



## Weekly Announcements for the week of November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

### Scripture Verses for November 23<sup>rd</sup>

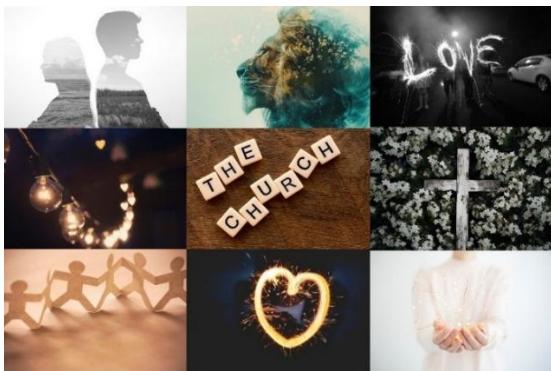
- Isaiah 35:1-10
- Luke 18:35-43

### Scripture Verses for November 30<sup>th</sup>

- Lamentations 3:55-57
- Luke 1:5-13

### Message Series: The Church

Ever thought to yourself, why would/should/do I go to CHURCH? As a pastor, I've even wondered that some days. So what is the local church for? Why does it exist? How is it all apart of God's plan? We get a taste of what things looked like for the early church in Acts chapter 2. Join us this fall as we do a deep dive into the purpose and plan for local churches and how God is using them to bring His kingdom here on earth. Embark on an adventure with us as we explore how God uses the community of believers together to create a family where you are known and loved, experience generosity, challenged to step out of your comfort zone, and find unity. In a life full of ups and downs called to do life together. You're not alone!!



**Send Monica Your "God at Work" Stories! No story too small!**

Feel free to write them in to my email:

[ministrycoordinator@lmcrf.org](mailto:ministrycoordinator@lmcrf.org) or stop by the church office and we can record the story.



### Christmas Families in Need:

LMC is partnering with SOS to help two families have Christmas this year! We will be helping 9 kids with necessities and one special request item. Each item will be on an ornament on a tree in the fellowship hall. The item will let you know what gender/age the child is, and what item is needed. **Please return those items, unwrapped, with the ornament taped to it** (so we know who it goes to). If possible, please include a gift receipt. Thank you for helping kids in our community really feel the love of Jesus this Christmas season! **Items are due December 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**The New 2026 Offering Envelopes** are in house and ready to put labels on. Please confirm if you already receive envelopes and no longer use them or if you do not have envelopes and would like to receive them.

**Mailboxes?** Are you aware that we have member mailboxes downstairs? Same as with envelopes if you do not but would like to have a mailbox downstairs, please let us know.

**December Congregational  
Voter's Meeting:  
9:30 AM Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**



## Pulled Pork Extravaganza Campus +

**Advent Meal!** We have an opportunity to celebrate the 1<sup>st</sup> day of advent with the college students! We will be having a COMBINED advent meal and campus meal! We are expecting to have around 200 people to eat and have conversations together. Please see the sign-up sheet below to see how you can be a part of this awesome event, we will need a lot of food to make this event a success. [Advent/Campus Meal Pulled Pork Sandwiches - Google Sheets](#)



**Santa on Ice!** On December 7<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-4:45 PM LMC will be hosting "Santa on Ice" for the River Falls community. Tell your neighbors and friends! Bring your kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews! FREE ice skating at Hunt Arena. You can get a photo with Santa, Hot chocolate bar, and a free gift for every family.

*Santa*  
on ice

- December 7<sup>th</sup>
- 3:00-4:45 PM
- UWRF Hunt Arena  
(1110 S Main Street, River Falls)
- FREE Family Skate
- Visit with Santa
- Hot Chocolate Bar
- Hosted by LMC

Luther Memorial Church | LMCrf.org  
420 S 4th Street, River Falls WI (715) 425-2675



## Decorate LMC for CHRISTMAS!

We will need all hands-on-deck to help decorate LMC for the Christmas season. (We need some MEN to help lift and carry trees!)

- November 29<sup>th</sup>
- 9:00 AM

This is a great opportunity to create a cozy Christmas atmosphere for our congregation, but also for new faces that come in the door.

## Raise Right Cards: Gifting that gives back!

Find gifts for everyone on your list while raising funds for Luther Memorial. Shop gift cards from over 750 top brands. Whether you buy gift cards to give as presents to family and friends, or to use them to buy your gifts, Luther Memorial earns funds. You may also pick up a retailer list and order forms at the Raise Right table on Sunday mornings. You may also order cards in the church office. Refer to the dates below for ordering dates. Scan the QR Code to order from the entire online catalog.

### Order by:

Sun, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>

Sun, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>

### Cards available for pick up:

Sun, Dec 15<sup>th</sup>

Sun, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>



## The River Falls Community

**Thanksgiving Day Dinner** will be hosted at St Bridget Church on Thanksgiving Day, from 11am to 1pm. They will offer delivery, take-out, and dine in. It is open to all. Sign-up for meals is required to help assure they can adequately serve as many as possible. Thanks to many in the community, there is no charge but free-will offerings will be accepted. Go to the Spotlight section of the Saintbridgets.org website to sign up for meals, to volunteer, or to donate. Thank You!

## Falcon Links Christmas Blessing Bags

Thank you to everyone who took a Falcon Links Christmas blessing bag! We are so excited for the opportunity to be very generous to students who this may be their only Christmas gift. Bags are DUE December 7<sup>th</sup>



## 2025 Year-End Staff Appreciation Gift

**Reminder** The LMC Board of Directors would like to remind the congregation to consider showing your appreciation for the LMC Staff for their dedication and tireless service. Our staff roster consists of:

- Melody Boersma - Praise Team Leader
- Beth Benysek - Business Administrator
- Monica Bylander - Ministry Coordinator
- Chad Schuerman - Director of Family Ministry
- Chad Elfe - Pastor

There are two methods to do so:

**Method 1** - Gifts for the staff sent to the church will be treated as a donation and appear on your annual giving report. This will be tax deductible for the parishioner and will be a taxable event for the staff receiving the gift. The donated amount will be equally distributed to each of the 5 staff members. Donations for this method are due December 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Method 2** - If you prefer that the gift not be taxable to the staff, you can do so by giving the gifts directly to the staff members. This will not be treated as a donation and will not be tax deductible for the parishioner.

Please consider showing our Staff your appreciation. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Terry Ross, BOD HR Director



**College Bible Study** We are so excited to invite the students back to LMC for [two options](#) for Bible Studies. **Thursday evening at 7:00 PM** mentored by Monica Bylander along with Steve & Jacky Rolf. **Sunday evening at 7:30 PM** student-led study mentored by Micah Thompson. LMC, we could use your help in providing snacks for the Thursday night Bible Study. The sign-up sheet is in the fellowship Hall on the table. Thank you for supporting this important mission field!

**Youngish Adult Group Hiatus** The youngish adult group will be taking a hiatus until the end of January. If you are seeking a similar missional community, please consider the Elfe MC (every other Monday) or Crystal Halverson's Mama's MC which has seasons. Please check the Calendar for more info.



**Coffee for a Cause!** We are serving **"Promised Grounds" coffee on Sunday morning during "Sweet Jesus" time.** We will have the coffee available for purchase (whole bean only). Proceeds will go toward C4 continents missions and every ounce sold is an ounce of clean water for someone in a 3<sup>rd</sup> world country through "Filters of Hope!" [BUY HERE](#)

## Soccer Shots @ LMC!

We have an opportunity again this year to have Soccer Shots at LMC on Tuesday evenings this coming Winter. **NEW THIS YEAR:** Members of LMC will be receiving 10% off the registration fee. In order to register with the discount, please email [twincities@soccershots.com](mailto:twincities@soccershots.com) or call 651.300.0134

**There will be two 5-week sessions:**

- Tuesdays (1/20-2/17)
  - o 5:30-6:00 PM
  - o 6:00-6:30 PM
- Tuesdays (2/24-3/24)
  - o 5:30-6:00 PM
  - o 6:00-6:30 PM

To see more information about Soccer Shots and the timing

of the classes: [Soccer Shots Twin Cities - Class Registration](#)





## Advent Sunday Morning Bible Study

For many, “advent” means a countdown to Christmas. Whether we envision candy-filled Advent calendars or lights draped over houses with nativity scenes out front, Advent marks a happy season of celebrating. In most Christian traditions, Advent is a four-week season of celebration and observation prior to Christmas, each week often focusing on a particular biblical theme. Typically, these four themes find their way into the weeks of advent: **Hope, Peace, Joy and Love**. Celebrating Advent also means living into it by practicing a generous way of love and care for our neighbors as we partner with Jesus to bring peace on Earth. Join us as we meditate on each of these themes so that you might deepen your understanding of Advent and experience the season in a new way.



## Creation Museum and the Ark

**Encounter** Are you interested in biblical history with exhibits, botanical gardens, planetarium and zoo animals? What about Noah’s Ark? In Petersburg, Kentucky is the Creation Museum which allows you to venture through biblical history in 7 parts called the Seven C’s beginning with Creation and a walk through the Garden of Eden. Then 40 miles away in Williamstown, KY is the Ark Encounter. The Ark features a full size Noah’s Ark that is 3 decks filled with exhibits that allow you to experience what Noah’s life may have been like. This trip would be 5-6 days, which includes travel days and 3 days at the Museum and the Ark, We are able to get a 3 Day Bouncer Pass which offers unlimited visits to both attractions. We could do a day and a half at each. The parking is extra. We could include a river cruise on the Ohio River if there is interest and would be optional. The costs will include transportation, lodging, the pass with parking and nutrition. No date has been decided. Please text or email me (I will be out of the country from Oct 8th to Nov 5th, but still available by email). I hope to be available at church on Nov 9th for questions.

-Lise Klingler

## Opportunity to Submit Prayers to

**Pastor Chad:** Submit a prayer to Pastor Chad with this [LINK](#) or scan the QR Code. All prayers will be anonymous unless indicated otherwise. If you’d like the church to pray for them, please indicate that. The power of prayer is SO GREAT!



**Giving at LMC:** We recognize we have givers from every generation at our church, so whether you’re still writing a check faithfully, or if you give online, we’re excited to announce we recently added four new ways to give using digital wallets:

1. PayPal
2. Apple Pay
3. Google Pay
4. Venmo



When you go to the Give Now Link, Choose my account and then payment method. You can then choose from your bank account (ACH) or one of the other above methods listed above.



## This Week at Luther Memorial:

|                |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 11/23   | 8:00 AM Sunday Worship<br>9:15 AM Sweet Jesus Time<br>9:30 AM Education Hour<br>10:30 AM Sunday Worship<br>2:00 PM Heartstrings Concert<br>5:00 PM 2911 Project Thanksgiving<br>7:30 PM Unashamed UWRF Study |
| Monday 11/24   | 6:30 PM Slate Missional Community<br>7:00 PM Brace Missional Community                                                                                                                                       |
| Tuesday 11/25  | 11:00 AM LMC Staff Meeting<br>5:00 PM Young'ish Adult Group<br>6:00 PM Chad's Zoom MC                                                                                                                        |
| Wed 11/26      | 6:30 PM Thanksgiving Eve Worship                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Thursday 11/27 | LMC Office Closed for Thanksgiving                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Sunday 11/30   | 8:00 AM Sunday Worship<br>9:15 AM Sweet Jesus Time<br>9:30 AM Education Hour<br>10:30 AM Sunday Worship<br>7:30 PM Unashamed UWRF Study                                                                      |

## Worship Assistants: November 23<sup>rd</sup>

| November 23 <sup>rd</sup> | 8:00 AM                         | 10:30 AM             |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| MUSICIANS                 | Praise team                     | Praise team          |
| CHILDREN'S MESSAGE        | Melody Boersma                  | Melody Boersma       |
| USHER                     | Dan Halverson                   | Sandy Bowen          |
| GREETER                   | Jeff Meyer Family               | Ward Family          |
| CLICKER                   | Greg Wurdell                    | Donna Taranto        |
| ALTAR FLOWERS             | Anne and Terry Ross Anniversary |                      |
| READER                    | (Open)                          | Priscilla Schuermann |
| VIDEOGRAPHER              | Ben Wurdell                     | NA                   |
| RAISE RIGHT               | Jill Jaeckel, Pat Pierce        |                      |
| FOOD SHELF                | Wendy Zillgitt                  |                      |
| ALTAR GUILD               | Heidi Bishop & Lana Meyer       |                      |
| LAWN MOWING               | NA                              |                      |
| SWEET JESUS               | Lana Meyer                      |                      |

## Worship Assistants: November 26<sup>th</sup>

| Nov 26 <sup>th</sup><br>Thanksgiving Eve | 6:30 PM                         |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| MUSICIANS                                | Praise team                     |
| CHILDREN'S MESSAGE                       | NA                              |
| USHER                                    | Gene & Linda Kirk               |
| GREETER                                  | Sally & Russ Martin             |
| CLICKER                                  | Jill Wurdell                    |
| ALTAR FLOWERS                            | Anne and Terry Ross Anniversary |
| READER                                   | Tony Bylander                   |
| Videographer                             | Gabe Wurdell                    |
| Raise Right                              | NA                              |
| FOOD SHELF                               | Wendy Zillgitt                  |
| ALTAR GUILD                              | Heidi Bishop & Lana Meyer       |
| LAWN MOWING                              | NA                              |
| SWEET JESUS                              | NA                              |

## Worship Assistants: November 30<sup>th</sup>

| November 30 <sup>th</sup> | 8:00 AM                    | 10:30 AM         |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| MUSICIANS                 | Sally Martin               | Sally Martin     |
| CHILDREN'S MESSAGE        | Bobbi Jo Lierman           | Bobbi Jo Lierman |
| USHER                     | Jeff & Lana Meyer          | Nick Turchin     |
| GREETER                   | Tony Bylander Family       | Sandy Bowen      |
| CLICKER                   | Curt Leighty               | Stasia Turchin   |
| ALTAR FLOWERS             | Poinsettias                |                  |
| READER                    | Lindsey Dietrich           | Heidi Riese      |
| VIDEOGRAPHER              | Tony Brace                 | NA               |
| RAISE RIGHT               | Heide Bishop, Susan Pierce |                  |
| FOOD SHELF                | Wendy Zillgitt             |                  |
| ALTAR GUILD               | Heidi Bishop & Lana Meyer  |                  |
| LAWN MOWING               | NA                         |                  |
| SWEET JESUS               | Anne Ross                  |                  |

# Advent 2025 "Insisting on Hope this Season"



December 3rd: 10th, 17th: Wednesday Worship- 10:30 AM & 6:30 PM

December 3rd: Advent meal- 5:00 PM- 6:15 PM

December 21st: Christmas Program- 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

December 24th: Christmas Eve Worship

- 4:00 PM Contemporary
- 7:00 PM Traditional

December 25th: Christmas Day 9:00 AM

December 28th: Worship 9:00 AM

December 31st: New Year's Eve Worship 6:30 PM  
(Party to follow)



## Luther Memorial Church

420 S 4th Street, River Falls, WI 54022 | 715.425.2675 | [www.lmcrf.org](http://www.lmcrf.org)