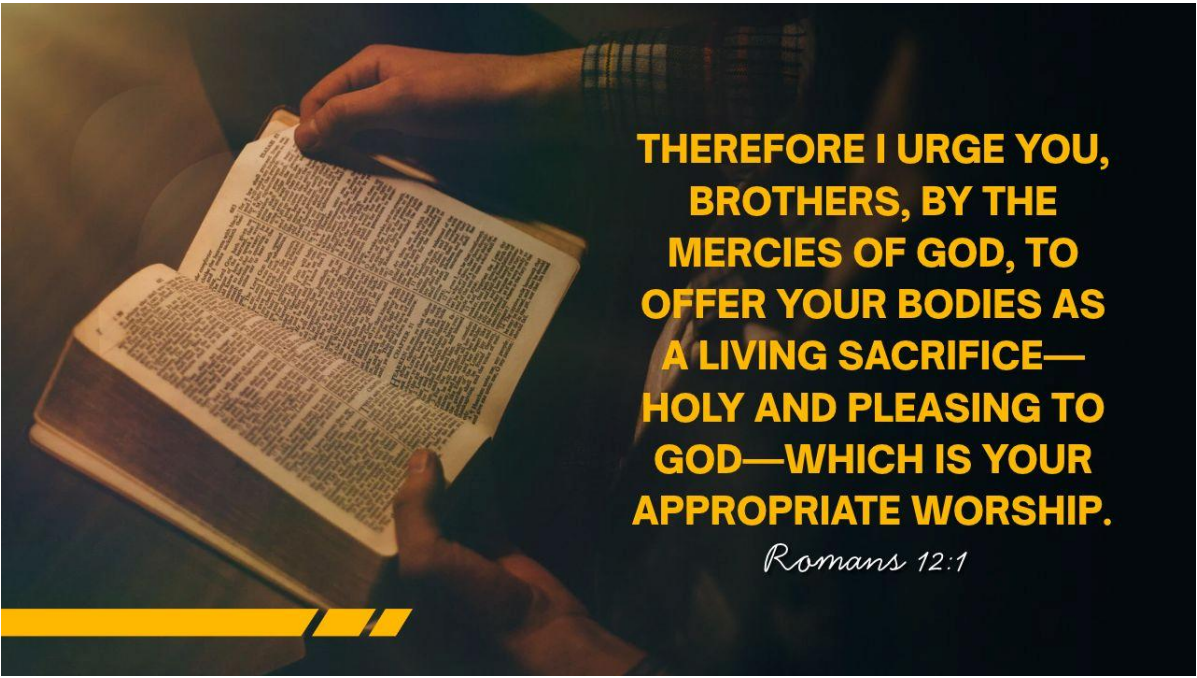
Phone: 715-869-3733

Phone: 715-529-4368

Phone: 715-529-4030

September 6, 2026

Pentecost 15

A photograph showing a pair of hands holding an open Bible. The Bible is open to a page with dense text, and the hands are positioned as if reading or presenting it. The background is dark and out of focus.

**THEREFORE I URGE YOU,
BROTHERS, BY THE
MERCIES OF GOD, TO
OFFER YOUR BODIES AS
A LIVING SACRIFICE—
HOLY AND PLEASING TO
GOD—WHICH IS YOUR
APPROPRIATE WORSHIP.**

Romans 12:1

We Welcome Our Visitors who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.

We invite you to join us every Sunday. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.

If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor.

✠ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 32 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Opening Hymn: 707 *Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways*

LSB 707

SERVICE OF THE WORD

(Worship Supplement, p. 12)

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

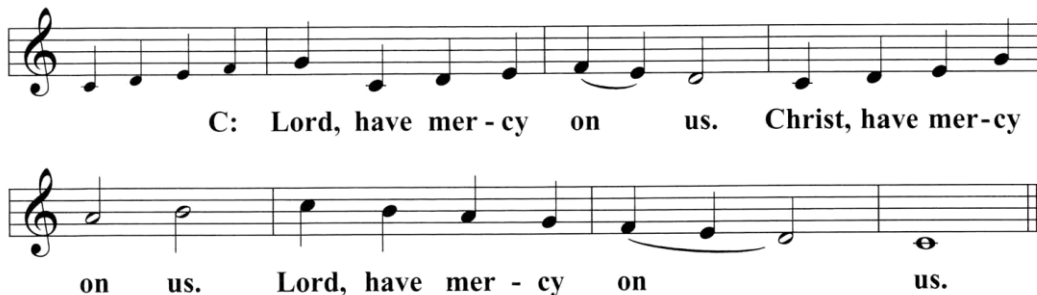
G **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful by nature. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy upon me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P God our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. Through faith in Him, which was created in you by the Holy Spirit, you are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

G Amen.

Kyrie *Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.*

W.S. p. 13



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Gloria in Excelsis *Latin for "Glory to God in the highest."*

W.S. p. 13



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,
Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:
We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,
Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your Holy Spirit, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them. We pray this in Jesus' name, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

First Reading

Jeremiah 15:15-21 (EHV)

¹⁵ O LORD, you understand. Remember me and care for me.

Take vengeance for me on those who persecute me.

You are slow to anger. Do not take me away.

Keep in mind that for your sake I bear disgrace.

¹⁶ Your words came to me, and I devoured them.

Your words became my joy, the delight of my heart,
because I bear your name, O LORD God of Armies.

¹⁷ I did not sit with the band of partygoers, nor did I celebrate with them.

I sat alone, because your hand was upon me. You filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unending? Why is my wound incurable, refusing to heal?

Will you be as deceptive as an intermittent stream to me,
like a source of water that a person can't depend on?

¹⁹ Therefore this is what the LORD says.

If you repent, I will take you back, so that you may stand before me.

If what you say is worthwhile and not worthless, you will be my spokesman.

They must turn to you, but you must not turn to them.

²⁰ I will make you like a bronze wall to this people.

They will fight against you, but they will not overcome you,
because I am with you to save you and to rescue you, declares the LORD.

²¹ I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked,
and I will deliver you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Second Reading

Matthew 16:21-26 (EHV)

P The second reading is from Matthew 16:21-26.

G Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!

²¹ From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again.

²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "May you receive mercy, Lord! This will never happen to you."

²³ But Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a snare to me because you are not thinking the things of God, but the things of men."

Take Up the Cross

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ²⁵ In fact whoever wants to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ After all, what will it benefit a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what can a person give in exchange for his soul?

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it!

Alleluia and Verse

When God speaks to us in His Word it is natural for us to respond. We sing "Alleluia!"—meaning, "Praise the Lord!"



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**☩ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Hymn of the Day: 722 *Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me*

LSB 722

Sermon Text: Romans 12:1-8 (EHV)

Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. ² Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect.

³ So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you. ⁴ For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. ⁵ In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us. If the gift is prophecy, do it in complete agreement with the faith. ⁷ If it is serving, then serve. If it is teaching, then teach. ⁸ If it is encouraging, then encourage. If it is contributing, be generous. If it is leadership, be diligent. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully.

Sermon Theme: Living Sacrifices

† What does Paul mean by the term **“living sacrifice”** (v. 1)

† In other words, our worship is more than just...

† In what ways can we be **“living sacrifices”** to God?

○ **v. 2 –**

○ **v. 3 –**

○ **v. 6-8 -**

Offertory

W.S. p. 16



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me
not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

Sermon Hymn: 783 *Take My Life and Let it Be*

LSB 783

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Prayer of the Church *We bring our prayers to God.*

Lord's Prayer

- ☐ Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

*Now we approach the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in which Jesus comes to bless us with His very body and blood.
We move toward the Sacrament with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of adoration.*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P It is truly fitting, right, and spiritually beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Holy, Holy, Holy *Sanctus*

W.S. p. 18



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of Sa - ba-oth, a-dored; Heav'n and
earth with full ac-claim shout the glo - ry of Your name. Sing ho -
san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord; Tru - ly
blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

The Words of Institution

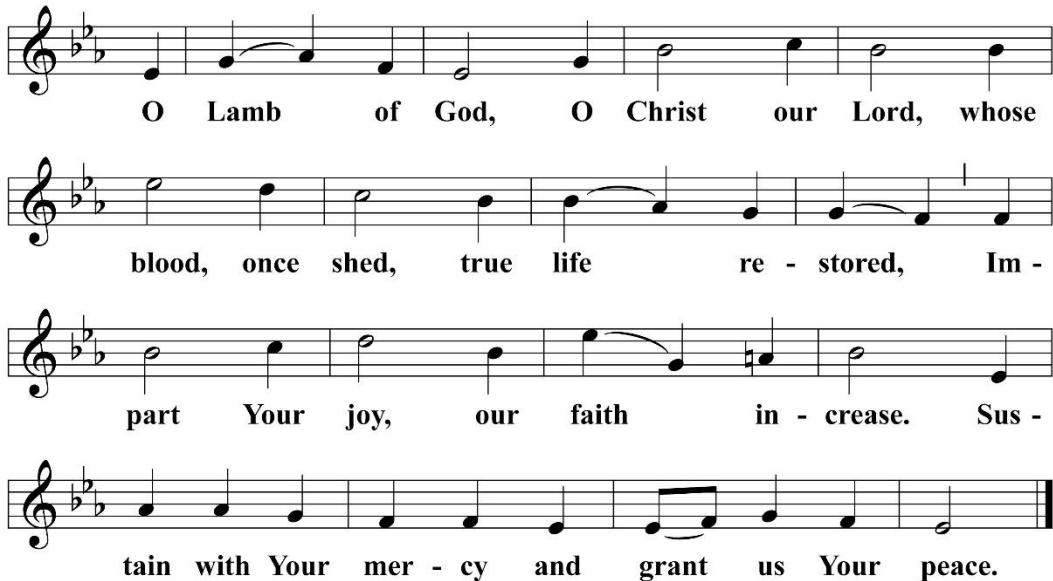
The words spoken by Jesus the night He instituted the Lord's Supper, by which our Lord assured to His Church the real presence of His body and blood in the Sacrament.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always!

G Amen.

Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

W.S. p. 19



O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose
blood, once shed, true life re - stored, Im -
part Your joy, our faith in - crease. Sus -
tain with Your mer - cy and grant us Your peace.

The Distribution

Note to our Guests: We are so glad you are worshiping with us today. The Word of God treats the Lord's Supper with great care. The Word of God considers the Lord's Supper to be a wonderful Means of Grace – a way in which Christ forgives and blesses. It is also considered an opportunity for congregations to express unity and oneness (1 Corinthians 10:16-17) – that is, to say to the world "This is what we believe!" But God's Word also warns against taking the Sacrament to our judgment (1 Corinthians 11:27-30). For these reasons our congregation asks that you fully understand our teachings before partaking. We respectfully ask that those who have joined this congregation through public confession of faith, or who are members of another congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) approach the altar at the usher's direction. Speak to our pastor anytime and he will be glad to provide the information you would need – and want. We look forward to communing together, Lord willing, in the future.

Communion Hymns: 618 LSB; 619 LSB; 634 LSB

O Lord, Now Let Your Servant *Nunc Dimittus*

W.S. p. 20

C: 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace: A
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One; For

light as in lead the be - Gen - tiles Un -
as in the be - gin - ning, Is

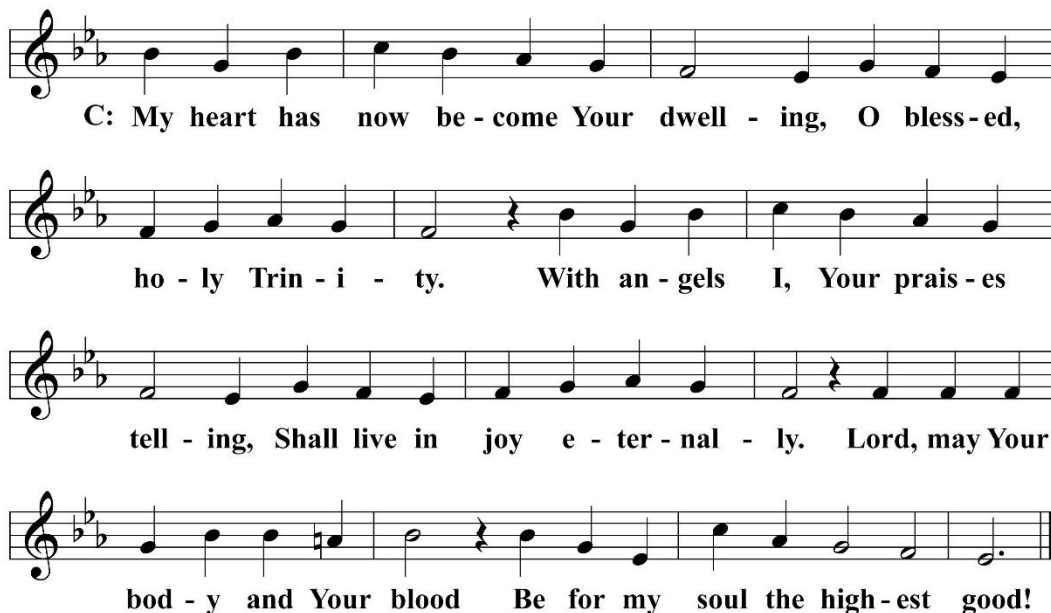
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Thanksgiving

W.S. p. 21



C: My heart has now be - come Your dwell - ing, O bless - ed,
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Your prais - es
tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly. Lord, may Your
bod - y and Your blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

Benediction *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn: 643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing *(Please stand for our closing hymn)*

Announcements



Welcome! We welcome all our visitors this evening.
Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again soon.

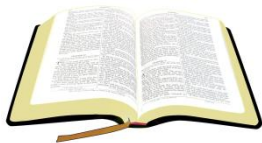
Today: **Worship w/ communion – 9am**
9/6/26

This Week: Monday – *Labor Day (No School at MLS)*
Tuesday – **First day of school year for K4 at MLS**
Worship Service at New Perspective (Franklin) – 11am
Board of Education – 6pm
Wednesday – **Worship Service at The Villa (Greenfield) – 10am**
Wednesday Bible Class – 6:30pm (Zoom & In-Person)
Thursday – **Board of Property – 5:30pm** (rescheduled)
Elders Meeting – 6:30pm
Saturday – **Messiah Block Party – 6:30-8:30pm**

Church Cleaning: Team #6 (9/5-9/11); Team #7 (9/12-9/18)

Next Sunday: **Worship – 9am**
9/13/26 **Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am**

Sunday School and Bible Class Resume Next Sunday – September 13th – Our Sunday School and Sunday Bible Class will resume next Sunday at 10:15am. Our Sunday School teachers' installation will take place during the worship service next Sunday. Principal Paul Tiefel will be kicking off our Bible Class season by delivering the paper he presented at the Great Lakes Delegate Conference in June: "Building the Breakwater: The Congregations Role in Christian Education and Its Benefits." Please make plans to join us!



Wednesday Evening Bible Study @ 6:30pm Please make plans to join us either in-person or online via Zoom for our Wednesday Evening Bible Class. We are finishing our study of **1 Peter**. To join online please click on Pastor Luke's Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8729663333>



Messiah Block Party – This Saturday, September 12th – 6:30-8:30pm – Please join us for our annual Block Party this Saturday (9/12) at 6:30 PM on Messiah's front lawn! Bring a lawn chair and invite your friends and neighbors for games, music, and food around the campfire. Hope to see you there!

Church Music Volunteers Needed – We are in need of volunteers to serve in the areas of choir director and church music director, as well as additional volunteers to serve as accompanists for worship services. If you are interested in helping out in any of these areas, or if you have questions about serving in these areas, please speak with Pastor Luke, or our Elders chairman, Eric Williams (cell: 414-587-5062, or email: eandhwilliams@hotmail.com).

Lawn Mowing Sign-Up Sheet – We are in need of volunteers each week to help with the lawn mowing on the church property. Please sign the sheet on the cupboard in the church hallway. If you'd like more information please speak with Adam Brown, Board of Property Chairman. Please join us in helping keep our property beautiful this summer, to the glory of the Lord!



CLC Women's Retreat-West – September 18th – 20th - We currently have nearly 80 women from 22 different CLC congregations registered to attend the Women's Retreat in Oacoma, SD, the weekend of September 18th. If you would like to join us, please register by Friday, September 4th. Information can be found at: <https://womensretreat.clclutheran.net/womens-retreat-west/>

ManUp! Weekend – September 24th – 27th - The 2026 ManUp! Men's Weekend will be held **September 24-27, 2026**, at beautiful **Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI**. This is the 10th year of the weekend, and will offer strength and encouragement for men 18 and older for their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The weekend will include Bible study, fellowship, leadership training, team building, relationship building, worship, and many outdoor bonding activities. Registration is now \$150 after August 31st deadline. The registration includes lodging and meals. You can register by going to the Man Up! website here: www.manup.clclutheran.org. Sign up today!

CLC News –Pastor Matthew Hanel of St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church, Dallas, TX, has **received** the call to Gift of God Lutheran Church, Mapleton, ND. <> Pastor Tom Schuetze of St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church, Lakewood, CO, has **received** the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. <> Pastor Chad Seybt of Morning Star Lutheran Church, Fairchild, WI, Peace with God Lutheran Church, Onalaska, WI, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Melrose, WI, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Millston, WI, has **received** the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD, has **received** the call to St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, Austin, MN. <> Mr. Nick Naumann has **received** the call to St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD.

ANNIVERSARIES Grace Lutheran School, Fridley, MN, will be celebrating its 50th anniversary on September 13, 2026. Pastor Neal Radichel will be the guest speaker. <> Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Spokane Valley, WA, will be celebrating its 75th anniversary on September 20, 2026. President Michael Wilke will be the guest speaker. <> Ascension Lutheran Church, Batavia, IL, will be celebrating its 60th anniversary on October 11, 2026. Pastor Emeritus David Schierenbeck will be the guest speaker.

CLC Financial Report - July 2026

Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2026	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 1 Months	Balance 7/31/2026
General Fund	0	143,062	121,650	116,160	21,412
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	80,824	132,233	150,583	(51,409)
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	44,576	4,311	0		48,887
ILC Building Projects	2,605,801	353,546	0		2,959,347
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	214,363	20,804	23,516		211,651
Kinship	167,226	14,307	13,888		167,645
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	2,493,069	55,238	4,166		2,544,141
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	113,134	10,721	1,063		122,792
EduK8 Fund	111,312	2,544	28,000		85,856
Reserv e Fund	143,591	783	0		144,374
Auxiliary Funds Totals	\$5,893,072	\$462,254	\$70,633		\$6,284,693

July is the start of our new fiscal year and a good time to look forward to the financial goals set before us. The Convention passed a **General Fund** budget of \$1,393,920 for the new year or \$116,160 per month. This is an 18% increase over contributions received last year. July started off well with General Fund receipts of over \$143,000 for the month. With the substantial increase in the need for contributions over last year to do the work set before us, your prayers, consideration, and contributions will continue to be needed throughout the new year.

You can look at the detail above to see how each of the other funds fared in July. Of note were significant contributions to the ILC Building Projects with over \$350,000 received in July. We were also made aware of significant contributions to that fund that will be coming in after the first of the year. This was in response to the Convention action regarding the new gymnasium proposed for the campus of ILC.

Stephen R. Lentz, CLC Treasurer

Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees

Bible Readings:

9/6	Hos. 4 Psalm 69 Rom. 4:13-25
9/7	Hos. 5 Psalm 70 Rom. 5
9/8	Hos. 6 Psalm 71 Rom. 6:1-14
9/9	Hos. 7 Psalm 72 Rom. 6:15-23
9/10	Hos. 8 Psalm 73 Rom. 7:1-6
9/11	Hos. 9 Psalm 74 Rom. 7:7-25
9/12	Hos. 10 Psalm 75 Rom. 8:1-17



SCAN FOR
ONLINE
OFFERING

September Ushers

Cleaning Team
9/12-9/18

Darren Mueller	Team 7
Nick Blue	J/L Lisak
Jason Bailey	E/J Nelson
	E/H Williams
September Slideshow	B/B Naumann
Dave Albrecht	M/A Whiting

Fruits of Faith August 16-31:		
General Offerings:	\$16,750.29	
Budgetary Needs:	\$19,370.92	
Over (Under) Budget:	(\$2,620.63)	
CDSIF:	\$300.00	
MSAF:	\$50.00	
ILC Building Fund:	\$99.75	
MDF:	\$120.00	
Missions:	\$125.00	
ILCSAF:	\$200.00	
Kinship:	\$170.00	
YTD (thru 8/31) Budget \$77,484	Received \$57,971	Difference -\$19,513
Norm Mackensen Mem.: \$310 Ray Zechel Mem.: \$785		
Attendance Last Week (8/30): 119		

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