



St. James News

CHRIST AT THE CENTER. TRUTH IN ALL THINGS

Volume 72 Issue 9

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From The Desk Of *Pastor Mark Loder*

October Spiritual Discipline: Receiving the Lord's Good Gifts

Life is filled with action. People are always on the move. Meals need to be made. Laundry needs to be folded. Homes need cleaning. Groceries need to be gotten. Bills need to be paid. Jobs must get done. Children need to be lugged around to school and a wide assortment of activities. The list is endless.

Much of the flurry of activity that surrounds life we have brought on ourselves. If you don't control your time, somebody else will. If you don't manage your schedule, your schedule will manage you. "6 Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise, 7 Which, having no captain, Overseer or ruler, 8 Provides her supplies in the summer, And gathers her food in the harvest." (Proverbs 6:6-8). The ant is intelligent enough to prioritize and execute. The ant knows what it needs, when it needs it, and works hard to get it. No one makes the schedule for the ant. The ant simply knows there is a time for work and there is a time for rest.

The Lord built times of work and times of rest into His creation. "9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. 11 For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it." (Exodus 20:9-11)

Now the Sabbath was created for both physical and spiritual rest. It was a specific day set aside for the children of Israel. How does the Sabbath then apply to us? Luther teaches in the Small Catechism: "We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it." To despise preaching does not merely mean outright hatred. To despise God's Word can also mean to be indifferent to it or to prioritize something else above it.

This month, let us be sure to treasure the gift the Lord gives to us in the third commandment: His Word. **FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, OUR SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE IS TO ATTEND DIVINE SERVICE AND BIBLE STUDY/SUNDAY SCHOOL EVERY WEEK.** If a weekend takes you out of town, then attend a sister congregation. Do not let anything get in the way of what is most important for you: receiving the good gifts of Christ.

Jesus delivers His saving benefits to us through the pure preaching of His Word and through the proper administration of His Sacraments. To deprive oneself of such gifts, even for one day, is to be deprived of the rest that is to be found in Him. He invites all the weary and heavy laden to find rest for their souls. The rest of the soul can only come through the reception of the forgiveness of sins. So every time the Divine Service is offered, come. Every time the Lord's Supper is offered, receive it. You will find rest in Jesus.

Then stay for Bible Study. It's the second part of finding rest in Jesus as His Word feeds us, and we grow up into Him who is our head. Your spiritual rest is found in the work of Jesus. He is active so that you may be a passive recipient of the treasures of heaven. There is nothing for you to do when Jesus is at work. Simply come. All is ready.

Our Church Records

Church Attendance

Sunday, August 30	157
Sunday, September 6	124
Sunday, September 13	197
Sunday, September 20	227
Sunday, September 27	191

Communion Attendance

Sunday, August 30	114
Sunday, September 6	90
Sunday, September 13	137
Sunday, September 20	142
Sunday, September 27	114

Baptism

Layne Ryker Solberg son of Austin Solberg and Alaina Butcher, on September 23, 2026, by Pastor Loder. His Sponsors are Jace Butcher and Chloe Turner.

✠ **Bible Trivia** ✠

See answers below

1. How did Eli die?
2. What two examples of Abraham's great faith are cited in the epistle of Hebrews?
3. Who said the following, "Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed."?
4. What term was used to refer to the disciples for the first time in Antioch?
5. What event caused Jesus to desire solitude in a boat?

Answers: 1. Fell off a chair and broke his neck. (1 Samuel 3:1). 2. His moving to an unknown land and his willingness to sacrifice his son (Isaac) (Hebrews 11:8 and 17). 3. The centurion (at Capernaum) (Matthew 8:8). 4. Christians (Acts 11:26). 5. The death of John the Baptist (Matthew 14:13).



Hear the Good News of the Gospel on the Lutheran hour each Sunday at 9:00 am on KDUZ 1260 AM Radio.

During the month of October, you will hear the following topics:

October 4, 2026

"Embrace Life"

Jesus offers His abundant life to people plagued by pain and problems. John 10:10-11

October 11, 2026

"Covered"

Proper Attire Required: how God covers us with the robe of Christ's perfect righteousness. Matthew 22:11-12

October 18, 2026

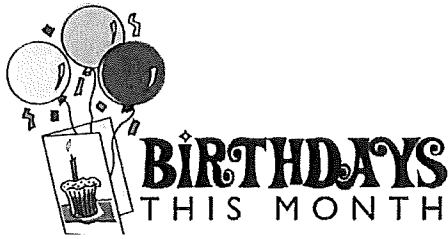
"The Heart of the Matter"

How do you respond to tough questions about God and faith? Hear how Jesus delivers us from the tightest of tight spots and keeps us from falling into a trap. Matthew 22:15-22

October 25, 2026

"Relief"

You don't have to earn God's favor. It is the relief waiting to find us before we even knew we had a problem. Romans 3:23-24



October: Sandra Diers (1), Alexander Workman (1), Ruth Young (1), Caden Zillmer (1), Marisa Graham (2), Doris Jakes (2), Olivia Cardinal (3), Harper Salmela (3), Jessica Glessing (4), Sonia Lee (4), James Ittel (5), Everett Painschab (5), Jacob Gruenhagen (7), Isaiah Reich (7), Robin Oestreich (8), Rebecca Leaf (9), Oliver Nikko (10), Paul Wackler (10), Mark Diers (11), Suzanne Koosman (12), Marissa Woolhouse (12), Adelynn Wurm (12), Barbara Bickmann (13), Andrew Koosman (13), Leah Bobrowske (14), Aurora Moorhouse (14), Alex Zimmerman (14), Brian Diers (15), Brian Stueven (15), Mark Stueven (16), Mark Wackler (16), Cody Painschab (18), Kristal Stueven (18), Nancy Butterfass (19), Steven Morrisette (19), Daniel Koosman (20), Justyn Love (21), Mallory Whitton (26), Diane Borg (27), Andrew Pehl (27), Bradley Dickens (28), Jodie Bobrowske (30), Julie Burau (30), Lance Luchsinger (30), Audrey Ogle (31).

Happy Anniversary

10/1 John & Jane Kothrade
 10/1 Steven & Jessica Morrisette
 10/3 Michael & Stacey Sparkman
 10/5 Brian & Kiaysa Burau
 10/5 Dennis & Vicky Glessing
 10/5 Donald & Tammy Oestreich
 10/9 Terry & Larae Ostgulen
 10/11 Ryan & Lisa Ogle
 10/12 Brian & Yvonne Currey
 10/15 Jeffrey & Maria Kilpela
 10/18 Peter & Catherine Radintz
 10/18 Pete & Heather Zimmerman
 10/19 Gary & Becky Hagemann
 10/20 Donovan & Marlene Jensen
 10/20 Robert & Deborah Workman
 10/22 Derek & Mary Nikko
 10/26 Jeremy & Michelle Peterson
 10/29 Justin & Christine Hassa



Becky opened our September meeting with devotions based on Psalm 139:14, "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made".

Darlene Lind, whose career was a Registered Nurse and Educator, spoke to us on Women's Health, giving us recommended advice and information on personal health.

Marge led the business meeting. Reports were read. October 4th is LWML Sunday and we will put out the Mite Box for Mission donations and information on LWML. Our annual Chicken Dinner will be October 11th, 11-1 PM. St. James LWML will host the LWML Fall Zone Rally Saturday, October 17th from 9 AM to Lunch. We sang the Birthday song and table Prayer and enjoyed refreshments and fellowship. Our next meeting will be at the home of Norma Koosman on October 5th.

ARE YOU FALL-O-WEEN JESUS???
 Matthew 4:19

ORDER YOUR
 SAINTS WEAR



St. James Spirit Wear is here! We are thrilled to collaborate with A+ Performance of Maple Lake. Check out the selection available to order.

To order, visit:
<https://appsins.com/company.site/>
 or scan the QR code to place your order





Everyone is invited to
the

LWML

Dinner

at the School

Sunday, October 11

11 AM to 1:00 PM

Dine-in~Take-out~Drive-thru

Come enjoy a baked Chicken Dinner with all the fixings of mashed potatoes/gravy, stuffing, cranberries, vegetables, coleslaw, buns, beverage, and apple or pumpkin pie.

A donation of \$15 or more will be gratefully accepted to support mission projects and Christmas gifts.

*The Lutheran
Women's
Missionary
League
welcomes you!*



LCMS Family Ministry

"Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs"
(Psalm 100:2 NIV).

The Bible is filled with places that praise God and talk about singing songs of praise. The Psalms in particular are full of this. We have a God who has done it all for us, and so we can respond with praise. We have a rich tradition of songs and hymns that praise our God. Many of these songs and hymns can help to teach the Christian faith, especially since songs are an easy way to learn and memorize. Little children learn songs easily and often these songs that we learn when we are very young are the ones that stay with us when we grow old. Parents can encourage children to sing by singing in church or by playing music at home or in the car that praises God and teaches the Christian faith.

LCMS Stewardship

It's in the Way that You Use It

Consider the humble baseball bat. It is a simple tool designed for a complex task. The batter needs a tool that can consistently deliver force to a small ball which may be thrown at over 100 miles per hour, but which might also come slanting across the plate as a slow curve. For a game like this, the founders of baseball had to redesign the old cricket bat, which is more of a flat paddle. The tool had to fit the job. But even a specially-designed tool can be used for a different purpose. It turns out that some years ago in England, the home of cricket, baseball bats suddenly started selling like hotcakes. What were folks across the pond doing with all those baseball bats? Using them as clubs in riots! A tool can be used, and it can be misused. It's all in the way that you use it. The same is true with the things of God. The Second Commandment states that we should "not misuse the name of the Lord." In the Small Catechism, Luther goes on to tell us exactly what this misuse is, as well as the proper use: "We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks." (SC I) The Lord has given us His name: He has placed it upon us in Holy Baptism and He has invited us to pray to Him as our Father. In this sense, the Lord's name is something for us to use. We should not misuse it ... and we should not fail to use it. The Pharisees of old were so afraid of misusing the name of God that they decided to simply never say the name of God (YHWH, Jehovah) at all! This non-use is just as bad as misuse. The Lord gives His gifts for our use. A Christian steward is one who is called to use all of God's gifts for His purposes. This includes things like the Name of God, the Sacraments and the Word, and it also includes things like our family and friends, our talents and skills, our money and resources. Everything that God has given to you, He has given to you so that you may be blessed to use it for His kingdom. It's all in the way that you use it!

LCMS Church Worker Wellness

October is Church Worker Appreciation Month! There are countless ways for individuals to express appreciation and for congregations to show love and gratitude for their church workers. Here are simply a few ideas: Pray for your pastor, deaconess, Lutheran school teachers and other called church workers serving in your midst. Write a handwritten note of encouragement. Give a gift — whether big or small, a simple gesture of remembrance goes a long way. For even more specific ideas, visit thelc.ms/appreciation. What a gift when congregation and church workers mutually encourage each other, so that the Gospel may spread and that faith may grow among us all (Romans 1:12).

Monthly Financial Report

St. James Lutheran Church
Monthly Financial Summary
August 2026

	Year to Date	
	Actual	Budget
Receipts		
Offerings & Donations	60,724	58,642
Tuition & Other Receipts	5,595	29,012
Mission Receipts	231	875
Total Receipts	66,549	88,529
Expenses		
Salaries-Church & School	41,195	50,698
Benefits/Payroll/Taxes/Mileage	13,082	13,091
Administration & Program Expenses	5,640	6,470
Utilities/Maintenance & Repair	36,410	19,265
Mission Disbursements	-	146
Total Expenses	96,327	89,669
Net Receipts/Expenses	(29,778)	(1,141)

HELLO FROM THE HALLOCK FAMILY

Dr. St. James,

"We Give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you" (Colossians 1:3).

We pray that you all are well, especially now that the busy season is upon us again. We are doing well ourselves. Seminary classes started the day after Labor Day. So far, the school year hasn't been as bad as I was anticipating coming back to seminary. But perhaps that's because we're not that far into the year. We'll see how I feel midway through. Though school has just started, we have few things we can update you all with.

First things first, the family is doing very well. I think everyone is now settled into our new routines. Jacob

started preschool at Ascension Lutheran Church and School here in Fort Wayne. From what I've heard from his teacher, he is doing well. She says he is a sponge for knowledge and well-behaved (I'm sure she's not obliterating at all haha). We've got to do a few activities with the school. Jacob and I attended their literacy night, which is a night set aside to encourage families to read more together. We had a blast with different activities they had like reading games, quiet reading time, listening to stories read aloud, and then sat through an interactive "play" put on by the drama club. We also went to their back-to-school BBQ which was fun for our whole family.

Ananise has been busy as well. She has been doing home education with Madelynn, focusing on numbers and the alphabet. She is also busy preparing to open up her farm stand at our local farmers' market next month. There she's going to be selling different bakery items, with her sourdough being the highlight. She is quite excited to get started; she pretty much has everything she needs. Madelynn is growing like a weed. She's been busy learning new things and getting into lots of mischief, with and without Jacob.

As for me, I'm mostly busy with classes. For classes this quarter I'm taking: Dogmatics 3, Pastoral Theology 2, Luther texts, Gospels 3 on the Gospel of John (my favorite class), and Theologia 2 on preaching (second favorite). Additionally, I've been taking a non-credit Latin class. Outside of classes, I've been filling in at different churches to help keep my preaching up to par.

In other news, we had our first placement meeting on September 9th and have officially begun the initial steps to receiving a call. This basically includes submitting a placement application to the seminary and filling out another form, called a SET. Next month, I should be assigned a professor for my Theological Interview. After that, Analise and I will sit down with our placement director and talk through where we would fit for a call.

Again, we hope you all are well. If any of you would like to update us on what's been going on with you or just want to keep in touch, we'd love to hear from you.

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Fort Wayne, IN 46835

Please continue to pray for us as we prepare for a call in the spring. We're both excited and also quite nervous. But we know the Lord will see us through it.

In Christ,
Gabriel, Ananise, Jacob, and Madelynn

Service Planner

SEASON	DATE	LITURGY	PREACHER	ORGANIST	HYMNS	COMMUNION
	Oct. 2	Chapel	Luke 14:1-11			
VIP Day	1:15 pm	Prayer and Preaching	Pastor		411, 542, 740	
	Oct. 4	Eighteenth S. after Trinity	Deut. 10:12-21	Psalms 34:8-22	1 Cor. 1:(1-3) 4-9	Matt. 22:34-46
		DS I Pg. 151	Pastor	Luke	911, 694, 922	706, 549
	Oct. 7	Chapel	Matt. 22:34-46			
		Prayer and Preaching	Pastor		930, 706, 894	
	Oct. 11	Nineteenth S. after Trinity	Gen. 28:10-17	Psalms 84	Eph. 4:22-28	Matt. 9:1-8
		DS I Pg. 151	Pastor	Nancy	847, 708, 841	748, 722, 636
	Oct. 14	Chapel	Luke 14:1-11			
		Prayer and Preaching	Pastor		849, 722, 841	
	Oct. 18	St. Luke, Evangelist	Isaiah 35:5-8	Psalms 147:1-11	2 Tim. 4:5-18	Luke 10:1-9
		DS III Pg. 184	Pastor	Molly	830, 810, 826	856, 728, 632
	Oct. 21	Chapel	Luke 14:1-11			
		Prayer and Preaching	Pastor		930, 799, 740	
REFORMATION	Oct. 25	Reformation Day (observed)	Rev. 14:6-7	Psalms 46	Rom. 3:19-28	John 8:31-36 or Matt. 11:12-19
		DS V (Printed) Pg. 203	Pastor	Nancy	584, 656, 578	744, 655, 566
	Oct. 29	Chapel	John 8:31-36 or Matt. 11:12-19			
		Prayer and Preaching	Pastor		744, 656, 578	
ALL SAINTS' DAY	Nov. 1	All Saints' Day (observed)	Rev. 7:(2-8) 9-17	Psalms 149	1 John 3:1-3	Matt. 5:1-12
		DS I	Pastor			
	Nov. 4	Chapel	Matt. 5:1-12			
		Prayer and Preaching	Pastor			

October

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 1:15 VIP Day Chapel	3
4 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity 8:00 Divine Service 9:15 Bible Study/Catechesis/SS 10:30 Divine Service	5 2:00 LWMML 7:30 Trustees Meeting	6	7 7:00 Women's Bible Study	8 9:00 Bible Study	9	10
				15 9:00 Bible Study	16	17
11 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity 8:00 Divine Service 9:15 Bible Study/Catechesis/SS 10:30 Divine Service 11-1:00 LWMML Chicken Dinner	12 1:00 Naomi Guild 7:00 Elders Meeting	13	14 8:20 Chapel 7:00 Women's Bible Study			
18 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity 8:00 Divine Service 9:15 Bible Study/Catechesis/SS 10:30 Divine Service	19 7:00 Board of Ed Meeting	20 7:00 Leadership Council	21 8:20 Chapel 7:00 Women's Bible Study	22 9:00 Bible Study 3-6:30 Flu Clinic Newsletter Articles Due	23	24
	Pastor Out of Office- Fall Pastors Conference					
25 Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity 8:00 Divine Service 9:15 Bible Study/Catechesis/SS 10:30 Divine Service	26	27	28 8:20 Chapel 7:00 Women's Bible Study	29 9:00 Bible Study	30	31



JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

in the school every
Sunday from

9:15 to 10:15 AM

All Children
Are Welcome!

Sunday School is a time
for kids to learn about
God's love, grow in their faith,
and build friendships.

Ages:
Preschool – 6th Grade

We look forward to
seeing your child there!



St. James Lutheran Church and School
1000 Seventh Avenue – PO Box 680
Howard Lake, MN 55349



Fall Blessings To: