November/December 2026

Christ Our Savior
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

DISCIPLEGRAM



MAKING DISCIPLES WHO SHARE THE LOVE
OF JESUS CHRIST IN THESE COMMUNITIES
AND WITH PEOPLE EVERYWHERE

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Sabbatical 2026 – May 25 through August 23

The word sabbatical is defined as *a break or change from a normal routine* (as of employment). The leadership of Christ Our Savior was generous in developing a *sabbatical policy* aimed at being a blessing to the pastors of our congregation. After finalizing the policy, they encouraged me to prayerfully consider taking one in the near future. Amy and I took it seriously by praying about it, and answered, “we would be blessed to.” Thank you!

And blessed we were! Before getting into what went on in those three months that we were away let me say thanks to all of you. You made it possible for us to be refreshed and renewed in this time away. Your prayers, encouragement and generosity made it possible for us to leave the day-to-day ministry of the congregation in the able hands of our most excellent staff. All of you were patient and understanding of the unique situation

and carried on, excelling in serving, while the Davenports were away. Again, thank you!

Much of my time, as your pastor, is spent with individuals, staff and the congregation at large. This time is often face to face, in meetings, doing visits to our homebound members and those that are in the hospital. I spend hours answering phone calls, emails and texts, preparing for Sundays and whatever else is going on. I have always managed things well, or at least I thought so. Throw on top of that the time with Amy and our family as well as duties as the District as 1st Vice President (a position that I enjoyed but stepped away from summer of 2025) all added up stretching me a bit thin. And even though I thought that things were alright I came to see that I needed a break.

Disconnecting from emails and texts, setting my phone down for days at a time was invigorating in ways that I hadn't anticipated. Clearing my mind of "work"-related things freed me up to wholeheartedly devote time to Amy and the family, a great blessing, for sure.

Devotion time with Amy–I preach it and tell others that it's important knowing that it is. But this important time often gets squeezed and maybe even shelved because of all of the other things vying for my time. It shouldn't be. The sabbatical allowed us the time to refocus on our prayer and devotional time with each other and do it faithfully. We landed on a routine of using a resource, a Bible, laid out so that we would read through the entire Bible in a year. It was a blessing and continues to be even now as I'm back into the swing of things. Thank you!



Time with Family– In nearly 25 years of ministry I never realized how I was rarely ever truly present in all of the goings on of our family. Amy was/is the glue that kept things going and I was there, most of the time, helping out. But even as I was, I was anticipating what was coming up in the meeting that I had that night, or the service that was going on tomorrow, or the preparation that needed to be done for this or that. Present in body but my mind was elsewhere. So being unplugged and dedicated while on sabbatical was a blessing to me and I pray to Amy and my family. She and they are my first calling. I was able to show them that (albeit imperfectly, I'm sure) while we had that time together. Thank you!

Travels–some pastors I know traveled extensively when they were on sabbatical, rarely being at home, just taking it easy. For some that is how they unwind, for me not so much. We did travel to Chicago to spend time with my sister, go up north for a family wedding, attend a family reunion, spend time with friends at their cottages, and yes, did a little bit of fishing and snake charming. Most of our time traveling was within the beautiful state of Michigan.

Traveling for us included where we were going to go to church on Sunday. We did miss our church family a bunch but we worshiped weekly with other brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the metro Detroit area. We worshiped with two non-Lutheran congregations and eight Lutheran congregations. Not only was it a blessing to Amy and I to worship together (most of the time some of our kids joined us) but it was a time for us to see how other "families of faith" conducted themselves in worship. You can become narrow minded thinking that what we were are doing is the best until you observe what others do. The sabbatical afforded us the time to do just that. Thank you!

Reading for fun–I do read but most of the time it's preparing for preaching, Bible study or some other "work" related task. All of that is good and edifying in its own right. But I don't have much time to read just for "fun". The sabbatical afforded me that time. I asked other pastors that I know for a suggested reading list which was helpful even as I added some of my own titles. All said and done I completed about ten books and it was fun! Thank you!

Training for ½ marathon–as you know my kids have been quite athletic through the years. Sports teams have transitioned into running for a few of them. We have gone to their races and cheered them on. In the back of my mind I said "I wonder if I could

do that anymore?" January 1 the registration opened for the Detroit Free Press Marathon/half marathon and they entered (5 of the 7) and encouraged me to do it too. At the time I didn't know if we'd be taking a sabbatical or not but it turned out to be a real blessing–affording me the time to get ready. Going from pretty sedentary to active, for a 60-something-year old, is a process for sure! And yes, the ½ marathon was on October 18, and I did complete it! I'll be doing another one, the Thumb Coast ½ Marathon, in a couple of weeks. Thank you!

In closing–Amy and I are passionately thankful for the opportunity that you afforded us while on sabbatical. It was a blessing that we needed. I don't know that it would have happened had it not been for the leadership here that took it and saw it through. Thank you!

I am thankful for our staff who went over and beyond what is typically asked of them. They did a wonderful job of caring for all of you. They are talented in what they do–doing it with humbleness and thanksgiving. I could rest knowing that they were handling things. Thank you!

I am thankful for you the congregation member. You, time and time again, give generously in thankfulness to God for what He has given you. You did it again on this sabbatical. I believe that you came to see more clearly that this congregation doesn't rise or fall because of one guy, whether he is here or not. We have a deeply rooted faith in our Savior Jesus Christ and nothing is going to change that.

Pastor Dwight



Christmas Poinsettia Orders

The celebration of Christmas brings special thoughts to all in different ways. While many people think of our special loved ones at Christmas, others want to express their thankfulness for all of the blessings God has bestowed upon them. What better way to announce these thoughts by purchasing a Poinsettia plant(s) this holiday season to help decorate our altar. The price per plant will be $15 for a triple stem plant. Poinsettia order form envelopes will be available at the Welcome Desk in November.

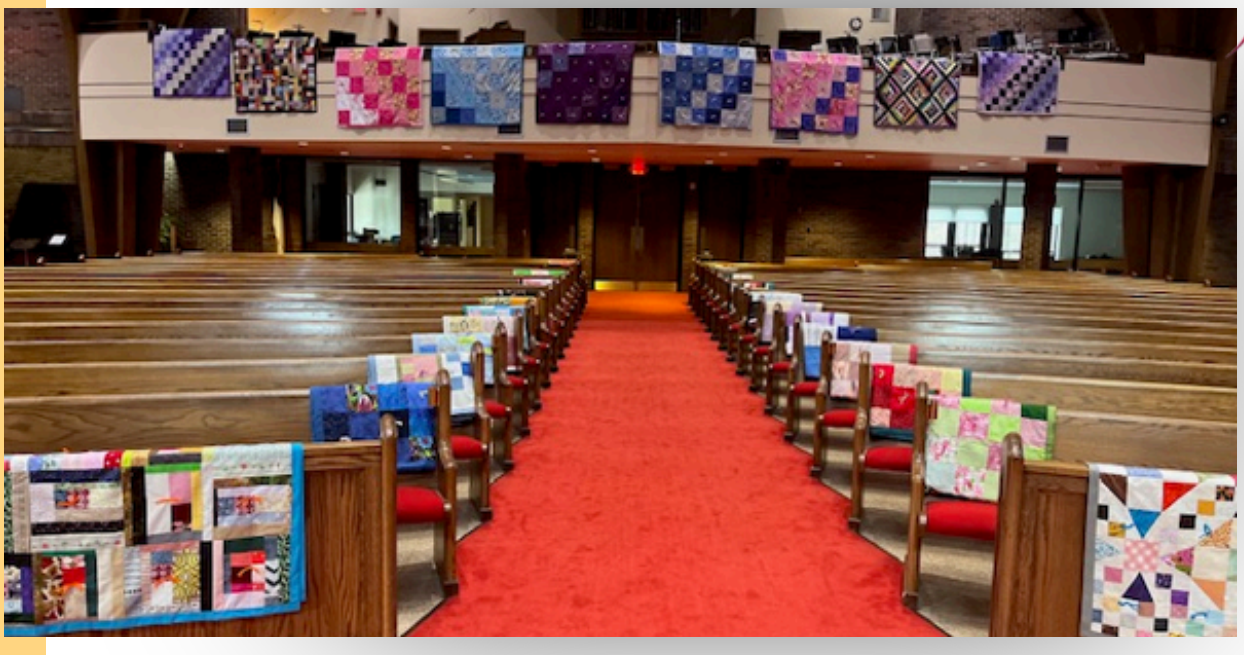
Make checks are payable to: *Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church*.

DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6th. Completed envelopes can be placed in Cheryl Moldenhauer's mail box. You can either pick your plant up after service on December 25th, or you may beautify the church by leaving the plant on the altar.

Another successful year!

Donations to Lutheran World Relief

Featured Ministry



The quilts>> sent out to Lutheran World Relief were displayed on the pews on Sunday, October 11

Our congregation has a long history of collecting donations for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). Every year, we ship off boxes containing quilts, personal care kits, and school kits to LWR for distribution worldwide. As we strive to follow Jesus by caring for our neighbor (Luke 10:25-37), LWR has provided a way to reach the hurting and needy around the world.

If you're not familiar with the mission of Lutheran World Relief, they were:

> "Founded by Lutherans in the United States at the end of World War II, grounded in Lutheran theology and building on decades of experience, Lutheran World Relief tackles global poverty by helping people adapt to the challenges that threaten their liveli--hoods and well-being.
>
> Our goal is to help people build self-sufficiency and create new community-owned approaches to problem-solving that will last long after our projects end."
>
> *Taken from lwr.org*



LWR 2026 Recap at Christ Our Savior:

This has been another successful year for LWR Quilters, School Kits and Personal Care Kits. The total amount shipped: quilts=284 (31 boxes), school kits=300 (25 boxes) and personal care kits=108 (9 boxes). Thank you to a generous congregation for always supporting these ministries. Your bed sheets, thread and fabric are always welcomed by the LWR quilters. School supplies requested and dropped off always signifies the beginning of fall and we always have the smell of soap in the storage room for personal care kits.

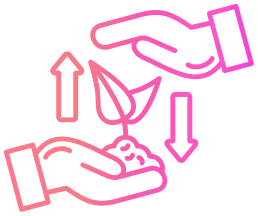
LWR Quilters meet every Tuesday morning at 10am in Rooms 1-4 and sew specifically for LWR. These quilts are sewn to LWR guidelines. This sets us apart from other quilting groups that meet on scheduled days of the month and sew their own quilting creations. To the left is our newest member of LWR Quilting, Finley Domingo.

Patsy Domingo

School Kits

A special thanks to Joanna Eiwen who helps coordinate this mission and the many congregation members who helped on two Saturdays for about two hours each to help undo packaging on supplies and fill each of the 300 totes with the listed items and seal on the cartons to ship. Extra items were shared with Family of God, and our local Lutheran Schools–St. Paul Northville, St. Matthew Westland and St. Michael Wayne.

Dianne Sherman



Sharing Results in Multiplying

Stewardship Focus



Christ Our Savior Staff

Rev. Dean M. Davenport
Senior Pastor

Rev. Joel A. Werner
Associate Pastor

Fritz Quitmeyer
Vicar

Tom Schroeder
Director of Music Ministry

Josh Kittleman, *Director of Christian Family Life Formation*

Laura Myers, *Director of the Early Childhood Program*

Linda Hollman, *Assistant to the Pastor in Assimilation, Outreach & Women's Ministry*

Karla Schettenhelm, *Assistant to the Pastor in Children's Ministry*

Jill Reinert
Business Manager

Laurie Riegel
Administrative Assistant

Mary Boehm
Administrative Assistant

Alyssa Knock
Communications Coordinator

Lindsay Miller
Building Coordinator

Missionaries We Support

Rev. David Erber—Africa

Rev. Charles Ferry—Romania

Rev. Steven Mahlburg—Sri Lanka

Rev. James and Deaconess Christel Neuendorf—Puerto Rico

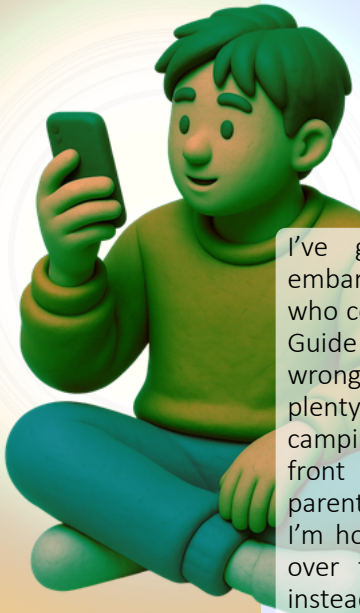
It is likely that you've experienced what many others have. You remember late Saturday night that a potluck is planned after the service the following day. A frantic search through the refrigerator reveals slim pickings, so the six-ounce can of tuna and few remaining bits of pasta are turned into something of a casserole. You're embarrassed to add your meager offering to the long table laden with steaming hot dishes and cold, crisp salads – and, oh, look at that dessert table! The mouth-watering aroma permeates the room. Then you notice that, as people go through the line, they're dishing up your casserole onto their plates along with all the other foods. You have made a contribution, anyway, and everyone, including you, is satisfied.

Isn't this just what God is saying to us about our giving? "Your abundance at the present time should supply their need, so that their abundance may supply your need, that there may be fairness" (2 Corinthians 8:14). Sometimes we come prepared with lots to give, with gifts to share with others. At other times, our bank accounts are leaner, and we depend on the generosity of others, but we all have something to share all the time.

God doesn't need our gifts. Look at all that He provides for us: sun and air, food and water, clothing and shelter, all that we need to sustain our earthly lives and then, on top of that, blesses us with His Word and Sacraments, gives even His very own Son, so that we have an eternal hope. Still He gives us the privilege of giving and takes our gifts, as He did the loaves and fishes from the little boy, and multiplies them for the benefit of all

Do we see this, or are we sitting in our homes, eating our dry tuna casseroles, unwilling to share and, therefore, unable to receive His blessings?

-Materials from the MI District LCMS



Using Tech in our Homes

Christian Family Life Formation

I've got to confess something a little embarrassing. As a kid, I was the goofy kid who couldn't wait for the next issue of the TV Guide to show up in the mail. Don't get me wrong, I was a Boy Scout too, and I spent plenty of weekends out in the woods on camping trips. But I sure did love my time in front of the television. I don't blame my parents one bit for my tv consumption, but if I'm honest, there's still a small sense of loss over the things I could have been doing instead of sitting in front of the glowing box in our living room.

Technology has changed a great deal since my childhood back in the 80s and 90s. It's changed at a pace that most of us could never have predicted, and new developments only seem to have increased the demand on our time and attention.

This fall, a group of us at COS have been working through a study called "Tech-Wise Family", which is based on a book by Andy Crouch. The study invites us to think honestly about the role technology plays in our lives, and to be more intentional about how we use it well. I thought I'd spend this article reviewing some of what we've talked about in that study.

No Shame...Just a call to more intentional living

I want to be clear about something up front. The goal of this study was never to guilt or shame anyone about their screen habits, mine included. It's really about asking a deeper question: what do we actually want our homes and our relationships to look like–most importantly our relationship with God?

That's actually right where Crouch starts too. His core claim is that this was never really about screen time limits in the first place. It's about what we want our homes and relationships to actually look like.

He talks about an idea he calls "easy everywhere." Our devices haven't just given us convenience. They've quietly replaced a lot of the tools we used to use, and in the process, reshaped our whole picture of what a good life looks like.

Throughout the study, Crouch keeps bringing us back to one measuring stick: loving God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength (Luke 10:27). The question isn't really whether technology is good or bad. It's whether the way we're using it is helping us love God and others well, or getting in the way.

Shaping Our Spaces

One idea that's stuck with me is what Crouch calls "shaping space". It's worth thinking through the spaces in our homes and what fills them. Is the television the center of your living room, or is it tucked off to the side? What takes the place of attention if we move our devices out to the edges of our spaces? Ideally, instruments, games, books, or projects: the kinds of things that actually challenge us (and our kids) and encourage growth, instead of just keeping us entertained?

For those who are parents, shaping our spaces and starting habits when our kids are younger is much easier than trying to correct course once habits are already set.

While we set some boundaries for our boys when they were younger, I'll be the first to admit we've still got a ways to go now that they're teenagers. There are a few things I think we've done fairly well, though. No phones at the dinner table, and none on the car ride home school either. We've also tried to keep an open door policy when our sons are using technology in their rooms (though it should be said that Crouch advises NO PHONES IN BEDROOMS – period).

It's never too late to start considering what we put "front and center" in the spaces where we spend a lot of time. We can think about personally–and ask our loved ones–what it means to love the Lord with heart, soul, mind, and strength...and then consider whether our use of technology draws us closer to that or pulls us away from it.

Not just for Parents

While this study has a certainly placed an emphasis on parenting children, not everyone who has participated in our study this fall is in the thick of parenting. Some have already raised their kids and watched them head out the door. Some are grandparents and thinking through how this applies to them. Others have never had kids under their roof to begin with. This study has had plenty to offer them too.

I want to be clear that Crouch isn't telling any of us to get rid of technology altogether. He's asking us to think honestly about what technology is great at doing, and what it isn't, and to make adjustments from there.

For example, technology can be great at connecting family/friends who live far apart. I know someone in our church whose family lives far away, and she will often "attend church" online with her grandchildren. I also know married couples who use an app on their phones with discussion prompts, just to stay connected and keep talking while they're apart during the day. I know a single gentleman who vigilantly uses his Bible App to keep him on track with his Bible-reading. These are just three examples of how technology can be helpful in maintaining our priorities.

But I also know people who have identified times, places, and spaces where technology is not useful to them in loving God and others with their whole heart. Just like I mentioned with my own family, I've talked with people who have a rule against bringing their phones to the dinner table, so that they can give each other their full attention during that time. I know of people who don't look at their phone in the morning until they've spent time with the Lord in scripture and prayer.

So, are we letting our phones (and other technology) dominate our time in a way that gets in the way of our relationship with God and with the people around us? That's worth asking no matter what season of life we're in.

What do we want?

Wherever you find yourself in all of this, I hope the question underneath it all stays the same: what do we actually want our homes, our relationships, and our time to look like? What... WHO...do we want to most prioritize, and is our technology use helping or hurting us in this way?

As I ask that, I also know that there can be guilt and grief over our technology use. I personally think of all that time I wasted watching

television when I was younger. None of us have stewarded technology perfectly. We've all wasted time at one point or another with devices, instead of pouring into our relationship with God and with the people He's put in our life. We have messed up our priorities, even more than we care to admit.

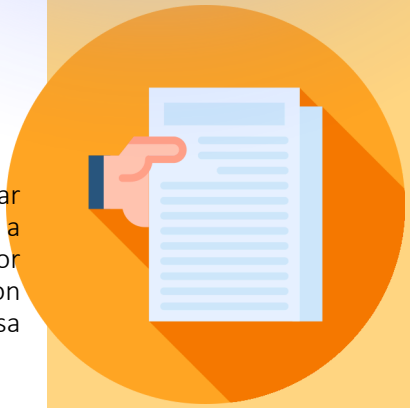
But guess what? that's exactly where the gospel meets us. God never asked us to get our technology habits sorted out before coming to Him. Jesus lived the attentive, others-focused life none of us has managed. He then took on every wasted hour and misplaced priority of ours as His own. His mercy isn't something we earn by finally getting this right. It's new every morning, which means we get to start today, not out of guilt, but out of grace.

May God bless all of us, as we grow in faith and learn each day–in this world of technological ease and abundance–what it means to love with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

–Josh Kittleman



This is YOUR Newsletter!



The Disciplegram is published six times a year and welcomes your submissions. If you have a news report, poem, artwork, short story or article that you would like to share, pass it on to our Communications Coordinator, Alyssa Knock (alyssak@christoursavior.org).

We reserve the right to make final decisions on what is published. We try to print articles as submitted, but will edit if necessary. Items will be included as space allows.

This is YOUR newsletter. Feel free to use it!



Back Into Full Swing

Youth Ministry Update

In the last few months, school has gone back into full swing and so has our youth programming! Here are some highlights from September and October.

Looking Back

- **Family Night:** We kicked off Family Night in early September with dinner and classes, culminating in a campfire at the end of the night. Family Night continues to be a blessing to our entire church family as fellowship and education combine. Join us at 5:00 on Sunday nights throughout the school year for dinner and age-appropriate classes afterwards.
- **Faith Friends dinner:** All of our confirmands got to meet their Faith Friends at a special Family Night dinner. Some Faith Friends joined in our confirmation instruction and many reported learning from it! It was a special time for our middle schoolers to be encouraged by adults walking alongside them.
- **Midnight Madness:** Our official school-year programming began with a question: Are You Afraid of the Dark? We followed our study on spiritual warfare and demons with games like Ghost in the Graveyard, relay races, and Mafia. Junior and senior high students had a blast staying up way too late to not only fellowship with each other but learn about how God triumphs over the darkness.
- **Fall Confirmation Retreat:** 15 of our confirmation students headed up to Camp Arcadia for a chock-full weekend of fun and friends. We had perfect weather and a great time playing games, running amok, and hearing how God is with us through the changing seasons of life.
- **Three Cedars:** An all-ages fan favorite returned again with the traditional corn maze, hay ride, bonfire, and cider and donuts. Kids and adults alike enjoyed the cool fall weather and this classic medley of fall activities.

Coming Up

- **Craft and Vendor Show (Nov 7):** Join us for our 3rd annual show to support both our youth ministry and local small businesses. This has been a great fundraiser and community event in the past. We'll need as many youth volunteers as we can get to help this run smoothly. It's not too late to sign up to help!
- **Road Rally (Nov 21):** This is one of our youth's most anticipated fall traditions! COS is hosting this year. Meet at 2:30 in the youth room.
- **Midnight Madness (Dec 11):** We'll celebrate Christ's coming with our middle- and high school youth for another half lock-in from 6pm-midnight on Dec 11. Theme TBA—watch the weekly bulletin for details.
- **Winter Camp at Camp Lutherhaven (Jan 15-17):** High schoolers will travel to Camp Lutherhaven in Indiana for a weekend retreat of learning and fellowship.
- **Mission Trip Opportunity:** With no district or national gathering this year, the leadership team is hard at work putting together a service opportunity this summer. We're still in the beginning stages of planning, so no dates or locations are finalized yet, but we would appreciate ideas for what would make this the best possible opportunity for our high schoolers. Current 8th-12th graders are eligible. Contact Adele Werner with any questions.

As I have stepped into a larger role in our junior and senior high youth ministry, I can't help but notice how supportive of our youth our congregation is. So many congregants have donated their time, talents, and treasure to invest in our youth. You show our kids what it means to be an active participant in the body of Christ and enable them to have so many opportunities to grow in mind, body, and spirit. I saw it when I was a youth, and I'm seeing it now. I can't thank our congregation enough for joining us in the journey. I hope you'll continue to walk alongside us!

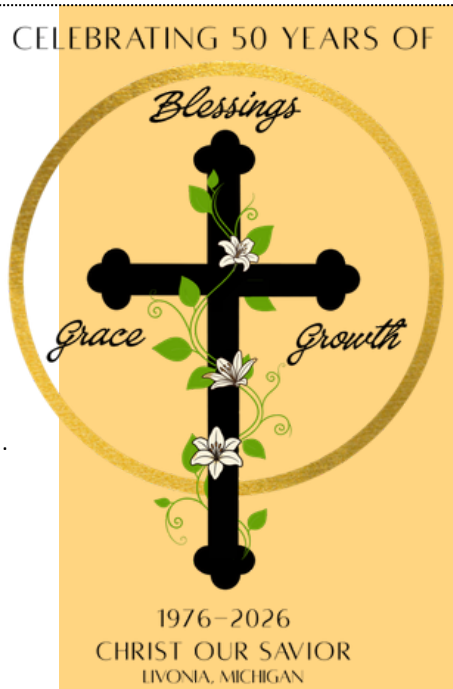
—Liesl Young

Event Planner for 50th Anniversary

Christ Our Savior's 50th Anniversary

The congregation of Christ Our Savior Lutheran was founded in the years 1976 and 1977. This year, we look back on 50 years of blessings and celebrate those early beginnings. Some of our charter members are still with us today, and have personally seen the many changes to our building, ministries, music program, and much more. As we celebrate the 50th Anniversary, we reflect on those changes, and also on the things that have remained the same: our dedication to sharing truth, preaching and teaching centered on the Scriptures, a trust in a faithful God who will continue to share His gifts of forgiveness, guidance and faith with His people.

Take a look at the special services we are planning to celebrate some of the landmark moments in our church's history. We hope to see you on these special days!



Events:



Sunday services, 8:30 & 11am

Start of the Mission Church

In November 1976, a small group gathered to form the Livonia Mission Church. As we remember those humble beginnings, Rev. Ralph G. Schmidt, the pastor who led the first worship service to that small group, will preach at our services.

Nov **22** **2026**



Sunday services, 8:30 & 11am

Signing of the Church Charter

The signing of the church charter turned the Livonia Mission Church into an incorporated, self-supporting congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Rev. David Davis, our District President, will join us to preach at our services to remember this occasion.

Feb **7** **2027**



Sunday services, 10am & 3pm

50 Years of Blessings

The early months of 1977 brought many important "firsts" for the young congregation. We celebrate the foundation that formed Christ Our Savior with 10am and 3pm Thanksgiving services, followed by an afternoon ticketed banquet offsite.

Apr **25** **2027**

Wilkommen!

Forever Young News



On Friday, October 23, fifty or so of your COS "siblings in Christ" and their friends visited Detroit's historic Dakota Inn to experience a Bavarian Oktoberfest—a festive feast of German beer, food and entertainment!

Other recent Forever Young events have been: Music from the Heart, a free concert featuring the retro-band "Joy Riders" in Livonia in August; and a haunted trip to the Farmington Players Barn Theater in September.







Of Special Interest:

"Winter at the Station"—A guided tour of the beautifully restored Michigan Central Station—all decked out for the coming Holidays. Lunch will follow at Roman Village Cucina Italiana, in the southeastern corner of Dearborn, not too far from Family of God Church in southwest Detroit. Reserve your spot for this special outing by signing up at the Forever Young table near the Welcome Center in the COS Narthex. Capacity is limited, so please make sure you sign up and pay as soon as possible.

Coming up: Winter at the Station | Thursday, November 19, 2026 | $70 Cost for guided Michigan Central Station tour, lunch at Roman Village, and bus

Also: A Forever Young Christmas Party | Friday, December 11, 2026 | $10 Cost for a luncheon, carols, Advent reflections, and games & prizes from noon to 2pm in the church gym.

Forever Young participants have enjoyed diverse events in 2026. Earlier this year, the group had an outstanding educational trip to the Zekelman Holocaust Center! There was a last-minute cancellation of our Belle Isle picnic, scheduled in July, due to the air quality alerts from unexpected Canadian wildfires.

The group has also enjoyed a DSO patriotic concert, a classic movie at the Redford Theater, a June tour of the Matthaei botanical garden, and a docent-led tour of Christan-themed art at the DIA.

Looking ahead to 2027, our planning committee requests your input on events that you might enjoy…with a bunch of your friends and members of neighboring congregations.

Our goal is to schedule monthly excursions that are diverse and accessible to the broadest number of COS's older adults. To keep the cost as low as possible, we strive for group discounts and subsidized events, like our DIA tour.

Our Forever Young Ministry aspires to strengthen and develop Christian fellowship among our senior members by providing experiences to share with one another. At the same time, the younger 'whipper-snappers' are always welcomed aboard too!

We hope to see you soon at one or more of our coming attractions!

Forever Young is a ministry sponsored by Christ Our Savior presenting curated experiences that are inspirational, enjoyable, educational and entertaining for older Lutherans in the Metropolitan area—and their friends and family.





How Do You Pray?

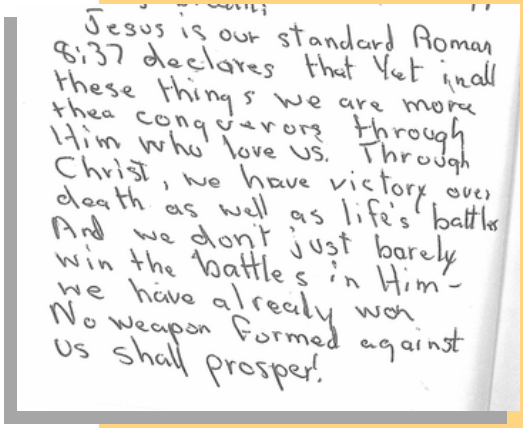
Prayer Walks at Christ Our Savior

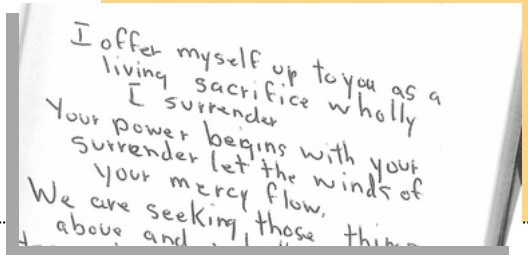
What does prayer look like in your life?

For Diane Christianson, a prayer journal is part of her routine. She writes down Bible passages she's reading, her thoughts about what is happening around her and prayers as a way to communicate with God.

Maybe you've met Diane already--she's been a member of Christ Our Savior since 2015. Or you may have met her brothers, Jim Edwards and Mark Edwards (Mark joined the Church Triumphant in April 2025). She actively serves at Family of God and in many other ways at church. Even in a short conversation with her will be an encouragement as she shares her joyful, sincere faith.

Diane has been involved in starting a group a Christ Our Savior that takes a more active role in prayer. Maybe you've seen the prayer walks announced in the COS Update. If you're interested in engaging with a group that focuses on prayer, stayed tuned for more announcements!


Jesus is our standard Roman 8:37 declares that Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who love us. Through Christ, we have victory over death as well as life's battles And we don't just barely win the battles in Him - we have already won No weapon formed against us shall prosper.


I offer myself up to you as a living sacrifice wholly I surrender
Your power begins with your surrender let the winds of your mercy flow,
We are seeking those

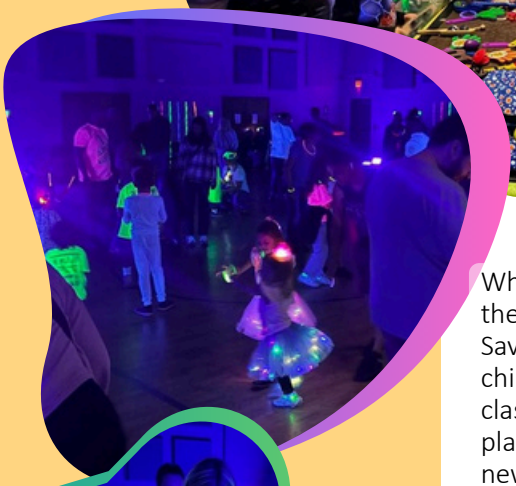
Excerpts from Diane's Prayer Journal



Building the Ministry through Making Connections

Early Childhood Program News







What a wonderful start we've had to the new school year at Christ Our Savior's Early Childhood Program! Our children have settled into their classrooms, new routines are falling into place, and it's been wonderful to watch new friendships form. We are incredibly grateful for our amazing ECP staff, who are doing an outstanding job of sharing the love of Christ with the children every day through word and deed.

In September, we headed over to Plymouth Orchards and Cider Mill for our first field trip of the year. This annual trip is always a favorite, and this year was no exception. It was such a fun morning for our children to experience the joy of autumn and the wonders of God's creation together!

On Saturday, October 10th, we hosted our very first "Glow Night"—and what a night it was! Over 110 people joined us! "The Music Lady", Beverly Meyer, led us in music, and there was no shortage of dancing! Our Photo Booth was a big hit as well. We've received a lot of positive feedback from families, and we're already excited about what this event could become in the years ahead!

Events like Glow Night are a great reminder of why we do what we do. Our hope is that everything we do—from daily Bible stories in the classroom, to chapel twice a week, to Coffee Connections, to special family events - helps connect our ECP families with our larger COS family, and most importantly, with Jesus. Our Early Childhood program isn't a separate ministry that happens "down the hall". It's an important part of who we are as a congregation!

Finally, by the time you read this, we will have completed our Trick or Treating on Friday. October 30th. Members of our COS family joined us that morning to pass out candy to our ECP children. We can't thank you enough for being a part of this! Your willingness to

show up for moments like this means so much to our children and their families. You are a blessing!

As always, please continue to keep our ECP staff, children, and families in your prayers as we head into the Advent and Christmas season. We are so grateful for the ongoing support of our Christ Our Savior family!

Thank You, Family!

Women's Ministry News

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML)

This organization is recognized as the official women's auxiliary organization of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The LWML (also known as **Lutheran Women in Mission**) is comprised of member societies within synodical congregations.

The purpose of the LWML is to further Christ's mission to the world by supporting the work of the church and by providing education, inspiration, and opportunities for service, both at home and in the world. The LWML endeavors to develop and maintain a greater mission consciousness among the women of the synod through programs of Mission Inspiration, Mission Education, and Mission Service. Work of the LWML is accomplished by the voluntary contributions of its members through Mite Box offerings. The LWML Michigan District supports its programs with 75% of the Mite Box offerings and forwards the remaining 25% to national LWML for its projects and programs.

Mission Statement: As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

Core Values:

1. Christian Women–We live as redeemed children of the Triune God.
2. In God's Word–We live in joyful response to the Holy Scriptures.
3. Mission-Focused–We answer God's call to share His Gospel at home and abroad.
4. Embrace Diversity–We are sisters in Christ who value and benefit from each other.
5. Servant Leaders–We are called and equipped by God to serve others.

Reminder–Mites can be placed in the wooden mite box in the narthex at anytime to support our Michigan grants as well as national grants for all missions.

Mission Sunday

Thank you to all the women who showed their support on October 11 by wearing purple as we celebrated Lutheran Women in Mission–LWML and to the ladies who participated as lectors and ushers. The quilts sent out to LWR (Lutheran World Relief) on Tuesday, October 13 displayed on the pews looked great!

With the congregations' support and contributions we were able to send the following to Lutheran World Relief for 2026:

Quilts: 31 boxes = 284
School Kits: 25 boxes = 300
Personal Care Kits: 9 boxes = 108

THANK YOU FAMILY!

(Editors note: See the article on LWR donations for more information)

GAME/EUCHRE NIGHT FOR THE GROWN UPS

WOW would like to have you join us for GAME NIGHTS slated for Friday, November 20 and Friday, December 18–FROM 6:30PM-9PM. A night of fellowship, comradery, a little competition, fun and laughter. What game(s) you ask? A little euchre, board games, Uno, dominoes, Yahtzee, five crowns, whatever you choose Bring a game or two that you enjoy playing. Bring your own beverage and a snack to share. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Desk each month two Sundays prior to the game night. Please sign up so we have the room set-up before we arrive.

Fall Bake Sale

Sunday, November 22 will be the semi-

Heavenly Father, we live in a world where there is no lasting peace. Chaos surrounds me, the peace the world tries to offer is fleeting. You give the peace that surpasses all understanding through faith in your crucified, risen, ascended and returning Savior Jesus Christ. May I always turn to Him for peace. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you are called in one body. And be thankful. (Colossians 3:15)

annual Bake Sale. A sign-up will be placed at the Welcome Desk on Sunday, November 1st. Please consider baking for this event supporting our Women's events and contributions to our missionaries. Questions at this time can be directed to Dianne Sherman (734-812-5172).

Baked Goods for 1st Responders

We have recognized our local Livonia Police and Firefighters during Christmas week for the past three years and would like to again this year at Christmastime. The items for this will be collected Sunday, December 20 and delivered to the stations that week. Questions should be directed to Dianne Sherman (734-812-5172).

Wellspring Christmas Party

We Partner with the persons at NEW DIRECTIONS in various capacities. One opportunity coming up on December 19 will be to help setup our gym for their Christmas Party. Volunteers please contact Dianne Sherman (734-812-5172).

November

Nov 9 – Quilt/Sew
Nov 21 – Quilt/Sew
Nov 23- Quilt/Sew
Nov 20 – Game Night
Nov 22 – Bake Sale

December

Dec 7 – Advent by Candlelight
Dec 12 – Quilt/Sew
Dec 14 – Quilt/Sew
Dec 18 – Game Night
Dec 19 – Setup Gym for New Directions Christmas Party
Dec 20 – Baked Goods for 1st Responders



Keeping Our Doors Open and Our People Safe

Safety & Emergency Readiness Team (SERT)

Everything we have at Christ Our Savior has been given to us by God: this building and grounds, our worship space, the ministry that happens here, the Early Childhood Program, and above all, the people. Caring for these gifts well is part of our calling. That's the heart of what our Safety and Emergency Readiness Team, or SERT, does.

This isn't work done out of fear. We gather trusting the One who holds all things. But trust doesn't mean carelessness. Good stewards lock up at night, keep the lights working, and know what to do when someone needs help. Over the past year, SERT has been asking a simple question: if something happened here on a Sunday morning, or during a school day, would we be ready?

Learning first

Much of this year went into learning. Several team members completed CPR training. Members also attended two workshops on safety in places of worship, one hosted by the Livonia Police Department and one by the Michigan State Police. Both gave us practical guidance from people who respond to emergencies for a living, and both shaped what came next.

Work you can already see

We've purchased and installed new defibrillators (AEDs) in our building. If someone's heart stops, these devices can save a life in the minutes before professional help arrives.

Memorials

Given in memory of:	*Intended for:*	*Given by:*
Doris Kaiser	General Fund	Jennifer Besler
	Shut-in Ministry	Gudi French
Eloise Schaan	LWML	Ruth Germeroth
	Music Ministry	"The Zumba Girls" c/o Ruth Germeroth
Judith Roessler	Music Ministry	Lois Drake
	Children's Ministry	Rick & Suzanne Webb





Membership Updates

As of October 5, 2026

The Board of Elders includes this update report in each Disciplegram to keep the congregation informed about the membership of our church. Every two months, this report is published of gains and losses and the reason for each change.

We periodically include names of members that the Elders have not been able to reach. They request your help with these members. If you have any information about them or possible ways to contact them, please share with the chairman of the Board of Elders, Mark Anders (ElderMarkAnders@christoursavior.org) or the church office (734-522-6830).

If you have any questions about the information presented here, please contact the chairman of the Board of Elders, Mark Anders or the church office.

Deceased
Tammy Janisch on Aug 27
Karen Schanerberger on Sep 18

Received by Baptism
Josephine Black on Sep 20
Samantha Kaiser on Aug 30

Received by Transfer from Other LCMS
Cheri Kjellin on Oct 12

Unreachable Members
Jack Ford
Conner Franklin *(adult child of non-member parents Scott & Jeni Franklin)*
Conner Gillespie *(adult child of non-member parents Eric & Danielle Gillespie)*
Chase, Kylie Hilden *(adult children of non-member parents Jeffrey & Lori Hilden)*
Cynthia Mayerik
Ashley Merz
Megan Moriarty
Melissa O'Dell (sons Evan and Conner)
Nolan Sic
James Stewart (daughter Julia, son Dylan)

Classifieds



Tutoring

Karen R. Hoeft
Tutoring in my home.
28341 Oakley St., Livonia 48154
Grades 3-8; all subjects
(math through grade 5)

Call or text 734.837.7711

Huggins
Medicare Advisors

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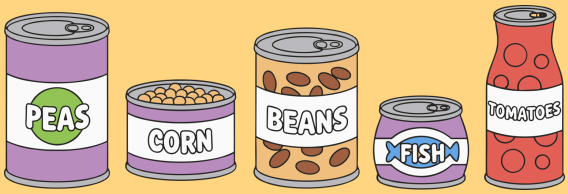
Call Today:
(248) 985-7101

Local | Trusted | Licensed Agent

Your ad could be here!

Send a business card-sized (3.5" x 2") ad for your business, product or service to alyssak@christoursavior.org to be included in the Disciplegram. There is no fee for advertising—our goal to increase the connections in our congregation. Ads will be included as space allows; our staff reserves the right to make final decisions on what is included.

Annual Food Drive



Each Sunday from November 1-22 we will be collecting assorted food items that will be used to support the COS pantry. We have many people coming for assistance and appreciate your donations to help them! The donation tables will be set up near the altar in the narthex as we use this area to give to God and others.

- **November 1**: Thanksgiving meal items: boxed stuffing, boxed mashed potatoes, canned turkey or chicken, canned gravy, canned yams
- **November 8**: boxed "Saltine" crackers, plastic jars or bottles of peanut butter and jelly, pancake mix, syrup
- **November 15**: bags of egg noodles, canned cream of mushroom soup, canned tuna, canned vegetables, cereal
- **November 22**: boxed spaghetti noodles, canned spaghetti sauce, canned soup/stew, canned fruit

*When you are gathering your donations, please be sure to check the dates on the food items.

Thanks again for your continued support of this ministry!