

THE Concordia Messenger



“How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!” Psalm 133:1

September 2025

Christmas Gospels Reading Challenge Pastor Sam Scheltens

In August, I challenged you to read one chapter of the Bible a day for one week. If you took up the challenge, I hope it was a fruitful exercise. If you did not, never fear! I offer you a second challenge. From Sunday September 28, to Dec. 25, Christmas day, is exactly 89 days (counting the first and last days) – the exact number of total chapters in the four Gospels. So I present to you, the Christmas Gospels Reading Challenge 2025.

Date	Chapter	Date	Chapter	Date	Chapter
Sept. 28	Matthew 1	Oct. 28	Mark 3	Nov. 27	Luke 17
Sept. 29	Matthew 2	Oct. 29	Mark 4	Nov. 28	Luke 18
Sept. 30	Matthew 3	Oct. 30	Mark 5	Nov. 29	Luke 19
Oct. 1	Matthew 4	Oct. 31	Mark 6	Nov. 30	Luke 20
Oct. 2	Matthew 5	Nov. 1	Mark 7	Dec. 1	Luke 21
Oct. 3	Matthew 6	Nov. 2	Mark 8	Dec. 2	Luke 22
Oct. 4	Matthew 7	Nov. 3	Mark 9	Dec. 3	Luke 23
Oct. 5	Matthew 8	Nov. 4	Mark 10	Dec. 4	Luke 24
Oct. 6	Matthew 9	Nov. 5	Mark 11	Dec. 5	John 1
Oct. 7	Matthew 10	Nov. 6	Mark 12	Dec. 6	John 2
Oct. 8	Matthew 11	Nov. 7	Mark 13	Dec. 7	John 3
Oct. 9	Matthew 12	Nov. 8	Mark 14	Dec. 8	John 4
Oct. 10	Matthew 13	Nov. 9	Mark 15	Dec. 9	John 5
Oct. 11	Matthew 14	Nov. 10	Mark 16	Dec. 10	John 6
Oct. 12	Matthew 15	Nov. 11	Luke 1	Dec. 11	John 7
Oct. 13	Matthew 16	Nov. 12	Luke 2	Dec. 12	John 8
Oct. 14	Matthew 17	Nov. 13	Luke 3	Dec. 13	John 9
Oct. 15	Matthew 18	Nov. 14	Luke 4	Dec. 14	John 10
Oct. 16	Matthew 19	Nov. 15	Luke 5	Dec. 15	John 11
Oct. 17	Matthew 20	Nov. 16	Luke 6	Dec. 16	John 12
Oct. 18	Matthew 21	Nov. 17	Luke 7	Dec. 17	John 13
Oct. 19	Matthew 22	Nov. 18	Luke 8	Dec. 18	John 14
Oct. 20	Matthew 23	Nov. 19	Luke 9	Dec. 19	John 15
Oct. 21	Matthew 24	Nov. 20	Luke 10	Dec. 20	John 16
Oct. 22	Matthew 25	Nov. 21	Luke 11	Dec. 21	John 17
Oct. 23	Matthew 26	Nov. 22	Luke 12	Dec. 22	John 18
Oct. 24	Matthew 27	Nov. 23	Luke 13	Dec. 23	John 19
Oct. 25	Matthew 28	Nov. 24	Luke 14	Dec. 24	John 20
Oct. 26	Mark 1	Nov. 25	Luke 15	Dec. 25	John 21
Oct. 27	Mark 2	Nov. 26	Luke 16		

August was busy. My younger kids started school at Concordia and my oldest started school at Calvary. Some days we need three different drop off points. My kids also started dance in August and we have swim lessons every couple of weeks. Our dishwasher also broke in August so handwashing everything took awhile. Just to stay on top of dishes and laundry is enough some days, let alone other housework and yardwork. While trying to figure out what our new schedule looked like with drop offs, pick ups, homework, and more time needed for household chores it was easy to break habits.

Unfortunately, one of the ones that broke was finding time to read the Bible. It couldn't be in the mornings anymore because everyone needed to be up sooner. After household chores, it's about bed time. We've been having to form new habits and routines like listening to the Bible while doing dishes. Thankfully, our car radio is still broken; so listening to the Bible when I'm waiting in the car line or just driving with no other kids in the car is easier. There's little other distractions. Is it ideal? No. Is it what I feel like I can do now? Yes.

One mental block people have to forming a new habit is the thought of having to go all in right away. How can someone work out for 30 minutes a day three times a week when there isn't time to grocery shop? How can I cook a healthy meal when I get home so late? How can I read the Bible when I don't have quiet time?

Sometimes I find, I just need to start. Not go all in, just start something small. A five minute walk. It's easier to carve out 5 minutes to work out than jump into a 30 minute workout. Add baby carrots to eat with the frozen pizza instead of a homemade pizza with fresh salad. It's easier to listen to the Bible for a few minutes than having to find a time to sit down, read, and complete checkboxes on a reading plan.

Something is better than nothing. Jesus talks about the faith the size of a mustard seed. It is a small seed, but a mustard tree can grow up to nine feet. A small habit, even if it's just reading a verse a day or listening to a chapter of the Bible a day, can grow into something much more. Even a little water nourishes our faith more than no water at all. When read (or listened to) God's Word will accomplish the purpose it is set out to do.

~Sarah Shadday

Sunday School/Bible Class

Sunday School 10:45am

Young Children are learning about Joseph, Moses, the Exodus, and the Ten Commandments.

Older Children will finish off learning about the Psalms and switch to something new in September.

Youth are attending the adult Bible Study for September.

Adults are having Bible Studies on the Small Catechism led by Pastor Scheltens in the Sanctuary.

Women's Sunday Night Bible Study 6 pm are continuing Donna Snow's book *Unshakeable*.

Women's Tuesday Night Bible Study 7 pm are will study Patient Urgency, a Lutheran Hour Ministries Bible Study.

Preschool

Preschool started in August and the kids have been learning a lot! They all received their Bible (see photo below) or special book from church. They've had their first color day, blue. The kids bring something blue from home and talk about it at Show and Tell. They also have a special snack with blue foods. They've also been learning about school rules, friends, manners, and names. We're excited to learn even more in September once we understand the school rules and how to interact with each other.

Our Preschool classes are pretty full, we still do have a few spots available. Tours may be set up by contacting Sarah Shadday via text/calls 314-330-3782 or emailing : Sarah.Shadday@concordia-lcms.com



Congregational Fellowship Opportunities

Fellowship events are on pause during the West Wing Renovation.

PRAISE GOD FOR OUR PASTOR



LWML Mission Grants at Work

2025-2027 Mission Grant #2
(Omaha Convention)

Help for Ukraine's Orphans and Displaced Persons – Orphan Grain Train, Europe – \$100,000

Orphan Grain Train (OGT) has been involved in humanitarian aid to Ukraine since the war began. In the past year, OGT sent seventeen shipments of donated food, clothing, and medical supplies to various locations in Ukraine. OGT is assisting twelve orphanages in the Kherson area and three orphanages in the Kyiv area. OGT is working with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ukraine and other Christian churches as it distributes the aid. The impact the donations have is both lifesaving and soul-saving. The donated supplies assist people who have lost all their worldly goods and help children who lost their parents in the war. Through acts of mercy shown by followers of Jesus, recipients see the love of God. This grant will cover the cost of shipping up to seven containers loaded with food, clothing, and medical supplies to the country of Ukraine.

2024 Indiana LWML District Convention
Large Grant Recipient #9

MOST Ministries Sending Seminary Students on Short-Term Missions—\$12,000

This grant will fund scholarships to cover the costs for four seminary students to serve on a MOST mission team. (Mission Opportunities Short-Term is also known as MOST Ministries.)

TEXAS FLOOD RELIEF

If you want to help the victims of the Texas flood, here is how you do it.

Mail a check to:

Texas District of the Lutheran Church-LCMS
1221 Satellite View
Round Rock, TX 78665

100% of your gift goes to help victims, including pastors and members of the LCMS. On the memo line of the check put "Flood Relief".

Women's Retreat - Camp Lakeview

The annual Women's Retreat will be held October 10-11 at Camp Lakeview. We rent one of the lodges and do not stay in the cabins. So we are comfortable. This is a good time to get away from our daily routine and spend time studying God's Word. This year the theme is "Believe, Trust, Commit." Through this study we will learn to trust God more and be more willing to let God take over our lives. In addition to the study we take time to make something to be given to others. For example, last year we colored Greeting Cards that were sent to Phil's Friends to be given to cancer patients. Also, we have social time during meals and breaks and before going to sleep Friday evening. We return home feeling uplifted after spending time studying God's Word. Watch the Sunday bulletin for more details.

The Cry of Faith: Lord, Have Mercy

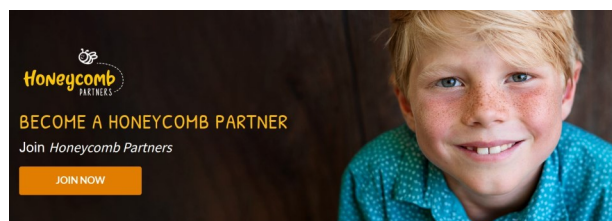
The ten lepers cried out from a distance, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" (Luke 17:11-19). Their condition cut them off from God and others. So also do the works of the flesh cut us off from God and others. "Those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God" (Gal. 5:16-24). Thus we cry out with the lepers, "Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy," eagerly seeking His good gifts. Jesus said to the lepers, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. So too, we walk by faith and not by sight, being confident of Jesus' help before we see any evidence of it, trusting that Jesus' cleansing words of forgiveness will restore us to wholeness in the resurrection. Let us be as the one leper who returned to the true High Priest to give Him thanks and glory. For Jesus bore our infirmities in His sacrifice at Calvary. His words are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh (Prov. 4:10-23).

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Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch - fundraiser -

Honey Sundays for the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch fundraiser are on Sundays Nov. 3rd and 10th. The recommended purchase price is \$10 each. All of the proceeds are sent to the Ranch and the ranch will send each bottle directly to your home. Forms and sample will be located in the foyer on those 2 Sundays. Thank you for your support in advance LWCC.

(Also check it out at: <https://dakotaranch.org/>)



Sept 2025 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>31</div> <div>Eleventh Sunday after Trinity</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div>	<div>1</div> <div>6:30pm - Properties</div> <div>6:30pm - Worship Service</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div>	<div>4</div>	<div>5</div>	<div>6</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div>
<div>7</div> <div>Twelfth Sunday after Trinity</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>6pm - Women's Bible Sty</div>	<div>8</div> <div>6:30pm - Worship Service</div> <div>7pm - Elders</div>	<div>9</div> <div>7pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>10</div>	<div>11</div>	<div>12</div>	<div>13</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div>
<div>14</div> <div>Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>6pm - Women's Bible Sty</div>	<div>15</div> <div>6:30pm - Worship Service</div> <div>7pm - Church Council</div>	<div>16</div>	<div>17</div>	<div>18</div>	<div>19</div>	<div>20</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div>
<div>21</div> <div>Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>6pm - Women's Bible Sty</div>	<div>22</div> <div>6:30pm - Worship Service</div>	<div>23</div> <div>7pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div>
<div>28</div> <div>Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>6pm - Women's Bible Sty</div>	<div>29</div> <div>6:30pm - Worship Service</div>	<div>30</div>	<div>1</div> <div>LWR week - Quilt Drop Off</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div>	<div>4</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div>

Treasurers Report

July 2024

<u>Income Descriptions</u>	<u>July 2024</u> <u>4 Sundays</u>	<u>July 2025</u> <u>4 Sundays</u>	<u>Total to Date</u>
Unified Budget	27,297.25	19,443.45	186,021.30
Memorials (Non-Designated)	-	-	175.00
Memorials (Designated)	-	-	100.00
Designated Gifts	5,545.91	2,965.50	83,629.62
Reimbursements & Refunds	-	-	-
Rents & Wedding Fees	-	100.00	415.00
Miscellaneous*	49,698.14	83,901.47	91,955.74
Total Income	82,541.30	19,543.45	362,296.66
Average per week Unified Budget	6,824.31	4,885.86	4,357.47
Amount needed per week for Unified Budget	6,728.85	6,728.85	6,728.85

Support is included in Unified Budget Expenses	Jul-25	Total to Date
Missions - District Synod	500.00	3,500.00
Lutheran High School	750.00	5,250.00
Lutheran Hispanic Ministry	187.50	1,312.50
Total Support	1,437.50	10,062.50

Board Expenses	July 2025	Total To Date	Total Budget
Pastoral Care	9,277.95	45,326.22	125,400.00
Christian Education	8,905.10	52,126.93	81,800.00
Congregational Worship	630.65	5,823.29	7,200.00
Missions & Outreach	1,493.00	12,362.67	21,500.00
Office	1,986.18	16,271.38	32,500.00
Properties	8,610.27	50,158.75	81,500.00
Unified Budget Total	30,903.15	182,069.24	349,900.00

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Steward Accounts	Balance 07-31-2025
Anniversaries & Birthday - 1073	4,688.93
Board of Youth - Trip - 5446***	11,417.15
Building Fund - 2978**	94,874.26
Capital Improvements - 9545	13,916.93
Church Sign	979.79
Church Landscaping	886.53
Heine Family Project	1,741.37
Total Capital Improvements - \$17,524.63	17,524.63
Concordia Cares - 6370	3,539.14
Inheritance Fund - 7423	127,380.01
Preschool Landscaping & Gardening - 2434	150.19
Total in LCEF Steward Accounts	259,574.31
Interest Earned	363.84
Total In Church Checking Account	\$ 155,641.83
Total in Preschool Account	\$ 15,119.55

Our Spiritual Response in Worship, Bible Study and Giving to our Lord			
	Children SS	Youth SS	ADULT SS
August 3, 2025	0	0	0
August 10, 2025	10	3	20
August 17, 2025	9	3	28
August 24, 2025	7	0	25

Worship	2024	2025	Tithes
August 3, 2025	105	110	\$4,920.07
August 10, 2025	85	92	\$2,575.00
August 17, 2025	89	87	\$4,913.00
August 24, 2025	94	87	\$12,550.00

*Misc income = transfers from Building Fund & Insurance Check

**Not included in properties is Building Fund payments because they're recorded through building fund account transfers

***Changes in the Youth Trip account are for The Gathering

INTERCESSION and PRAYER **(Matthew 8:17)**

Concordia Members

Surgery/Testing/

Recovery:

- Lynda Martin 6/16/25
- Jim Roemer 2/12/23
- Tommy Ragsdale 12/11/22
- Peter Economou 4/22/19



Friends of Concordia

- Mike Smith 6/17/25
- Barb Norris 4/16/25
- Kathleen Sebastian 1/30/25
- Beverly Tewell 1/30/25
- Tyshae Smith 8/28/24
- Josephine Shafer 8/13/24
- Leeroy & Vernon Good 6/10/24
- Ralph McGraw 1/2/24
- Connie Henderson 5/14/23
- Terry & Diana Deamron 9/10/22
- Beverly Stephens 8/20/22
- Ed Stephens 2/18/24
- Terry Haskett 5/15/22
- Missy, Austin & Travis Golden 4/20/22
- Judy Heine 11/22/21
- Pat Brooks 9/23/21
- Rose Swenson 7/27/21
- Susan Soggs 1/7/21
- Rev. Howard Fabricius 1/2/21
- Minna Van Arsdale 8/7/19
- Brandon Frederking 5/2/19
- Steve Stephenson 4/28/19
- Thomas Clark 12/16/18

Battling Cancer / MS

- Kelsey Merena 10/25/22
- David Buuck 9/27/21

Homebound Concordia Members

- Sharon Bruhn, 690 South State Ball Brothers 125, Franklin IN 46131
- Ginny Emmons, 581 Cielo Vista Dr, Greenwood, IN 46143
- Phillis Infante, 1501 S Meridian St Apt 139, Indianapolis, IN 46225

Military Servicemen & women.

- Erica Stephenson, Army, National Guard
- LTJG Chloe (Owen) Munoz, 12137 Red Barn Ct, Jacksonville, FL 32226
- Ivan Munoz, (LTJG)
- Zach Goins, 822 Timbervale Trail, Highlands Ranch, CO, 80129 (Navy Reserve)
- CPL Jadon Ranbarger (2166 Marmande St., Kailua, HI 96734)
- PVT Macy Ranbarger (NAS Pensacola)

West Wing Renovation

We are working on another fundraiser to acquire additional funds to use on the Fellowship/Kitchen complex. Information on participating in the bazaars at Calvary Lutheran church and at Lutheran High School's Fall Christmas sale is being collected. We will have a table at the Sugar Plum Craft Fair at Lutheran High School on Oct. 25. We will have a table at Calvary Lutheran's Holiday Craft Fair on Nov. 8. Until then we would ask that if you have a talent for making things (sewing, woodworking, baked items, and home canned goods) it would be nice to know that you are willing and able to help us. It will also give you time to work on the projects through the summer. Of course the baking would have to wait until the week of the sale but you can still plan on what you would like to do in the mean time.

Please contact Adele Tinsley, Heidi Ford, Diane Conrad, or Becky Lanning to let us know what you can do to help. Several item have been made at this point but we would like to add to the selection.

Our Church Directory is Online!

You can now view our church directory online or through the FREE mobile app.

To access the directory online, go to **members.InstantChurchDirectory.com** and enter your email address as listed in the directory. Click "**Send Secure Sign-In Link**". Then check your email and click on the "**Log in to Instant Church Directory**" button found in your email.

A free mobile app is also available in the **Apple App Store** and the **Google Play Store**. Just search for "**Instant Church Directory**" to download.

Important: Your email address **must be listed in the directory before you can log in.**

Lutheran Hour Ministries Radio Schedule

The Lutheran Hour—Sundays
WIRE (91.1 FM) 6:00 AM
WBRI (1500 AM) 6:30 AM
WCBK (102.3 FM) 7:00 AM
WBNL (1540 AM) 1:00 PM

9/7 "Dying We Live"
9/14 "It's All on God; It's All on Us"
9/21 "Someone Worth Having"
9/28 "On the Way, Already Home"

Lutheran Hour is now broadcast on American Forces Network (AFN). To find other airings near you, check the broadcast guide at lhm.org/guide.

Worship Anew—Sundays
WRTV (TV 6) 7:00 AM

The Concordia Messenger

Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church
305 N Howard Road
Greenwood, IN 46142-3836

Telephone: 317.881.4477
Facsimile: 317.881.4498
E-mail: office@concordia-lcms.com
Website: <http://www.concordia-lcms.com>



Sunday Worship Services
9:30 a.m.

Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes
10:30 a.m.



Pastor Sam Scheltens
E-mail pastorscheltens@concordia-lcms.com

Staff:

Sarah Shadday	<i>Dir. Christian Education</i>
Erica Stephenson	<i>Deaconess</i>
Sarah Shadday	<i>Preschool Director</i>
Brad Wheeler	<i>Admin. Assistant</i>

Office hours Mon. - Fri. 8am - noon

BIRTHDAYS:

Distler, Albi	9/2
Barnes, Pat	9/2
Crouch, Gaby	9/4
Yeater, Jayme	9/4
Hartley, Bryan	9/6
Waltz II, Gene	9/11
Mihu, Kaitlin	9/13
Stephenson, Gini	9/14
Coffey, Jessica	9/16
Reinke, Stacy	9/18
Johnson, Georgieanne	9/18
Inman, Linda	9/19
Boesenberg, Don	9/21
Distler, Allen	9/21
Chaudhary, Alex	9/21
Roemer, Jim	9/22
Slemons, Sherry	9/25
Beam-Garland Dianne	9/29

WEDDINGS:

	Years	Date
Steve & Janet Bertsch	61	9/1
Vince & Wendy DeFabis	38	9/5
Don & Lynn Dombroski	48	9/13
Jim & Becky Lanning	51	9/14
Jennifer & Adam Musgrove	9	9/17
Mark & Marilyn Lawler	39	9/27

HUMOR CORNER

Proverbs 17:22 "A merry heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones."



Church Council

President
Bruce Markel

Vice-President
Chris Brooks

Mike Emkes, Elder

Mike Finger, Elder

Mike Ford

Susan Henrickson

Julia Yeater

Recording Secretary
Susan Ranbarger

Treasurer
Tammy Owen

Financial Secretary
Carol Monroe

Whatever you do work at it with
all your heart. As working for the
Lord, Not for Men.

-Colossians 3:23



Happy Labor Day!

@AshleyKiczek

THE Concordia Messenger

September 2025



305 N Howard Road, Greenwood, IN 46142

**Concordia Lutheran Church
& Preschool**