



The Beacon Online

October 11, 2024 / Vol. 5 / No. 41

The Beacon Online is the communication source for the SELC District.

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Update From Florida

We give thanks to everyone who prayed for the safety and health of those in the path of Hurricane Milton. We have reports of power outages, some flooding, and debris, but no major reports of damage at the SELC Churches and at Lutheran Haven in Oviedo, FL. We give thanks to God for His care as Milton moved across the state of Florida. We also ask for your continued prayers for this area as well as those affected by Hurricane Helene as they are still trying to recover and repair from that hurricane.

If you need assistance from the SELC Disaster Response Coordinator Steve Lehenbauer, he can be reached at 321-282-8012 or by email at slehenbauer@slcs.org. If you are in Florida and suffer damage to your home, please [fill out your information here](#) and Steve will follow up with you. Thank you to Steve for leading this important group of responders.

Below is a picture taken by Rev. James Fernandez from Hope Viera Lutheran Church in Melbourne Florida on Thursday evening, October 10th.





SELC 2025 District Convention

**Deadline for Nominations for District President, District Vice Presidents, Circuit Visitors, and Proposed Resolutions is
October 15, 2024**

Only 4 Days left to submit your nominations for the items listed above!!

The 2025 SELC District Convention is being held January 16 - 19, 2025 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Lake Mary, Florida. The Convention begins with Opening Worship on Thursday evening at 7 PM, followed by a reception. Convention business will be conducted on Friday and Saturday. The Convention ends following worship on Sunday, January 19, 2025 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church.

Future Deadlines

November 15, 2024 - Credentials to be submitted for Advisory Delegates and Nominations for District Board of Directors and Lutheran Haven Board of Trustees

December 16, 2024 - Registrations are due for the Convention.

December 26, 2024 - Hotel rooms must be reserved no later than 12/26/2024

**Register for the SELC District Convention at this link on our website
- www.selc.lcms.org/convention/**



New Members Received

St. John Lutheran Church
Massillon, Ohio

On September 29th, nine folks were received into membership during the Divine Service at St. John, Massillon. The five adults completed Pastor John Telloni's new-member class, "Rooted in Faith - Living in Christ," conducted in the summer. In August the three youngest children of the Kompara family were baptized. After the service, a New Member Reception Luncheon was held in the Fellowship Hall, pictured on the right. All in all, a warm and blessed day for the members of St. John!





On the left: Front row: Mary Owens, Karen Mobberley, Anders and Olivia Kompara. Middle row: Scott Pry, Jason Kompara, Grahm Kompara, Lena Kompara, and Charlotte Kompara. Back row: Pastor John Telloni and Pastor Jon Carpenter.



Lutheran Haven's 78th Annual Christmas Seals are Coming!

What a marvelous thing to be the recipient of a gift, but often it's an even greater joy to be the giver of a gift when you know you have made a significant difference in a person's life...

This is even more poignant when a person needs the assistance of Benevolent Care, and they will never be able to thank you personally.

The critical need for Benevolent Care is why we reach out to you during this joyous season each year for what is now our **78th** Annual Christmas Seal campaign. Thanks to you, Benevolent Care at Lutheran Haven has been a sanctuary for so many people over the decades who have faithfully served our Lord in prosperity and in sacrifice. ***Lutheran Haven's Benevolent Care Ministry is, and always has been, to assist ordained and commissioned church workers along with other Lutheran Haven residents when a critical need arises.***

We can't help but rejoice in the Lord's provision through you, our faithful Pastors, Churches and Donors who sacrificially support this ministry through your prayers and gifts of love. It's because of *you* that help will be available when a genuine need arises for our precious saints.

YOU make the difference - your prayers and your congregational support make our Benevolent Care Ministry possible. Through your financial gifts, lives are changed, crises averted, and families are relieved of difficult and often unexpected hardship.

If you would like additional envelopes, please don't hesitate to contact Mary Ann at the Lutheran Haven Foundation at 407-706-1281 or via email at mmcunn@lutheranhaven.org.



This year's Christmas Seal was designed by Bill Baessler who retired to Lutheran Haven after serving as a schoolteacher and principal for 3 Lutheran Schools for over 40 years. Bill created his unique design through his creative use of AI. He began experimenting with the technology to develop images for a Bible study he authored and entered this beautiful image for our 78th Christmas Seal. Our residents voted on it as their favorite! A packet of individual giving envelopes will be mailed soon which contain individual envelopes with our beautiful Christmas Seals, a letter, a mail-back card and an envelope for your congregation.

Rev. Daniel Lepley Installed at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in Greenville, Michigan

Pastor Dan Lepley was installed at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Greenville, MI on Sunday, October 6, 2024. This is where Dan and his wife Wendi were confirmed into the Lutheran Faith. An extra special treat was to have Rev. Mark Pflug there. Pastor Pflug was the Pastor who confirmed both Dan and Wendi! We ask for God's blessings as Pastor Lepley serves the congregation in Greenville.

Pictured on the right is Pastor Lepley with Pastor Pflug.





Pictured on the left is the Lepley family and their exchange student Alex from Spain.



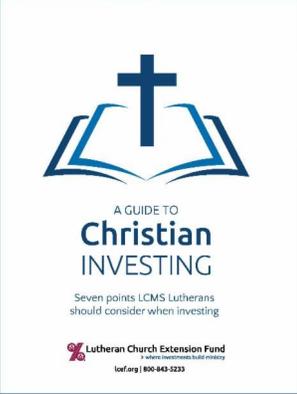
Christian Concert to be Held November 2, 2024

St. Peter's Church, Wilkes Barre, PA

Wendysue in Concert
November 2nd - 1pm
St. Peter's Lutheran Church - 1000 S Main St.
Hanover Township, PA 18706
Suggested Donation:
Adult - \$10 Family - \$30

St. Peter's Lutheran Church is excited to host Wendysue in concert, November 2nd. As well as a gathering of Christians for mutual benefit and edification, it is also an opportunity to support our local missions. There will also be the ability to donate to the food pantry of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Wilkes Barre. As an option, this will coincide with the donations we receive for the concert at the door of St. Peter's. All non-perishable food items are welcome. Brothers and sisters in Christ, it is a true joy to share with you in the ministry of our Lord; what a blessing it will be to join with so many of the saints from across the NEPA region, congregating in the Spirit to celebrate our faith together in this way; pray, praise, and give thanks.

Funding to help support this concert has been awarded through a SELC Evangelism grant.



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Fall Rally LWML SELC District Eastern Zone Rally

The Fall Rally for the LWML SELC District Eastern Zone, will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church in Hazleton, PA on October 19, 2024. The rally schedule is below. Please RSVP by October 12, 2024. The cost is \$5.00 per person.

- 9:00 am Registration
- 10:00 am Devotion/Bible Study
- 11:00 am Business Meeting with Elections
- NOON Lunch
- 1:00 Ingathering/Service Projects & Get together to know your neighbor
- 2:30 Closing



LWML SELC Eastern Zone Rally
Saturday October 19th at
St. John's Lutheran Church
621 North Vine Street
Hazleton, PA 18201

"All Around the Neighborhood I'm Gonna Let it Shine!"

Register Today:
 Karenannkow@hotmail.com
 570-582-6046
 9am - 2.30pm

RSVP by **October 12th** to Karen Ann Kowalczyk - 570-582-6046
karenannkow@hotmail.com or
 Cathy Friedman - 732-499-0762 **ziggy1@gmail.com**

The IN GATHERING is benefiting Catholic Social Services who serve women in need with their babies. Items needed are NEW car seats, diapers, wipes (sensitive), onesies, sleepers, and Walmart gift cards.



2025 Youth Gathering Update New Orleans, LA 2025

Beginning October 15, Primary Adult Leaders can log into the Gathering Registration program and enter important information for your youth and adults. View and download important Registration information to be best prepared to begin the process. Head over to the Gathering website for worksheets, FAQs, and Step-by-Step videos to make Data Entry a breeze! Linked is also a step-by-step video for Gathering registration process to help you understand the steps you need to take to register your congregation. The distinct event will be a servant event, one of the days of the Gathering. - more information to follow!

[Gathering Registration Link Step by Step videos](#)

Important Dates for the Youth Gathering:

October 15, 2024 | Online Data Entry Begins
November 1, 2024 | Gathering Registration Opens (\$395)
November 2, 2024 | Gathering Registration Rate Increases (\$425)



Young Musicians From Your Church are Invited to Lutheran Summer Music 2025!



Enrollment for LSM 2025 is open now! Lutheran Summer Music (LSM) is a faith-based residential music academy for high school students who come together to immerse themselves in musical excellence and build a supportive and fun community. Musical experiences include large ensembles (band, choir, orchestra), chamber music, private lessons, and electives like handbells, jazz, musical theatre, composition, conducting, church music and more. Priority enrollment deadline: December 1. Standard enrollment deadline: March 1. Learn more at LSMacademy.org.

Record a video message - Record a short video of you or your family singing a hymn, reading a psalm, or sharing words of encouragement and thanks.

Show support on social media - Visit the [LCMS Facebook Page](#) to access [social-media shareables](#) with messages of support for church workers.

Pray - Use the hashtag #LCMSThankYous when sharing your thank you notes, video messages, etc., on social media. Your church workers need prayer. Pray for these workers and let them know you are doing so. Also please pray to the Lord of the harvest for those future church workers whom God will raise up to fill these sacred and joyful roles in His Kingdom.

Whether as a pastor, director of Christian Education (DCE), deaconess, music director or educator, each and every church worker vocation helps proclaim the Good News!



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*Data pulled from Bankrate.com on July 31, 2024.



Family Bible Podcast

Last week in the Family Bible Journey podcast we heard how God's people can have full confidence in God, despite life's challenges.

Next week, we will learn how David began His reign as a wise king.

Listen at familybiblejourney.com!



Join the journey
of journaling through the Bible.



Women's Bible Study

Next week is the Zoom Bible Study!

Every third Thursday of each month
10:30 am EST

Zoom or in person at Christ the King Lutheran Church of Lodi, 8080 Lafayette Road, Lodi, OH 44254

LWML Woman's Bible Study - Thursday, October 17th at 10:30 am EST.

The topic will be "SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE: WHAT DOES THAT MEAN" from the third one in the Summer edition of the LWQ

<https://02web.zoom.us/j/84746607019?pwd=V2t5a1BPQjFnUzJGRzRiS1ZVVVJsQT09>

Be sure to visit the LWML SELC website -
[LWML-SELC District on Strikingly \(mystrikingly.com\)](https://www.mystrikingly.com)



Concordia Seminary Music Series dates set for 2024-25

Events feature sacred music, talented musicians

Music lovers of all ages are invited to campus for the 2024-25 **Concordia Seminary Music Series**, which will feature talented musicians during events scheduled through summer 2025.

The annual series includes Hymn Festivals and Services of Sacred Music, After Chapel Concerts and Summer Carillon Concerts. **The Sacred Music and After Chapel Concerts are being live streamed.**

After Chapel Concerts

The After Chapel Concerts are mini concerts, beginning at 9:55 a.m. directly following morning chapel, which begins at 9:35 a.m., and are typically held in the chapel balcony. These concerts also are available via live stream at [csl.edu/live](https://www.csl.edu/live).

- Nov. 5: Tom Mueller, organ
- Dec. 10: Jinah Knapp, organ
- Feb. 11, 2025: Nathan Pennington, organ
- March 25, 2025: Nancy Peterson, organ

Hymn Festivals and Services of Sacred Music

The Hymn Festivals and Services of Sacred Music will follow the seasons of the church year and will feature locally and nationally acclaimed musicians. The concerts also are available via livestream at [csl.edu/live](https://www.csl.edu/live).

This year's Hymn Festivals and Services of Sacred Music include:

- Oct. 27, 3 p.m.: "O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe," A Service of Sacred Music for Reformation, featuring Laudamus, the St. Louis Lutheran Chorale and instrumentalists
- Dec. 3, 7 p.m.: "O Christ, Redeemer, Save Us All," A Service of Evening Prayer for Advent, featuring the Service of Light, Laudamus, the St. Louis Lutheran Chorale and instrumentalists
- Feb. 2, 2025, 3 p.m.: "With Peace and Joy I Now Depart," A Candlemas Choral Vespers, featuring the music of J.S. Bach with the American Kantorei, under the direction of Dr. Maurice Boyer, and additional choral music by James MacMillan and Kile Smith
- March 2, 2025, 3 p.m.: "The Only Son from Heaven, "A Hymn Festival for the Season of Epiphany," featuring Laudamus, the St. Louis Lutheran Chorale and instrumentalists
- May 6, 2025, 7 p.m.: "And They Sang a New Song," A Hymn Festival for the Multiethnic Symposium, featuring Laudamus, the St. Louis Lutheran Chorale and a variety of instrumentalists and musicians leading the singing of newly translated hymns from around the world



Prayer Requests

Please pray for everyone who was affected by Hurricane Helene and Milton.

Rev. Brian Roberts, St. Luke's in Oviedo, FL is back on Florida. Please pray for him to regain the weight he has lost and to regain his strength.

Rev. John Telloni, St. John in Massillon, OH as he is working and continuing to regain his strength as he has returned to work.

Rev. Tom Soltis, Parma, OH for God's loving care.

Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Ballas, Parma, OH. Please keep them in your prayers.

Rev. Alan Mercer in Galloway, NJ for his ongoing health struggles.

Megan Skelton in Oviedo, FL Please continue to pray for her and her doctors to find pain relief solutions for her jaw pain and severe headaches following her surgery.

Laura Bergmann, Munster, IN, please pray for her as she injured her knee and is receiving inpatient treatment to help with her recovery.

Rev. Phil Miksad, St. Louis, MO, who was hospitalized for surgery. Please pray for his recovery and rebuilding of his physical strength as he is recovering at home.

Nita Huffines, St. Louis, MO, wife of Rev. Warren Huffines who is five-year survivor of colon cancer, has begun a new round of treatments. Please pray for her as she receives her treatment.

If you have people you would like to be included in the prayer list, please send the information to selc.lcms@gmail.com or call the District Office at 610-965-3265 and press 6.



Looking to Increase Your Staff?

Carole King: Due to declines since COVID, my congregation has had to let me go as a deaconess. Looking for a new congregation to serve. I would like to continue Grief Share and Trauma Reboot Recovery ministries as well as music. I have updated my CMIF and have been contacted by some churches, but just thinking a post here might give a little boost. Looking forward to what God has planned for me!

Any questions? Contact the SELC District Office at selc.lcms@gmail.com



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