

Meet Our Vicar



My name is Justin Goodrich. I was born in Royal Oak, Michigan and raised in Sterling Heights, Michigan. My dad is a mechanical engineer and has done plenty of side jobs helping the neighbors on our street. My mom was a stay-at-home mom and took care of my sister and me.

I grew up going to Trinity Lutheran Church and School in Utica. During the summer in between the 7th and 8th grade I went to summer camp at Camp Luther Haven. While I was there the Gospel clicked for me. I came to realize that Jesus is a close friend who walks beside me. Ever since then I have wanted to become a pastor so that I could focus on sharing the Gospel with others.

I graduated from Lutheran High Northwest and attended Concordia University Ann Arbor. I graduated from CUAA in 2024 with a bachelor's degree in applied theology, and a minor in biblical languages. I began my time at the seminary in Fall of 2024 and have been a field worker at Bethlehem Lutheran Church for the last two years. While at Bethlehem I worked as an after-school site leader at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, and last year I led the after-school program here at Chapel of the Cross.

During my first year at Seminary, I met my wife Nancy while she was studying in Cape Girardeau. Nancy came from Nigeria and I was immediately fascinated with her culture and background, and Nigerian food (it's delicious!). The passion of Nancy's faith amazed me and captured my heart. I knew right away that I found my perfect spouse who would help support me in my ministry. So during that summer I proposed to Nancy and we got married in December in Michigan. Nancy is currently studying to be a Medical Assistant at St. Charles Community College, and her goal is to become a midwife.

I am very excited to be here this year as your vicar. Nancy and I both felt so welcomed and loved as soon as we came here. I am looking forward to serving as a vicar, sharing and living the Gospel with all of you this year! God's blessings! ✠✠✠

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2026 LAMP MISSION TRIP

After our inability to travel north last year due to the Manitoba fires, our LAMP mission teams returned this summer to the communities of Lynn Lake and Brochet, Manitoba, Canada. 16 people from 7 different congregations participated. After our 3 day drive to Thompson, Manitoba, 6 servants boarded a plane to fly to Brochet. These servants are:

Ellen Kehe, Chapel of the Cross
Cynthia Foley, St. Paul, Boca Raton, FL
Gary Seider, Good Shepherd, Centralia
Mark Nygren, Good Shepherd, Centralia
Benjamin Robertson, Good Shepherd, Centralia (youth)
Brad Lowrey, Faith, Wylie, TX

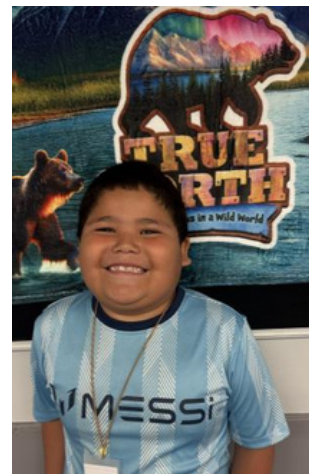


In several ways this was an unusual group of LAMP servants. First of all, only Ellen is from Chapel. In formulating the teams, it just worked best to have the Centralia group work together in one community. The other more interesting aspect is that 4 out of the 6 people were men, three of them at or near retirement! Many years have gone by in which there were no men traveling to Brochet. So it was a blessing to see this happen this year, to serve as an example for the boys in the community. In Brochet, God brought 47 different children to Bible school, averaging 22/ day. Each one of these children look forward to Lamp Bible camp each summer. It is a joy to bring God's message of hope and salvation to them. Thank you,

Chapel of the Cross, for being the "sending" congregation and for all your support to make this mission possible.

The remaining 10 climbed back into their vehicles for an additional 3 ½ hours over what is a primarily gravel road to reach the community of Lynn Lake. These servants are:

Michael Kehe, Chapel of the Cross
Jayme Zvirgzdins, Chapel of the Cross
Anna Zvirgzdins, Chapel of the Cross (youth)
Evelyn Zvirgzdins, Chapel of the Cross (youth)
Jon Rogers, Chapel of the Cross
Matt Gahr, Chapel of the Cross
Rachel Gahr, Chapel of the Cross
Bethany Kehe, Trinity, Soulard
Hannah Wroblewski, Sacred Heart Catholic, Florissant
Juliana Burgell, Our Savior, Fenton



(Continued on page 3)



The theme of this year's Bible Camp was "True North", with all the stories for the week taken from the Gospel of Matthew. Part of our gifts to the children this year was a booklet of the Gospel of Matthew, with the theme verses from each day highlighted.

We were also able to bring additional bibles and devotional materials thanks to donations from people at Chapel of the Cross and other congregations. These are a blessing

for not only the children, but also the adults who don't have ready access to these types of resources.



In Lynn Lake we served a total of 22 children with 17 children averaged each day. One disappointment this year was that we were hoping to have a portion of our team travel out to the Marcel Colomb Reserve to lead a Bible Camp for the children there. However, we received late notice that they were holding their Treaty Days celebrations the week we were there and there would be no time for us to come. We pray that one year

we will be able to lead the children of Marcel Colomb Reserve.

Speaking of plans and dreams for the future, on the ride back from our communities, in the middle of Manitoba at a town we always stop for gas, a man came up to our van and asked if we were the Bible School team. Of course, Ellen and I are wearing shirts from past years so it kind of gave us away. Anyway, he said he was Pastor Steve from the town and that in years past they always had a LAMP team come but this year the team wasn't able to make it. He just looked at us and said longingly, "I sure hope we are able to get one next year". It threw us off for the next couple hours of driving, because we know there are communities who remain unserved each year, who earnestly desire a team, but here in Grand Rapids, Manitoba, we saw the need in the flesh.

We thank God for the opportunity to serve, for safe travel, for putting the right people in our path through the trip, for the many prayer warriors that supported us, and for the people of Chapel of the Cross for your support financially and spiritually! †††

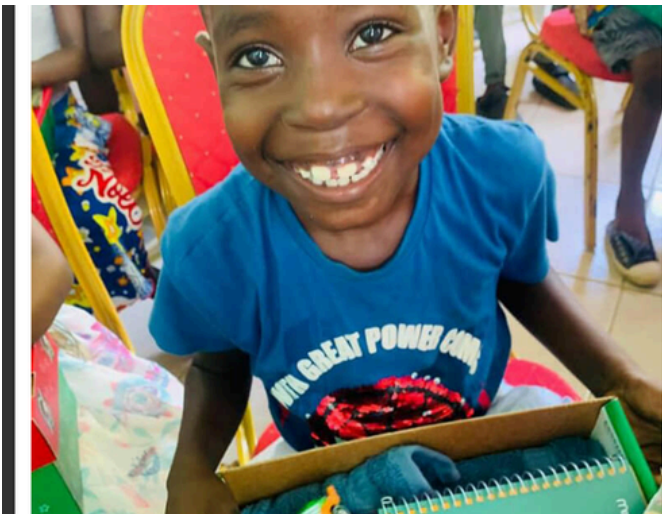


Shoebox Gifts Reach Families and Help Start a Church

A scene unfolded in Nzeng-Ayong, a bustling community in the capital city of Libreville, in the West African country of Gabon. When the boys and girls opened their gifts, the parents looking on couldn't hear the excited reactions. The mothers and fathers are deaf and could only watch their children unpack the fun items. Nonetheless, the joy was obvious from opening their shoeboxes to hearing about the Good News of Jesus Christ.

These parents wanted their children to continue to grow. So, they decided to open their homes for classes of **The Greatest Journey** (<http://www.samaritanspurse.org/tgj>). On a regular basis, their children gathered right where they live for 12 engaging, child-friendly Bible lessons on how to know, grow in, and follow Jesus for a lifetime!

"Even without hearing the songs, even without grasping every word, the parents saw," said Pastor Kiendo. "They saw their children transformed. They saw joy. They saw peace. And so, a new door opened."



THIS YOUNG BOY IS AMONG THE OVER 730,000 CHILDREN IN GABON WHO HAVE RECEIVED A GIFT-FILLED SHOEBOX GIVEN IN JESUS' NAME. MORE THAN 329,000 OF THESE BOYS AND GIRLS HAVE ALSO PARTICIPATED IN 12 LESSONS OF FOLLOW-UP DISCIPLESHIP **THROUGH THE GREATEST JOURNEY.**

An interpreter, who is the daughter of deaf parents from this same area, began serving as a bridge.

"Now at the end of every discipleship lesson, worship services will be held right there on the premises," Pastor Kiendo said. "And the parents will take part. Silence will no longer be a barrier. "God began with the children—in order to reach the families ... and a church was born."

Please pray for Operation Christmas Child (<http://www.samaritanspurse.org/occ>) outreach events in over 100 countries. Ask that this new body of believers in Nzeng-Ayong will continue to grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ, sharing His eternal hope with the people around them.

Here at Chapel of the Cross, please join us for Packing Day, Sunday, November 1, 2026, at noon after the late service. There will be a light lunch served prior to our packing time. Throughout November we will be collecting donations to be used toward shipping costs for the shoeboxes. If you have any questions, please contact Michael or Ellen Kehe, 314-607-3734. Thank you! 🙏🙏🙏

(Article above condensed from Operation Christmas Child website)

More Than Just a Coincidence: Reflections from a Friday Night Out

by James Crosier

One Friday night Cathy and I went to one of our favorite restaurants. We like to sit at the bar and order our food and sometimes meet people and have interesting conversations. One night we met a farmer and his wife. This farmer was the best man at a wedding of one of our Chapel members over 50 years ago. This conversation was very interesting.

On this night I was sitting next to a young lady who was the day manager who just got off work and was waiting for a pizza to go. I talked to her a few years ago and knew she had a young daughter, so I asked how she was doing. Instantly her camera popped out and there were a million pictures. She was 2 years old with brown hair and a smile that was beautiful. My next question was if she had been baptized? Her response was no, but she wanted it to happen. She told me that she was raised Lutheran and she and her sister went to Lutheran grade school in North St. Louis County. Both wanted to go to Lutheran North but their parents could not afford the tuition so they went to public high school. My next question, was her husband wanting to get their daughter baptized? She told me he was a Mason and went to meetings regularly and she hadn't discussed it with him. I suggested that where they lived in St. Charles there were two churches close by and it would be good if they check them out. Meet the pastor and some of the leaders including the Sunday School teacher. She thanked me for my thoughts and had to go as her pizza was ready to take home.

Later that night I thought about what else I could have suggested. So here we go! My next thought was about the sponsors and what would be ideal. In my opinion they should be of similar age and beliefs and attend church on a regular basis. Let grandma and grandpa be grandparents and the sponsors be Godparents.

My next thoughts had to do with the church. Baptism is a Sacrament that involves families. First the parents, sponsors, and the church. When joining a church, you become a member of the family, as the Bible says the bride of Christ. At baptism the members agree to pray for their new member and have Christian education available such as Sunday school, training for first communion, confirmation and Bible studies.

Cathy and I have been at many baptisms in over 50 years, and I can't remember all of the names, but Jesus does. When I pray for the baptized, I asked that all those baptisms that I witnessed be blessed. †††

Did You Know?

1. What was the first thing God said to "let there be" at creation?
A. Grass B. Light C. Water D. Air
2. When the fourth seal was opened, who was the rider on the fourth horse?
A. Antichrist B. Hell C. Death D. Satan
3. Under which of the Ten Commandments are we told not to kill?
A. 6th B. 7th C. 8th D. 9th
4. How old was Adam when he died?
A. 930 B. 943 C. 959 D. 960
5. Who said, "Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us."?
A. Peter B. Philip C. Paul D. John
6. Other than Genesis, what book begins with, "In the beginning"?
A. Exodus B. Jeremiah C. John D. Mark
7. About how many people were added to the church in Acts 2?
A. 120 B. 777 C. 2,000 D. 3,000
8. Which writer of one of the four gospels also wrote the Book of Acts?
A. Matthew B. Mark C. Luke D. John
9. What was the name of Elisha's servant?
A. Nob B. Gehazi C. Kish D. Gad
10. How many chariots did Solomon have?
A. 500 B. 100 C. 1,500 D. 1,400

Answers on page 8

Biblical Prophecy and Jesus' Fulfillment

Fall 2026 Bible Study • Prophecy

Beginning Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Lower Level Room #8 - 6:30 pm

Bill Rusnak

From Miracles and Parables to Prophecy

In January of 2026, our Sunday morning Bible study examined the Miracles of Jesus. Beginning in August, we began our study the Parables of Jesus. Together, these studies provide a helpful foundation for our Fall Wednesday evening study of Biblical Prophecy.

Miracles display Jesus' authority over creation, disease, demons, death, and nature. Parables reveal the character and coming of the kingdom of God. Prophecy directs our attention to God's faithfulness in history and the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Prophecy as Evidence Concerning Jesus' Identity

One of the most remarkable lines of biblical evidence concerning Jesus' identity is the way His life, death, and resurrection correspond to Old Testament prophecy. The point is not merely that isolated predictions resemble later events. Rather, the New Testament repeatedly presents Jesus as the fulfillment of God's promises. Consider these selected Old Testament Prophecies fulfilled in Jesus in the New Testament:

Born in Bethlehem — Micah 5:2 - Matthew 2:1–6.

Born of a virgin — Isaiah 7:14 - Matthew 1:22–23.

Forsaken in suffering — Psalm 22:1 - Matthew 27:46.

Mocked and scorned — Psalm 22:7 - Matthew 27:39.

Taunted because of trust in God — Psalm 22:8 - Matthew 27:43.

Pierced hands and feet — Psalm 22:16 - John 20:25; - Luke 24:39–40.

Thirty pieces of silver — Zechariah 11:12 - Matthew 26:14–16.

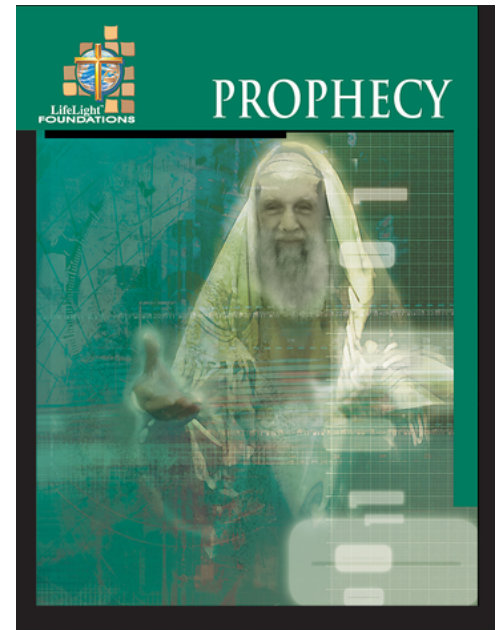
Silver associated with the potter — Zechariah 11:13 - Matthew 27:5–10.

The pierced one mourned — Zechariah 12:10 - John 19:37.

The shepherd struck; sheep scattered — Zechariah 13:7 - MT 26:31; Mark 14:27, 50.

It is by intention and design - but here's the thing; the prophecies were not written and recorded to impress theological scholars or merely educate seminary students; they were written for ordinary people like you and me. For people who struggle to understand the nature of God, for people who ask, "God, where are you? - Show me something, *anything*." Well, He did. He spaced His tells, His clues across thousands of years, so that when His Son, The Messiah, Our Saviour, Jesus arrived, you and I would know Him and without question recognize Him. And perhaps the most noteworthy point is that He was not merely out to get your attention, but this author of life is still in pursuit of a relationship with you and me. The plan He had before the foundation of the world. "For all the promises of God find their Yes in him." — 2 Corinthians 1:20

Our study of "Prophecy" examines Old Testament promises and the fulfillment of those promises in the New Testament, the School of Prophets, the end of the world, and much more. †††



**Join us at 6:30 pm on
Wednesdays, starting
September 9, 2026.**

**Pick up your Session #1
LifeLight Study at the
Welcome Center.**

**Bring a friend and prepare
to dive in together.**

CROSSROADS SUBMISSIONS:

Contributions for the Winter issue of the CrossRoads are due by Sunday, December 6th. Please submit both a paper copy to the CrossRoads box as well as a digital copy if possible (e.g. PDF, pictures, etc.) emailed to Steve Seibert at news@chapelofthecross.org.

God's Hands

by Gary Timm

Whether you realize it or not, you are in God's hands. You can either exhaust yourself in a futile effort to gain control or relax and enjoy the ride, confident that although there may be bumps on the way, you will arrive safely at your heavenly destination.

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philipians 4:4-7 †††

Mary-Martha Guild

On September 14, the Mary-Martha Guild held its annual Salad Supper. The members all brought salads to share, and the board members furnished the rest of the meal. We discussed the agenda for the coming months.

At our October 12 meeting, our guest speaker will be from My Life in a Bag. We will also have an ingathering for that organization.

On the weekend of October 31 and November 1, Mary-Martha will be selling Mixin' Fixins'. The cost is the same as last year, \$10.00. Preorders can be picked up at that time. Recipients of the sale will be announced in the Chapel Weekly. Thank you for supporting this fundraiser.

On Monday November 9, Mary-Martha will have a soup supper. Our guest and speaker for the evening will be Vicar Justin Goodrich. We will have a monetary ingathering for the Concordia Food Bank.

December 5-6 are the dates for our annual Christmas Cookie Fundraiser. The price this year will remain \$10.00. Mary-Martha members will decide on the recipients of the fundraiser proceeds at our May meeting. We thank you for your continued support.

Our annual Christmas Party will be held on December 14. We will meet upstairs in the commons area. It will once again be catered by Catering to You. Reservations will be required and additional details will follow. Everyone is invited to bring a white elephant or inexpensive gift to exchange. Vicar Justin Goodrich will be our guest and will narrate the left right game. †††



Teresa Nelson

YOUR LIFETIME PLAN FOR GIVING

Have you left a lasting legacy of your faith?

Have you blessed your family in the best way?

Have you remembered your favorite ministries?

As you can answer "yes" to each of these questions, I know you will experience the peace and joy of knowing God has blessed you to be a blessing.

To find out more, contact:

Teresa Nelson—LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor

1333 S. Kirkwood Road, St. Louis, MO 63122-7295

319-351-6529

Teresa.Nelson@lfnf.org



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Sunday, December 13, 11:00 A.M.

Please join us for a special musical service featuring Chapel's choir and musicians as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Come hear the story of our salvation unfold through Scripture readings, carols and anthems, and other special music.



THANKSGIVING WORSHIP
Wednesday, November 25, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, November 26, 9:30 a.m.

**SERVICE OF CONFESSION
and ABSOLUTION**
Monday, November 30, 6:30 p.m.

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES
Wed., Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23, 6:30 p.m.
Advent Dinners at 5:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT
Sunday, Dec. 13, 11:00 a.m.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS
Sunday, Dec. 20, 11:00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP
Thursday, Dec. 24, 5:00 & 10:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP
Friday, Dec. 25, 10:00 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP
Thursday, Dec. 31, 6:30 p.m.



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

CONFIRMATION (August 9, 2026):

Mary Pauline McFall

TRANSFER IN:

Timothy and Eliya Mars and baptized child Ruth from Christ the King Lutheran Church, Cody, WY

DEATH:

James Lee McBride (June 21, 2026)

Rosie L. Williams (July 10, 2026)

Former number of members: 849

Gains: +3

Losses: -2

New number of members: 850

Answers:

1. B. Light, Genesis 1:3
2. C. Death, Revelation 6:8
3. A. 6th, Exodus 20:13
4. A. 930, Genesis 5:5
5. B. Philip, John 14:8
6. C. John, John 1:1
7. D. 3,000, Acts 2:41
8. C. Luke
9. B. Gehazi, 2 Kings 4:8-12
10. D. 1400, 2 Chronicles 1:14

OCTOBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Choral Singers 7:00 - 8:30 .p.m. N/A Meeting 7 p.m.	2 Men's Bible Study 10:00 a.m. and lunch at 11:00 a.m.	3 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
4 Worship Service 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	5	6 Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m. GriefShare 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	7 Bible Class 6:30 p.m.	8 Choral Singers 7:00 - 8:30 .p.m. N/A Meeting 7 p.m.	9	10 Womens Fellowship 9:30 a.m Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
11 Worship Service 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	12 Mary-Martha Guild 6:30:00 p.m. Elder Meeting 7:00 p.m.	13 GriefShare 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	14 Bible Class 6:30 p.m.	15 Choral Singers 7:00 - 8:30 .p.m. N/A Meeting 7 p.m.	16	17 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
18 Worship Service 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	19	20 Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m. GriefShare 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	21 Bible Class 6:30 p.m.	22 Choral Singers 7:00 - 8:30 .p.m. N/A Meeting 7 p.m.	23	24 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
25 Reformation Day Worship Service 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	26 Board of Directors 7:00 p.m.	27 GriefShare 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	28 Bible Class 6:30 p.m.	29 Choral Singers 7:00 - 8:30 .p.m. N/A Meeting 7 p.m.	30	31 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
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NOVEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
1 Daylight Saving Worship Service 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 am Shoebox Assembly after 11:00 service	2	3 Womens Bible Study 10:00 a.m. GriefShare 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	4 Bible Study 6:30 p.m.	5 Choral Singers 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. N/A meeting 7:00 p.m.	6 Mens Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Lunch 11:00 a.m.	7 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.																																																																																				
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22 Christ the King Worship Service 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	23 Board of Directors 7:00 p.m.	24	25 Worship Service 6:30 p.m.	26 Thanksgiving Office closed Worship Service 9:30 a.m.	27 Office closed	28 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.																																																																																				
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DECEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	2 Advent Dinner 5:00 p.m. Advent Service 6:30 p.m.	3 Choral Singers 7:00 - 8: p.m. N/A Meeting 7:00 p.m.	4 Mens Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Lunch 11:00 a.m.	5 Christmas decorating 9 - Noon Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
6 Advent 2 Worship Service 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Bible Study Youth & Adult 9:45 a.m.	7	8	9 Advent Dinner 5:00 p.m. Advent Service 6:30 p.m.	10 Choral Singers 7:00 - 8: p.m. N/A Meeting 7:00 p.m.	11	12 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
13 Advent 3 Worship Service 8:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Christmas Choir Concert 11:00 a.m.	14 Mary Martha Christmas Party 6:30 p.m.	15 Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	16 Advent Dinner 5:00 p.m. Advent Service 6:30 p.m.	17 Choral Singers 7:00 - 8: p.m. N/A Meeting 7:00 p.m.	18	19 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
20 Advent 4 Worship Service 8:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Children's Christmas Prog 11:00 a.m.	21	22	23 Advent Dinner 5:00 p.m. Advent Service 6:30 p.m.	24 Christmas Eve Services 5:00 & 10:30 p.m. Office closed	25 Christmas Day Service 10:00 a.m. Office closed	26 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
27 Worship Service 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Bible Study Youth & Adult 9:45 a.m.	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve Worship Service 6:30 p.m. Office closed		
		November 2026		January 2027		Notes:
		S M T W Th F Sa	S M T W Th F Sa			
		1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7			
		8 9 10 11 12 13 14	8 9 10 11 12 13 14			
		15 16 17 18 19 20 21	15 16 17 18 19 20 21			
		22 23 24 25 26 27 28	22 23 24 25 26 27 28			
		29 30	29 30			



CHAPEL OF THE CROSS - LUTHERAN

CrossRoads

Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran
11645 Benham Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63136

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PERMIT NO. 2656

Weekend Worship Services

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Education Hour

(Sunday School, Youth, & Adult Classes)

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.

Holy Communion

1st, 3rd, & 5th Sunday of the month: 8:30 a.m.

2nd, 4th, & 5th Sunday of the month: 11:00 a.m.

1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday of the month: 5:00 p.m.

*Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran
exists to show the love of Jesus to
the people of North County and
beyond so that all may have a
living relationship with Christ.*

