



The

# Sanctuary

You are God's Temple

...God's Spirit Lives in You. 1 Cor. 3:15

BLESSED SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH + 1205 NORTH LINCOLN AVE. + O'FALLON, IL 62269 + 618=632-0126 + [WWW.MYBSLC.ORG](http://WWW.MYBSLC.ORG)

## Upcoming Events

**Aug/Sept 2025**  
**Fri-Sat Aug. 22,23**  
City Fest Baby Changing  
**Sun. Aug 24, 31**  
Worship 9:30 am  
**Mon. Aug 25**  
DBSA Support Group 7 pm  
**Mon. Sept 1**  
Labor Day  
**Tues. Sept. 2**  
Elders Mtg 7 pm  
**Sun. Sept 7**  
Worship 930  
Rally Day 1030  
Church Picnic 1130  
**Mon. Sept 8, 15, 22, 29**  
DBSA Support Group 7 pm  
**Tues. Sept 9**  
Quilting 930 am  
Church Council 7 pm  
**Sun. Sept 14, 21, 28**  
Worship 930 am  
Sun School/Adult Bible Study 1045  
**Tues. Sept. 16**  
Christian Ed Mtg 7 pm  
**Mon. Sept 22**  
First Day of Autumn  
**Tues. Sept. 23**  
Stewardship Mtg 6 pm



Rally Day following  
Worship

Sun. Sept. 7  
10:30

Games and fun for  
all the kids.



Sunday, September 7

Church Picnic

Following Rally Day (11:30)

You **MUST** sign up in advance!

By Wed. 9/3!

Fellowship needs to know how many  
are coming and what you want to eat.  
Sign up in the narthex, call the church  
or email Nancy. [nancy@mybslc.org](mailto:nancy@mybslc.org)



Sunday School begins  
Sunday, September 14  
10:45 a.m.

Classes for all ages!



Save the Date!

Trunk or Treat, Chili Cook off

Sunday, October 26

Fun begins at 3 pm



*I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.  
Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.*  
Psalm 116:1-2

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Blessed Savior,

I wonder. Does anyone really read the articles that I write for the newsletter? I ask this because, several years ago, the last paragraph of my article for our congregation's newsletter was cut short. Clearly, quite a few sentences were left out at the end. I caught it, but nobody else said a word. I wonder.

I wasn't really all that upset by the omission and the fact that no one noticed it. To be honest, I don't thoroughly read every article that comes across my desk. I receive a number of newsletters from other congregations every month, and I read the pastors' letters. But not that carefully. Sometimes something really catches my eye and I read every word, but I usually skim the letter.

Still, we like to be heard, don't we? When we speak or write, we want people to pay attention. We want them to hear what we say and understand what we mean. The worst feeling in the world is the feeling that people aren't listening to you. Or that they're not even trying to understand you. Often we feel like shouting, "Hey, listen to me! I've got something to say!"

Unfortunately, we're not often heard in our culture today. Oh yes, we have tons of modes of communication. Facebook, emails, texts, phone calls, skype, letters, newspapers, books, and in person conversations (although in person conversations seem to be dwindling). Yet it's rare to find a person who really listens. Who hears every word you say and understands.

Rare, that is, except for Christians. The redeemed of the Lord are blessed with the high privilege of prayer. Because we're in Christ and are God's children, when we speak to God, he listens. He turns his ear to us and hears every word we say. He understands. What's more, he doesn't tell us, "Call me again at a better time." "I'm too busy to tackle this right now, let me call you back." No. He wants us to talk to him in prayer at any time. Night or day, rain or shine, calm or turbulent, he wants us to call on him. Praise God! We have someone who truly understands us. Someone who truly knows what's on our minds and what we're going through. Therefore, "I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy. Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live." God bless you richly!

Love in Christ,  
Pastor Tony



# CALL COMMITTEE

Greetings in Christ BSLC Family!

As many of you know, Pastor Chris Lockie, who BSLC voted to call as our next pastor, has declined the call; he was an excellent candidate, and would have been a great fit at BSLC; he was complimentary of BSLC, and the offer presented to him; however, he felt God was calling him to continue his calling at Prince of

Peace Lutheran in Racine, WI.

LCMS Southern Illinois District President Curtis is actively working to compile a new list for BSLC; he is hoping to have a new list of Pastors for the Call Committee to review by the end of August. Once we have a new list, the Call Committee will begin meeting again to evaluate the candidates, choose the top three we feel will be a good fit for BSLC, and then identify the top candidate we recommend to the BSLC congregation; God willing all of the candidates are a good fit, we will present them to the congregation for a vote. We will try to keep everyone updated as we have news.

The Call Committee asks that you pray for us, and for the church, as we continue this journey!

RJ Kinsella

**Vacancy Work:** Here's an update on my changing role during the vacancy. Due to Diane's ongoing health issues, I will be limiting my role in the congregation during its vacancy. For instance, starting Sept. 1, I will no longer be scheduling the pastors who conduct the worship services. Those pastors have all agreed to continue helping out: Pastor Tony Troup, Pastor David Pelsue, Pastor Mark Wiesner, and myself. Nancy, our church secretary, will be doing the scheduling for the weeks and months ahead after Sept. 1. I will also no longer be attending the monthly meetings of the congregation as my family sometimes needs me in the evenings. I WILL continue to call on the sick and those with special needs, offering them spiritual support through a devotion, prayer, and Holy Communion. These calls/visits can be scheduled during the day at times that Diane does not need me to be close to home or at an appointment with her. My vacancy work will be that of Visitation Pastor. Of course, I will continue other activities in the congregation as an active member of the parish, depending on Diane's health concerns. Pastor Perry



## Treasurer Gleanings

We wanted to keep the congregational members up-to-date on how the church is doing.

The church is in good standing through the first 8 months of the year. The church is between \$30K - \$40K in the black and has a balance in the checking account around \$80K. Also, the church has a nice savings of over \$300K in accounts and CDs at LCEF (Lutheran Church Extension Fund).

Your church council continues to do a great job with keeping expenses down each month without sacrificing the church's goal of being disciples of Jesus Christ.

**THANKS** to all for your continued support to the church.

Please keep the church in your prayers as we continue to search for the right pastor as well as keeping the church in the black.

God bless you,  
Cynthia Brecks & Curtis Kuppler  
BSLC Treasurers



## Greeters Report

Though we live in a very insecure and troubling world, we have the privilege of coming each Sunday to worship our all-loving and merciful God. He will never forsake us.

As you enter the doors of Blessed Savior you are greeted with a warm WELCOME and hand shake. Visitors share in this greeting as well. They are given a coffee mug and coaster and a pen inscribed with information regarding our church. They are encouraged to sign the guest register also. During that week they will receive a note of welcome from Blessed Savior.

The whole-hearted support of the entire congregation is equally important. From the moment that guests arrive at the door, they begin forming an opinion of our congregation. Let's continue to display a friendly environment throughout our entire congregation to all who worship here. Each of us makes a positive difference ... and especially to guests.

If you would like to participate in Blessed Savior's Greeters Program, please notify one of the members below:

Muriel Mayer 618-632-5254

Diane Colvin 618-581-3768

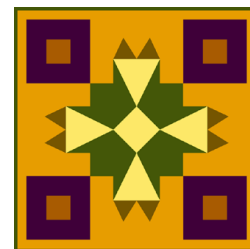
Janet Satrom 618-977-4876



[muriel.mayer13@gmail.com](mailto:muriel.mayer13@gmail.com)

[dianeellen11@gmail.com](mailto:dianeellen11@gmail.com)

[satroms4@gmail.com](mailto:satroms4@gmail.com)



Join the Lutheran World Relief QUILTERS on **Tuesdays, Sept 9, Oct. 14 and Nov 11** from 9:30–12:00 p.m. to tie quilts. (We don't actually quilt by hand. Instead we secure the layers by hand tying them.) Come and join us for a time of good ole fellowship. Hope to see you there! Mark your calendar for the 2nd Tuesday of each month. If you have any fabric pieces, thin blankets, curtains, drapes, sheets, etc. you no longer need, the quilters would love to recycle them into quilts.



## CONGREGATION Name Tags

Soon name tags will be provided for all adult members of the congregation. A genuine warmth is truly conveyed when addressing others by their name.

These name tags will be located on a table near the main entrance. Please return them to the same table provided after the service. PLEASE

DO NOT TAKE THEM HOME. Eventually they will be kept in your church mailbox for your convenience. Please note—name tags are NOT mandatory.

In the future, lanyards will also become available for those who prefer.

**Music Lessons:** If you or someone whom you know is looking for a music teacher for cello lessons or piano lessons, you may contact Mike Trinklein at 602-448-0486 or [mikethecelloman@gmail.com](mailto:mikethecelloman@gmail.com). Mike is the son of Rev. Hans Trinklein, former pastor of Olive Branch Lutheran Church (near New Minden) and missionary to South Korea, now teaching in one of our Concordia Lutheran Schools. Mike has over 10 years of teaching experience; options for either in-home or studio lessons; flexible dates and times; string quartet available for weddings, parties, and more.





## Christian Education News

Rally Day (our Sunday School kick off with games and activities outside-no Sunday School classes) and our Church Picnic will be on 7 September following the 9:30 Sunday Church service. Besides games and activities, we will have treats, prizes and a Bounce House for the kids. Check your mailboxes for this year's Sunday School Schedule. The installation of Sunday School teachers and our first Sunday School class is 14 September at 10:45 following our 9:30 church service and fellowship time with refreshments.



We collect offerings each week during Sunday School and this year we will continue to support Vicar Jesse Liebmann. Jesse is from Missouri where his father is the pastor at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Eureka and his mother is a longtime colleague of Marty Lintvedt. Jesse is serving a specialized 2 year vicarage in Brasov, Romania. He is active in the many parts of congregational life and assists in ongoing evangelism and outreach activities. He is fluent in Russian and will be working with the Ukrainian refugees. This is a great opportunity for our children to learn the importance of sharing their blessings, so that others may know Jesus!

### The Power of VBS at Blessed Savior

Recently a donation was received via PayPal from someone that was unknown to Curtis (treasurer) or Nancy (tracker of contributions). After a bit of investigation Curtis found an email and contacted the contributor to thank him. The following is his response:

Hello there! My family made it a habit to tithe to you all at least once yearly while living in O Fallon, IL. We just moved to Asheville, NC, and while living in O Fallon we were members of Cornerstone Christian Church in Shiloh. We mainly gave to you all at least once yearly because your VBS was such a blessing to our daughter Riley. She had fond memories of walking down from our neighborhood and looked forward to attending each and every year. It was one of the things she worried about losing in our move. We made it a point to not only have her attend this last year but also to discuss with her how Jesus uses some people and places in our lives, but we then have to trust him that he will provide new people and places when we need them later. We were fortunate that another church here was able to fill that VBS void later in the summer, which helped her to keep trekking following our move, but your church's VBS program, to this day, is her favorite. Whatever you all are doing there is and certainly has been appreciated by our family. Thank you for the invite, and please keep blessing those kiddos. Lord knows ours was blessed, and I don't think she will ever forget it (nor will we!).

Sincerely, Kevin Quinby

### Lifelong Learners

"If you don't have wisdom that goes with knowledge, you are only a walking encyclopedia," wrote Jack Wellman, a Kansas pastor. "A book of knowledge is useless without the wisdom to know how to apply that knowledge. ... Information without transformation leads only to frustration."

Consider the many benefits of wisdom — and how you can use what you've acquired to serve God, your church and your community. To better fulfill your calling, what wisdom might you yet need to acquire?

As another school year begins, here's a prayer for students of all ages: All-wise, all-knowing God, make us willing learners and seekers of your wisdom, not for the gain of knowledge for its own sake, but that we might handle every situation we face with the wisdom of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen. — adapted from *The Wired Word*





## Fellowship Committee

Well, it's the start of a Happy New Fellowship Year. We will be starting off the new Fellowship Year with the BSLC Picnic on 7 Sept 2025 at 11:30 AM just after the Rally day. Sign up sheets will be in the Narthex on Sunday, the 24th of August 2025. Can't wait to see everyone. The picnic will be held at BSLC again this year. :)

We again will be having Donuts on Sunday Mornings. If you would like to contribute to the Donuts or would like to pick up the donuts, please let us know. We would love to have the help in doing so.

Have an Awesome Sept.

Your BSLC Fellowship Committee,

Gwen, Ginger, Bethany, Charla, Phyllis and Linda W



I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of the Community Feed My Lambs Program. Your generous donations of supplies and monetary contributions made a significant difference, and we cannot thank you enough for your support.

A special thank you goes out to our incredible crew who dedicated their time to prepare the lunches, as well as the drivers who ensured that these meals reached those in need. Together, we prepared and delivered nearly 1,200 lunches in our first year of participation, which is an amazing accomplishment!

It was truly heartwarming to see the joy and gratitude on the children's faces as they received their meals. Your dedication and hard work were pivotal in making this initiative a reality, and we are so proud of what we achieved together.

Let's continue to spread kindness and support throughout our community. A huge shout-out to everyone involved!

Thank you once again for your commitment and generosity.  
Charla Morton

**Hymn Festival:** Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (1300 Beltline Road, Collinsville, IL) will be holding a hymn festival on Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Titled "The Church's Year of Grace". It will be a musical journey through the seasonal hymnody of the church year. Hymn commentary will be given by Pastor Will Weedon, host of the Lutheran Public Radio podcast "The Word of the Lord Endures Forever" (<https://thewordendures.org>) along with organist Chris Loemker, orchestra, and choir. The choir will be comprised of singers from local LCMS congregations. For more information, or to resister to sing with the choir, please visit the website [www.GodsOwnChild.org](http://www.GodsOwnChild.org).



## Hymn Festival



## The Gift of Music

I wish to see all arts, principally music, in the service of Him who gave and created them.

Music is a fair and glorious gift from God. I would not forego my humble share of music. Singers are never sorrowful, but are merry, and they smile through their troubles in song.

Music makes people kinder, gentler, more staid and reasonable. I am persuaded that after theology, music is the only art capable of affording peace and joy of heart ... the devil flees before the sound of music almost as much as before the Word of God.





## What's the Plan???? (Council Newsletter)

It's that time again! Fall! I love fall because I am a plan and schedule follower, and fall is the beginning of NEW school, church, and community schedule to follow. Plans were made for the new school year and fall community and church activities for kids, parents, grandparents, pastors and church volunteers, community officials and volunteers, etc. to accomplish and provide many services and activities. But for this August newsletter article let's look at what BSLC planning accomplished for this past summer and some future months as well.

Thank you, members and friends of Blessed Savior, for planning and budgeting and giving roughly \$20,000 in the month of July! While our expenses were higher this month, around \$31,000, we are fortunate that we have close to \$134,000 in our checking account and have Lutheran Church Extension Fund Reserves close to \$131,000. As a result of our sound financial base the council voted to renew a second CD due at the end of August. This is great planning!

Planning in New Orleans started more than three years ago for the National Youth Gathering held this past July, and 3 years ago. Blessed Savior's Tyler and Michael Owens attended as youth chaperones for our two youths, Trey Stake and his friend Blaine. To keep expenses down they traveled with Belleville Zion Lutheran Church youth members. They are already planning on attending the next gathering in three years. More planning to come!

In October 2024 we began a Strategic Planning process which finished this past April. The plans included Youthful, Community, and Family activities for BSLC. Several events this summer fit this model. Following our well planned VBS program in June was the community outreach free lunch program July through the first week of August called Feed My Lambs created for low-income students in the O'Fallon area. With great BSLC volunteers we made, and hand delivered, 1160 lunches! There was great fellowship, great lunches, and great planning for this community service project! On 22-23 August at the O'Fallon City Fest and Community Picnic Blessed Savior will provide a Baby Changing Station where parents and grandparents will have a clean and comfortable area to care for their little ones. These are exciting times to be BSLC in the community providing services for families by following our Strategic Plan!

After we completed our Strategic Plan, we continued the long call process more confidently. Rev. Heath Curtis, our new District President, and Rev. Chris Spelbring, our circuit counselor have been in touch with RJ Kinsella, our Call Committee Chairman, planning and researching another call list for the Call Committee to study. We are confident God has a plan and will lead us to the right pastor for our church. Pastor Perry Schefelker will step back as our Vacancy Pastor but continue as our Visiting Pastor for our sick and shut-in members. Pastor Tony Troup will continue providing communion services and confirmation instruction to our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

The Christian Education and Fellowship Committees have been planning for months for the new Sunday School and Church year! On 7 September we begin our fall calendar with our 9:30 church service with communion followed by Rally Day, a time of outside games, prizes, treats and bounce house fun getting everyone ready for this year's theme "Exploring the True Nature of God"! Lastly our picnic, organized by our Fellowship Committee, will be held in the downstairs fellowship hall immediately after our Rally Day activities. What to bring? "Plan" to bring your kids, friends, and a hearty side dish to share AND to have a great church and Sunday School year!

Lastly, two projects the Board of Properties has planned extensively for are slated to begin this fall. A new video screen to replace the old projector in front of the sacristy has been ordered. The other item, an outside storage building, has been in the works for quite a while. Let's pray that good weather is in the **plan** for outdoor construction! Obviously, a lot of measurements and financial planning went into both these projects.

So, what **is** the plan for BSLC? Well, God has provided Blessed Savior funds, church members for committees, leaders for developing our Strategic Plan, District and Circuit Leaders to walk us through a call process, local programs to help us get out of comfort zones, wonderful volunteers, families and members to attend Sunday School, **His** word delivered every Sunday by men he chose, and finally each one of us with listening ears to hear his directions to make plans. It was **God's** plan all along! And **That's** the plan..... forever!







## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

### Newsletter Article — September 2025 Work and Keep

*"The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it" (Genesis 2:15).*

Genesis chapters one and two are familiar to us. We know them best as the Creation Account. Chapter one is where we hear the familiar, "let there be... and there was" directives. Chapter two gives us the account of Adam (the man) being formed from the "Adamah" (the dust) and becoming a living being when he receives the breath of life in his nostrils. Because of this, it would be quite easy to simply

lump these two chapters into the category of creation accounts.

But do not be too hasty in this! While these two chapters do faithfully relate to us the account of creation, they also give us the creation of the "office" of steward. The man, created in the image of God in Genesis 1 and formed from the dust in Genesis 2, is created for a distinct purpose. He is created to be a steward of the perfect and beautiful creation that the Lord has made! In fact, this is THE reason that man was made. He — and we — were created in the image of God to be stewards of God's creation.

This purpose is spelled out in verse 15 of Genesis 2. The steward has one job, with two purposes. It is fitting that in the month that our nation marks Labor Day, we consider the task of steward. The first purpose of the job of steward is to work. The steward is the caretaker of the Garden. Being a steward is work! Before the fall into sin, this was not an onerous task. But it was an active thing.

Imagine being a farmer in the Garden of Eden! Work would be only harvest. No plowing. No planting. No cultivating. No weeding. The perfect garden that the Lord had made would simply produce automatically to provide for man, woman, and all living beings!

But there is a second task in verse fifteen. The word "keep" is not just a synonym for work. This second task is related to defending. This garden, holy by virtue of its being called into existence by a holy God, needed to be defended. Here is where the vocation of steward becomes priestly. The steward was to defend the perfect and holy garden from that which was unholy. Later in the Old Testament, this was the task of the priests in the tabernacle and temple. They were to defend with their lives the Holy of Holies. This too is the labor of stewardship. It is a labor that calls the steward to be willing to put the garden before life!

Stewardship was always work. It only got burdensome after the original steward, Adam, failed to defend the garden from the alien word of the serpent. But this was not a failure of harvest. It was a failure to defend the garden! As a result, all work that followed that failure became burdensome.

The steward failed but was never fired. That is why we have such an issue with stewardship to this day. We continue to live out a pre-fall vocation in a fallen world as failed stewards. That is why we in the church need to be reminded of our vocational call to be stewards. We so easily forget that this world is not ours to do with as we please. Nothing is ours. We are but stewards entrusted with managing the creation for the glory of God and the benefit of the neighbor.

It is a daunting task. But it is the one to which we have been called. We cannot do it on our own. Apart from the grace of God shared with us through Jesus, we would be burdened to the point of temporal and eternal death. But the Holy Spirit calls us by the Gospel! This Gospel connects us to the fertile garden of Christ's Work on our behalf. Now we are stewards of that grace! The Holy Spirit works this in and through us today and every day.

This is the work of the church. It is also the work of the individual steward. The Lord has placed us in the "garden" with the same twofold purpose: work and keep! Enjoy your labor. For in the Lord, our labor is never in vain!

### Honoring the Gift of Work

The Bible affirms both the value and dignity of work. From the beginning, God placed Adam in the garden "to work it and keep it" (Genesis 2:15, ESV). In the fourth commandment, we are reminded not only to observe the Sabbath, but also to labor diligently throughout the week: "Six days you shall labor, and do all your work" (Exodus 20:9, ESV).

Work is more than a routine obligation; it is an opportunity to engage our God-given abilities in meaningful ways. Whether using our hands, minds, or hearts, we reflect the image of our Creator—bringing order, care, and creativity into the world.

Our labor allows us to contribute to the common good, find personal fulfillment, and practice faithful stewardship of the talents and strengths God has entrusted to us. As Paul writes, "We are God's fellow workers" (1 Corinthians 3:9, ESV).

On this Labor Day, may we take time to recognize the blessing of work and celebrate those who serve, build, teach, lead, and labor with purpose and care.

## SAVE THE DATE! SUNDAY OCTOBER 26 BEGINNING AT 3 PM



### Fixer-uppers

Summer is peak time for home renovations and remodeling projects. Those can be super stressful, starting with the selection of a contractor.

In a blog about her own family's construction plans, Laura Elliott explains the challenge: "It's not just any builder I want. I want one who has impeccable workmanship, is completely trustworthy and delivers our long-awaited [projects] early and under-budget." After sifting through bids and reviews, she discovered that most builders "look like they do pretty similar work for a pretty similar price."

For spiritual renovations, however, the choice is clear. "God is the builder of everything," says Hebrews 3:4 (NIV). Elliott writes, "Jesus is not only the *builder* of His Father's house, but He is the *buyer*, and the *heir* as well." And what he's building, she adds, is "a better Bride," his church.

Faith upgrades are an ongoing, lifelong process. "The renewal of our natures is a work of great importance," said 18th-century minister George Whitefield. "It is not to be done in a day. We have not only a new house to build up, but an old one to pull down." It's a good thing God oversees this project! — Stephanie Martin



### God's Left Hand

A 6-year-old and his grandma went for a walk one autumn day. "Look at the gorgeous leaves!" Grandma exclaimed. "Just think, God painted each one of them just for us!"

"Yep," said her grandson, "and he did it left-handed."

Perplexed, Grandma asked, "Why do you think God used his left hand to create all this beauty?"

"Because," said the boy matter-of-factly, "we learned in Sunday school that Jesus sits on God's right one." Author unknown



1—Stella Bryce    2— Anne Siron  
 6- Glenn Dalton, William Boswell  
 7- Wayne Husemann  
 7—Bryan Conrad, 8—Brooks Dalton  
 9—Haley Bartimus, Kelly Siron  
 14—George Kruse   16—Emily Sanchez,  
 Diane Schefelker  
 17 – Janet Satrom, Patty Gruhn,  
 17—Jasper Heiden  
 18 – John Lundeby, Jared Brockmeyer  
 23 – Linda Williams, Sue Rogers,  
 Donna Brockmeyer  
 24 Marvin Ganger  
 26 Claire Morton, Jackson Morton  
 29 –Greg Kieffer   30 – Kim Kesting  
 31 – Marty Lintvedt, Katherine Bowman

We are sorry if your birthday or anniversary has been overlooked. Please call the church office, 632-0126 or email Nancy at

nancy@mybslc.org so we may add your name to our list.

1—Peter & Sunnie Hollenbeck  
 4—Tom & Gwen Borsch  
 7 – Wayne & Kathy Husemann  
 14—Dan & Rachel Schmidt  
 20 – Eric & Mary Stake  
 22 – Billy & Buffi Gass  
 22—Harry & Peggy Russell  
 22—Don & Mary Geis



### Why Christian Community is Key

Jesus' followers aren't meant to pursue faith by themselves. In fact, that's impossible! A *family* and *the body* signify plural members. It is among brothers and sisters in Christ that we:

- experience our Savior's presence, living and incarnate;
- unite in worship, confess our sins, hear the gospel and receive Communion;
- accept church discipline through the gentle guidance of others;
- learn — through other people's examples and experiences — what it means to live a life of discipleship; and lovingly serve together as Jesus' hands and feet.



1 – Amy Calzada, Pastor Tony  
 3 – Dave Couture  
 5 – Angie Conrad, Jeff Bryce  
 8 – Mark Poteet, Kara Hubecky, Melanie Williams  
 9 – Cornelia Paulsen (97!)  
 10 – Laura Drouin    11— Nic Kjosa  
 12 – Kirk Satrom    13—Brittini Gass  
 16 – Emilie Wickline   17—Bethany Herran  
 18 – Miranda Brockmeyer  
 20 – Julianne Reynolds, Robert Bruns  
 21— Marsha Strohm  
 22 – Dave Longhorn  
 23—Mackenna Leech  
 25 – Ken Vohlken, Hanna Schmidt  
 26—AJ Monaco  
 27—Brooklyn Emmons  
 28 – Phyllis Miesner



Happy Anniversary!

2—John & Ann Lundeby  
 6- John & Joan Gefferth  
 10—Mark & Lauren Morton  
 11 – David & Polly Ziegler  
 13—Andy & Bethany Herran  
 20—Jeff & Amber Bryce  
 28—Dave & Chris Couture  
 30 – Kale & Donna Jackson



# SHINE FOR Jesus

This easy and colorful craft helps kids remember that Jesus is their light—no matter where they go!

## What you need:

- Clear plastic cup
- Battery tea lights
- Tissue paper squares (pre-cut)
- Glue stick
- Markers (optional)
- Stickers (optional)



## What you do:

1. Use the glue stick to press colorful tissue paper squares around the outside of the cup.
2. Add a simple phrase like "Jesus is my Light" or use fun stickers to decorate.
3. Turn on the tea light and place it inside the cup.
4. Turn off the lights and let your lantern glow!

The Lord is my light  
and my salvation—  
whom shall I fear?

— Psalm 27:1, NIV



## A Walking Contradiction

A real Christian is an odd number. He feels supreme love for One whom he has never seen; talks familiarly every day to Someone he cannot see; expects to go to heaven on the virtue of Another; empties himself in order to be full; admits he is wrong so he can be declared right; goes down in order to get up; is strongest when he is weakest, richest when he is poorest and happiest when he feels the worst. He dies so he can live; forsakes in order to have; gives away so he can keep; sees the invisible, hears the inaudible, and knows that which passes knowledge.

The [person] who has met God is not looking for anything; he has found it. He is not searching for light, for upon him the light has already shined. ... He is not a copy, not a facsimile. He is an original from the hand of the Holy Spirit. —A.W. Tozer

## A Path of Persistence

Some Christian converts in an overseas village were diligent about daily prayer. In the thicket outside town, they each had a place where they prayed in solitude. Over time, these believers wore pathways through the brush to their special prayer areas. If someone neglected his or her prayer life, it was evident because fresh grass started growing on that footpath. Out of concern, fellow Christians offered this loving reminder: "Friend, there's grass growing on your path."

How worn is your own path to prayer? Are you persistent when answers don't seem to come? Do you trust that God will answer your prayers, according to his good and gracious will?

When you grow weary, remember this promise in Galatians 6:9 (NIV). "At the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

## Beautiful Feet

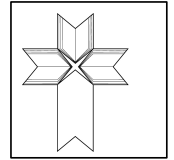
"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:15, NIV). Such beauty has nothing to do with the feet being clean, newly pedicured, elegantly clad. They may be the dusty feet of aid workers bringing food to drought-stricken areas, or the muddy shoes of those rushing disaster relief to flood zones. They may be the swollen feet of a dedicated nurse after a 12-hour hospital shift, or the tired feet of a parent pacing with a baby at 3 a.m.

In the upper room before Jesus' arrest, he declared his disciples' dirty feet beautiful by touching and washing them lovingly, preparing them to go out yet again with his good news for all. And on the cross, Jesus' own feet — nail-pierced — were beautiful.

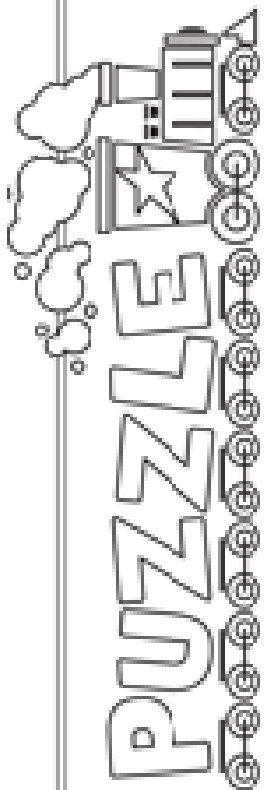
After Pope Francis died on Easter Monday 2025, many mourners who paid their respects noticed his shoes. Instead of new, well-polished "dress shoes," the scuffed items clearly had walked countless steps. They were the sturdy boots of a worker, a pilgrim, a travel companion on the road of life, the journey of faith. They were the shoes — the feet — of a disciple of Christ willing to go wherever needed to bring the good news of God's love. How beautiful! — Heidi Hyland Mann



The Sanctuary  
Blessed Savior Lutheran Church  
1205 North Lincoln Ave.  
O'Fallon, IL 62269



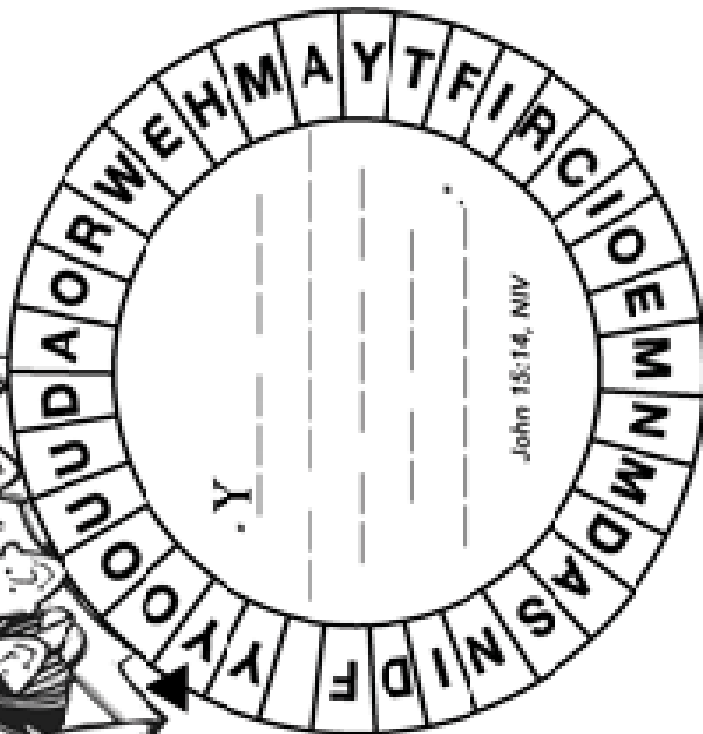
SEPTEMBER 2025



## WHO WERE JESUS' FRIENDS?

Jesus spent a lot of time with his friends. Whom did Jesus consider his friends?

Beginning at the arrow and  
moving clockwise, write every  
other letter on the spaces below.



John 15:14, NIV