



# FOCUS ON FAITH WEEKLY

✦ FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ✦ GREENFIELD INDIANA ✦

## This Week at Faith Lutheran Church

Sunday Nov. 24	Monday Nov. 25	Tuesday Nov. 26	Word Day Nov. 27	Thursday Nov. 28	Friday Nov. 29	Saturday Nov. 30
<b>Last Sunday of the Church Year</b>  <b>9:15 am Divine Service</b>  11:00 am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study	<i>Preschool</i>   <i>Pastor's Family Day</i>	<i>Preschool</i>  <b>Preschool Thanksgiving Program @ 6:30 pm</b>  <b>Private Confession &amp; Absolution with Pastor from 5:00-6:00 pm</b>	<i>NO Preschool</i>  9:30 pm Bible Study  <b>11:00 pm Matins</b>  6:00 pm Choir  NO Jr. Catechesis Classes today!  <b>7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Vespers</b>	  <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>  <i>Office Closed</i>	<i>Office Closed</i>	

Weekly Divine Service: Sunday 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School and Bible Study: Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Private Confession and Holy Absolution with Pastor is available on Tuesdays from 5:00-7:00 pm or by appointment

**Pastor Wm. Daniel O'Connor** email: [pastorwdo@faithgreenfield.org](mailto:pastorwdo@faithgreenfield.org)

Administrative Assistant e-mail: [secretary@faithgreenfield.org](mailto:secretary@faithgreenfield.org) Focus on Faith Deadline: 9 am Thursday

**Office Hours:** 9:00 am—1:00 pm Monday through Friday

### FROM LUTHER

In my opinion, that Day will come after Easter, in spring, when the year is most beautiful, early in the morning, at the rising of the sun, as at Sodom and Gomorrah. The sky will be overcast, and there will be thunder for an hour or a little longer. When they note this, the people on earth will say: "See here, you fool, did you never hear any thunder?" And so Judgment Day will suddenly come upon the world. (quoted from "What Luther Says," ed. by Ewald M. Plass; p. 696)

### Quarterly Voters Meeting

The final voter's meeting for 2024 will be held on Sunday, December 8th at 11:00 am. We will meet in Fellowship Hall at that time.

Brian Atkins  
317-435-0842

### PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

The Preschool will be doing a Thanksgiving Program on Tuesday, November 26th and we would love for you to join us! We will begin at 6:30 pm in the church. We hope to see you there!

## REMEMBERING THE SAINTS

**Noah** (November 29) – Noah, the son of Lamech (Genesis 5:30), was instructed by God to build an ark, in which his family would find security from the destructive waters of a devastating flood that God warned would come. Noah built the ark and the rains descended. The entire earth was flooded, destroying “every living thing that was on the face of the ground, both man and beast” (Gen. 7:23). After the flood waters subsided, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. When Noah determined it was safe, and God confirmed it, he and his family and all the animals disembarked. Then Noah built an altar and offered a sacrifice of thanksgiving to God for having saved his family from destruction. A rainbow in the sky was declared by God to be a sign of His promise that never again would a similar flood destroy the entire earth (Gen. 8:20).

Noah is remembered and honored for his obedience, believing that God would do what He said He would.

Collect: Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. Grant that we may be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, so that with all believers in Your promise, we would be declared worthy of eternal life.

**St. Andrew, Apostle** (November 30) – St. Andrew was the brother of Simon Peter, and was from the Galilean village of Bethsaida. Andrew was originally a disciple of John the Baptist, but after John called Jesus “the Lamb of God,” Andrew became a follower of Jesus and then brought his brother Peter to Jesus (John 1:35-42). Andrew and Peter were called by Jesus to be disciples while they were engaged in their work of being fishermen (Matthew 4:18-20), and they are both listed among the twelve apostles chosen by Christ (Matthew 10:1-4).

According to Church tradition, Andrew was martyred when he was crucified on a cross in the form of an X. In AD 357, his body is said to have been taken to the Church of the Holy Apostles in Constantinople, and later removed to the cathedral of Amalfi in Italy. Centuries later, Andrew became the patron saint of Scotland.

St. Andrew’s Day determines the beginning of the Western Church Year, since the First Sunday in Advent is always the Sunday nearest to St. Andrew’s

Day.

Collect: Almighty God, by Your grace the apostle Andrew obeyed the call of Your Son to be a disciple. Grant us also to follow the same Lord Jesus Christ in heart and life, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## STEWARDSHIP

**November 24 — Last Sunday of the Church Year**

**Isaiah 51:6 — “For the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment.”**

The things of this earth that hold our attention, that cause us to worry, that tempt us away from the Lord, are all passing away. They will vanish like a garment. They are not for us to worry over, but rather to use for the Lord’s purposes. The things of this world are not ends in and of themselves, but only means to be used wisely by the children of the kingdom that has no end.

## Love INC Christmas 2024

New this year for Christmas: Christmas Blessing Baskets. You can bless a Love INC family by providing a Christmas Blessing Basket. A Christmas Blessing Basket is a collection of gifts, food, and other items given to families as an extra blessing during the holidays. We distribute baskets to our Neighbors who are actively working toward their goals. The items can be in a laundry basket, tote, reuseable laundry bag, etc. **Drop baskets off at the Love INC office no later than December 13.**

Be creative in filling a “basket” and feel free to have a theme. Some items to consider, but not limited to are:

- Family Bible, devotional, Bible storybooks
- Games, books, activity books
- Craft items/kits
- Baking items
- Pampering items, personal care items
- Coffee, tea, hot chocolate, other specialty drinks
- Nuts, candies, other sweets
- Blankets, hats, scarves, socks
- Gift Cards for gas, groceries, restaurant, entertainment
- Seasonal Decorations

## MARY MARTHA GUILD

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, December 7, at 2:00 pm**, and begin inviting your friends for our annual **Christmas Gathering of Friends**. **The theme this year is A NATIVITY WALK**. Your help is needed with the program and also food and set up. See the sign up sheet in November for your assistance or contact Emily Rogers for program needs.

It has been a busy fall and we are thankful to see God’s blessings of bountiful crop harvests for the farmers, beautiful weather, and changing colorful leaves. We look forward to seeing you at all of our activities in the next few months. And **don’t forget your mites**. Your boxes can be brought in and set on the table in the Narthex at any time.

**Thank you for your donations and your service.**

Emily Rogers  
765-621-2131  
Mary Martha/LWML President

## Worship Anew!

November 24 — Last Sunday of the Church Year

Psalm 93; Revelation 1:4-8; Mark 13:24-27

**“Praise the King”**

Sermon Text: Revelation 1:4

Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

In the Book of Revelation, the Apostle John presents us with a glimpse of the reign of Jesus Christ. Revelation 1 shows us that this King is almighty and that He is coming again on Judgment Day. The result is that we joyfully praise Christ the King.

## YOUTH MUSICIANS ARE INVITED TO LUTHERAN SUMMER MUSIC!

Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival (LSM) is the nation’s premier faith-based music academy for high school students. Students come together from all over the country to immerse themselves in joyful music-making and build a supportive and welcoming community, living together on a college campus.

During the day, students receive advanced musical instruction through large ensembles (Festival Choir, Band and Orchestra), chamber music, private lessons, and elective classes (such as musical theatre, composition, church music, jazz band, conducting, music therapy). In the evenings, students attend recitals, evening prayer services, and social events with their friends.

LSM 2025 takes place at Valparaiso University in Indiana from June 22-July 20\* (Full Session) or June 22-July 6 (Half Session) and is open to students who have completed grades 8-12.

*\*Early check-outs will be coordinated for students attending the LCMS National Youth Gathering.*

To learn more, watch this [LSM Experience Video](#), view this [digital brochure](#), or go to [LSMacademy.org/program](http://LSMacademy.org/program)

## APPLICATIONS FOR LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

Applications are open for the 2025-2026 school year. Visit [LHSI.org](http://LHSI.org) for more information!

## LHS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Join us this Christmas season for our annual **LHS Christmas Concert** taking place on **December 13 at 7:00 pm** in the Ruth Lilly Auditorium.

## KFUO RADIO

For churches outside the St. Louis area for the week of November 24:

**KFUO Radio**, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) and the KFUO Radio app! Find us on social: @**KFUORadio** on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/kfuo), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/kfuo), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/kfuo).

**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO (AM 850) and KFUO.org:** We continue our study of the Psalms of thanksgiving on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 am, CT), and discuss chapters 8-11 in the Gospel of John on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 am, CT). Tune into Concord Matters this Saturday (11/30 at 10:00 am, CT), to learn more about the Lutheran view of the Sacrament.

## Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday is a global movement that encourages people to give back to their communities, often through donations, volunteering, or acts of kindness, following the holiday shopping events of Black Friday and Cyber Monday. It's a day to celebrate generosity and make a meaningful impact in the lives of those in need.

You can support Love INC on Giving Tuesday, **December 3**, by donating funds to sustain essential services like the clearinghouse, gap ministries, and Faith and Finances or by volunteering time to directly support neighbors in need.

You can also visit Love INC's Amazon and Walmart wish lists to donate specific items or select Love INC as your charity of choice for community rewards, ensuring a portion of their purchases goes toward supporting local programs.

Every contribution helps provide resources and life skills to individuals and families in Greater Hancock County.

## LUFEST 2025

Invites your friends and join us for an unforgettable night celebrating and supporting Lutheran High School at the beautiful Biltwell Event Center. Early Bird Tickets are available at [LuFest.org](http://LuFest.org).

## IMPACT

Camp Lutherhaven's Winter High School Retreat is scheduled for Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend, **January 17-19, 2025**.

**Theme: Chasing After Wind**

*I have seen all things that are done under the sun; all of them meaningless, a chasing after the wind. (Ecclesiastes 1:14)*

For high school students, thinking about the future is filled with lots of uncertainty. At the top of the list are jobs, careers, or professions to pursue. Of equal concern is whether marriage and children are a part of their future, or not. Then there are the less tangible pressures of focusing on being successful, intelligent, or happy, which the world wants people to make their ultimate future pursuits. All of this can be burdensome, or a "chasing after the wind," as Ecclesiastes repeatedly reminds us. The focus of this retreat is to see how God has a direction for our lives, which He reveals to us in scripture. This is a call to stop "chasing after wind" and to approach the future fully trusting in what God desires for us.

Feel free to reach out to Camp directly if you have questions or would like more information!

## THE TOGETHER PROJECT

We are making big strides in our **Together** campaign! Several projects are completed or underway. The most recent project was a Weight Room remodel, and new permanent outdoor bleachers have arrived. Will you accept the invitation to be part of **together**? Help us cross the finish line! Email [kanderson@lhsi.org](mailto:kanderson@lhsi.org) for more information.

**CHURCH LEADERS**

**Council:**

- Brian Atkins (Chairman)
- Chris Ebling (Vice-Chairman)
- Amy Surburg (Recording Secretary)
- Joel Leonard (Treasurer)
- Jeff Dickmander (Properties Chair)
- Tom Fitzwater (Stewardship)

**Elders:**

- James Froiland
- Shawn Houser
- Mark Jenkins
- Chris Ebling
- Chuck Jones

**Parochial Education:**

- Debbie Kuehn
- Melissa Ebling
- Susan Pearson
- Chuck Jones
- Tawney Kearns

**Parish Education:**

- Matthew Surburg
- David Temme
- Libby Leonard

**Financial Secretary:**

- Jim Arthur

**Ushers and Greeters Needed**

Please contact Richard Curry or Jim Arthur if interested or desire more information.

**Soundboard Operators**

We are looking for people to assist with operating the soundboard during the worship service. So that you know - training will be supplied to anyone interested. You can sit with a sound person during service before making any commitment. Please contact Brian Atkins (317-435-0842) if you are interested or have any questions.

**PROPERTY DIRECTOR**

If there are concerns, regarding the buildings and property, please contact Jeff Dickmander at (413) 522-2591.

**RECEIVING IN FAITH:  
Sunday, November 17, 2024**

9:15 am Service: 92

**RESPONDING IN FATH:  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2024**

<b>General Fund</b> .....	<b>\$5,067.90</b>
LCMS.....	50.00
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>\$5,117.90</b>

**IN THE LORD'S SERVICE  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024  
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

- Organist..... Chris Wilson
- Crucifer/Acolyte ..... Amelia Houser
- Communion Assistants ..... Unknown
- Greeters ..... Richard and Gloria Curry
- Ushers ..... Chuck Jones, Jim Arthur,  
..... and Ken Sedam
- Youth Assistant..... Paul Surburg
- Altar Guild ..... Tami Shultz and Bev Wilson Jr.
- Altar Guild ..... Linus Wilson
- Fellowship/Refreshments..... The Fox Families

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

Richard Curry ..... 11/25  
Jason Blosser ..... 11/28

**BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

John Rumler..... 11/28  
Amy Surburg ..... 11/28  
Laura Bearman ..... 11/29  
Brenda Dillman ..... 11/29  
Amanda Houser ..... 11/30  
Phoebe Pennie ..... 11/30

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

Gloria & Roy Mathews (42 yrs.) ..... 11/27  
Pastor & Kelly O'Connor (32 yrs.)..... 11/28  
Rebecca & Shane Shanton (21 yrs.)..... 11/29

**PRAYER CHAIN**

*Please contact Lori Yeager (email: lori-yeager@comcast.net/ phone: (317) 431-9514 for prayer chain requests. You may also contact the office.*

*Please inform the church office if a prayer, baptismal birthday, anniversary or birthday was missed or incorrect this week.*  
  
*Thank you.*

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

***Note:*** *Prayer requests will be listed for four weeks, unless longer is requested.*

*Darla White (Friend of Lori Yeager)*  
Breast Cancer  
*Pattie Fitzwater*  
*Woody Yarwood*  
Cancer  
*Deborah Walker (Evelyn Drake's Sister-in-Law)*  
Lung Cancer  
*Janice Brown (Libby Leonard's Grandmother)*  
*Melvin Biberdorf (Brother of Laura Bearman)*  
Cancer

*Doris Bond*  
Homebound  
*Barbara Waterman*  
Homebound  
*Woody Yarwood*  
Homebound

**Serving our Country**

Nick Arthur Zachary Archer  
Noah Heiwig (friend of the Yeagers)  
Lukas Fielder (the Dickmanders' nephew)