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“Share” our events

## *The Prayer Line*

**December 2025**

Volume 25, Issue 12

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*Calendars:*

*December serving us*

*Calendar in December*

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!**

**Monday**

**December 22, 2025**



### **God and the Shut-down**

Well after over 40 days or so the longest government shutdown in American history finally came to an end last week. This was, as I said, the longest government shutdown in our nation's history. One take away

from an event like this is that it exposes just how much we depend on the government and its services. We often don't appreciate the many services and safety measures we depend on until it is taken away, everything from food safety to transportation safety. All of this had me



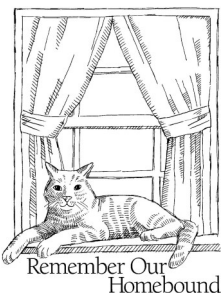
thinking, what if God shut down? A horrifying thought no one wants to think about I'm sure but what if God decided to 'shut down.' What would that look like? What would all that entail? For some who are reading this I would suspect that there were times in your life where maybe you did feel like God had shut down. Prayers that seemingly go unanswered questions that continue to linger may have had you feeling like there was a 'heavenly shut-down.' Or perhaps just the events in your life are slipping out of your control. Those times do make you feel and wonder "who really is in control?" I must admit from my chair I see and witness things all around me that even has me wondering 'where is God?' I can assure you God has not nor will He ever 'shutdown'. The reality is God works on His time and in His own way.

*Cont. on pg. 3*



Find us on  
**Facebook**

Cards, calls and prayers are much appreciated by our Military and Homebound members:



Marion Bogle  
Marlene Cawelti  
Linda Crookes  
Diana Danforth  
Brian Henderson  
Doris Martell



Brenton Campbell  
Peter Stewart

### **LCoP Prayer Chain**

When you have any prayer concerns, please let our prayer chain pray for you by contacting: [office@lcp.org](mailto:office@lcp.org)

### **Online Calendar!**

Did you know that our event calendar is online so you can access it anytime, anywhere, from the internet? Check it out at [www.lcop.org](http://www.lcop.org), click on resources under the church name. This will also be updated during the month as events change or are added! To update, please email [info@lcp.org](mailto:info@lcp.org).

### **Join Our Email List!**

Are you on our email list to have the newsletter and event reminders delivered to your inbox? Subscribe by sending an email to [info@lcp.org](mailto:info@lcp.org).



**\*\*Look for your order forms in your bulletin starting Dec. 7th.\*\***

Thank you,  
Kathy



# DECEMBER

*birthdays & anniversaries*

God's blessings to everyone on your special occasion. If you don't see your name, please call the office to make corrections or additions. We want to include everyone!

### **♥ ANNIVERSARIES ♥**

Harry & Barb Kraley  
Roy & Sheila Eynaud

### **\* BIRTHDAYS \***

John Downen  
Diane Blankenship  
Carolyn Kuhn  
Cliff Johnson  
Marilyn Henderson  
Cyndee Street  
Karl Zimmermann  
Linda Hartnett  
Carolyn Schaefer

We honor birthdays and anniversaries on the second Sunday of every month. If you would like to help with refreshments for those who are celebrating, bring your treat to church that morning.

### **Treasurer**

Profit and loss from

July of 2024 to October of 2025

LCOP income	expenses
\$110,239.23	\$130,159.85
WW income	expenses
\$162,595.36	\$171,528.57
Combined income	expenses
\$272,834.59	\$301,688.42

Thank you  
Terry Vergon  
Treasurer

## **Properties Board**

The next meeting will be on Monday December 15th, 2025 @ 6:30pm and the next work day will be on Saturday December 20th, 2025 @ 8am.

On our last work day, we cleaned the under-side of the solar panels, cleaned up the mess caused by the storm on the school playground, put up new camera signs, plus other monthly tasks. This coming work day we'll be doing routine chores and cleanup for Christmas.

Continued prayers for our and all Pastors doing God's work. Pray for all Christian churches and our nation.

Properties Board member

Properties Board  
Donald Votaw



*Continued from Pastor,*

By not operating on our schedule we can often feel as if we are going through some sort of heavenly 'shutdown,' but I assure you we are not. Take the children of Israel, in their wonderings in the desert they cried out to the Lord over their 'lack of provision.' But through God's provincial hand He provided for them in His own way and in the end, they lacked nothing. God provides for everything we need, food, family, shelter, good government (even if they don't act like it). But most especially He provides our ultimate need of faith and forgiveness. And we can be assured that God's grace never shuts down for us.

Pastor Hendricks

## **Wonder Window**

I wanted to start by thanking everyone for always keeping Wonder Window in your prayers. Last month I asked for prayers for a new teacher. Well our prayers were answered. We are so excited with the hire of Miss Victoria.

Paint night was a huge success. The kids and parents painted wooden ornaments, and had homemade cookies and hot chocolate. We also had two visitors. A Christmas tree and ginger bread cookie came to pose with the kids for pictures. The grand finale of the night was the basket drawings. We had 2 basket winners from church. Terry Vergon and Carolyn Schaefer both won very nice baskets. Everyone really enjoyed themselves. Thank you to Vanessa and all the teachers for putting on such a fun night.

Thurs December 11 at 6:00 will be our Christmas program. It is always a cute program. We would love to have our church family come and join us. We will also be asking for cookie donations for that night. Please have them to the church office by Tues December 9th.

Thank you for all you do for Wonder Window. I know all the teachers appreciate everything.

Blessings,

Jann



THE  
**CHRISTMAS**  
*Story*

## **Board of Director's**

On November 16<sup>th</sup> we held our Annual Voter's Meeting for the election of officers. We had 3 openings this year, Mike Lehmann's two-year term ended and the term for the two vacancies that were left open due to work conflicts of previous board members and filled by volunteers, Jerry Sturz and Roy Eynaud. We have had a very busy and productive year and I am very thankful and grateful for all of their work efforts and contributions made, along with those of Terry Vergon who along with me was voted onto the board last year. There was a significant number of hours worked by all of these board members over this last year. I am again equally thankful and grateful that all three, Mike, Jerry and Roy, have agreed continue serving on the board, filling the open positions for the next two-year term and have been approved by you the voting membership. That allows us to continue the work that we started this past year with no break in continuity - thank you.

It was called to my attention after the meeting that I neglected to give an update on the solar system transfer. Our last payment was made in October. We are still working on the paper work to complete the transfer (expected in late November) and by the time you are reading this it should be finalized. Having the solar system paid off defiantly helps our bottom line, but we are still struggling with our finances, both church and Wonder Windows. Pray for God's will for LCOP.

For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building. 1 Cor. 3:9 ESV (*meaning: we are field workers, each of us, together for God in His field and in His church.*)

Blessings, Tom

## **SAM**

Linda Hartnett spoke about our trunk or treat held Oct 25th from 6-8:00pm, had 20 cars decorated, games and Moe, our food lady had at least 200 children come.

Grace Lutheran church had their fall luncheon, crafts and goodies for sale on 11/1 at 11:00, there was 20+ people there from LCOP enjoying the lunch and crafts to buy as well.

Thanksgiving Pie Feed on 11/26 after our 7:00 service.

Cookie Exchange is on 12/6 at 1:00 at the Vergon's, sign up sheet is in the Narthex.


Guild House luncheon on 12/16 at 11:30, sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

Rebecca Smith will be handing out bags for Holiday meals for the homeless center, bring your filled sack to church and put them under our Thanksgiving tree.

Next meeting 1/10/26 at 9:00, everyone is welcome.

Sheila

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ?



Who told Mary that her child would be called "the Son of the Most High"?

- A. Zechariah
- B. Gabriel
- C. Simeon
- D. Joseph

Answer: B (See Luke 1:26-32.)



## All Aboard the Christmas Story

On a recent train trip, I couldn't help noticing how the conductors' "welcome" speeches were all different. Unlike air travel, where safety instructions sound the same no matter who's speaking, Amtrak conductors each had their own style. One stressed that kids must stay with parents. Another warned that messy restrooms would be locked. A third cautioned that stepping off during a short stop could mean getting left behind. Each conductor emphasized what had caused trouble before.

And in much the same way, the Gospel writers highlighted different details of Jesus' birth. Matthew, writing for Jewish readers, connects Jesus to Moses, Abraham and David. He tells about Joseph's role and the wise men seeking the "king of the Jews." Luke, writing for Gentiles and society's outsiders, focuses on Mary, a humble birth and shepherds — the first unlikely visitors. Both messages tell the same story, but with unique emphases shaped by the audience.

And that's a reminder for us, too: when we share our faith, we can tailor the message. Longtime friends, curious neighbors, kids and the hurting will all hear God's love in different ways.



### LCoP Missionaries' Info

If you would like to pray for and learn more about them, and perhaps also support them through correspondence and/or finances, here is their infor-

#### **Jonathan & Carrie Federwitz**

Wycliffe Bible Translators/Lutheran Bible Translators Instructor position with JAARS, (Jungle Aviation and Radio Service). In Waxhaw, NC.

Contact: [j-c.federwitz@gmail.com](mailto:j-c.federwitz@gmail.com)

Support: [www.LBT.org](http://www.LBT.org)

#### **Nathan & Sarah Federwitz**

[nandsfederwitz@gmail.com](mailto:nandsfederwitz@gmail.com)

#### **Campbell's**

*support & contact info available at church.*

#### **Rev. Dr. Ross & Kris Shaver**

Serving the Lord in the Dominican Republic

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
P.O. Box 66861

St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

You may also mail a check to:

[Payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or LCMS. Include "Shaver - Dominican Republic" on the memo line.]

OR

40718 Highway E 16

Mapleton, IA 51034

### **Church Golfers!** **Come and join us!**

Do you like to golf?

We golf every Friday morning!  
For more information, please call  
or text Roy Eynaud at  
661/340-4521

# PUZZLE

## Seeking the story

Angels joyfully announced a special arrival in Bethlehem at Christmas.

**Directions:** Find the words listed below. Then unscramble the intersecting letters to complete Luke 2:11, NIV.



### WORD BANK

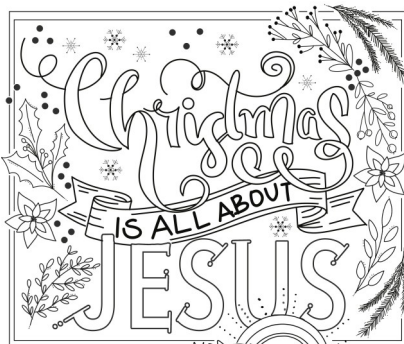
Shepherds  
Child  
Nazareth  
Census  
Baby  
David  
Mary  
Travel  
Town  
Register  
Born  
Night

T	B	W	Y	A	Z	K	E	S	H	N	G	D	J	K
Q	O	Y	A	P	R	A	L	B	F	P	I	C	Q	L
N	R	W	X	B	E	Y	R	M	B	D	M	O	E	E
S	N	O	N	W	G	A	I	B	A	C	D	O	T	D
R	G	X	J	F	I	W	M	V	B	R	R	C	E	O
P	S	C	E	N	S	U	S	H	Y	U	Y	F	P	N
O	T	P	I	G	T	Q	C	N	T	G	M	U	S	T
O	A	N	D	B	E	C	H	I	L	D	N	Z	F	A
A	T	B	A	U	R	W	H	G	F	V	A	B	U	M
T	R	A	V	E	L	J	C	H	V	O	Z	G	N	H
F	B	Q	I	W	D	X	P	T	E	N	A	O	L	Q
Z	C	R	D	Q	S	H	E	P	H	E	R	D	S	V
R	U	V	Y	K	N	I	R	T	K	G	E	Y	I	R
K	V	A	Z	X	L	S	H	Y	T	P	T	J	S	K
L	L	E	S	M	J	Z	L	Q	R	U	H	V	W	X

"Today in the town of David a \_\_\_\_\_  
has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."

LUKE 2:11, NIV

Answer: Savior



"She will give birth to a son,  
and you are to give him  
the name Jesus, because  
he will save his people  
from their sins."  
Matthew 1:21, NIV

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## From Us To You



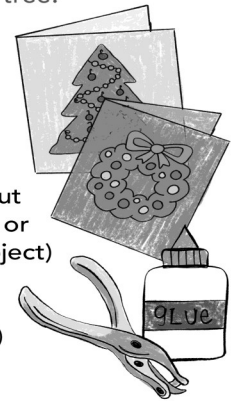
## Christmas Card treasures



Turn old Christmas cards into beautiful keepsake ornaments! It's a fun, simple way to give new life to cards you've received and add a handmade touch to your tree.

### What you need:

- Christmas cards
- Scissors
- Glue
- Circle pattern (cut from cardboard or trace around object)
- Hole punch
- Yarn or ribbon
- Glitter (optional)



### What you do:

1. Trace a circle onto two Christmas cards.
2. Cut out the circles and glue the backs together.
3. Decorate the edges with glitter or ribbon for extra sparkle.
4. Punch a hole at the top and thread yarn or ribbon through to hang.

