



The Beacon Online

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

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Fan the Flame LWML-SELCLCMS Eastern Zone Rally October 10, 2026

The LWML-SELCLCMS Eastern Zone will hold their fall rally on October 10th at St. John's Lutheran Church in Hazleton, PA beginning at 10 AM. Registration opens at 9 AM and is \$10 per person. Please call Karen Ann Kowalczyk at 570-582-6046 to register. The agenda is below.

- 9:00 – 9:45 - Check in/Registration
- 10:00 - 10:15 - Welcome/
Introductions
- 10:15 - 10:30 - Mixer Connections
- 10:30 - 11:15 - Session One w/
Music
- 11:15 – 12:00 - Break and Brunch
- 12:00 – 1:00 - Session Two w/Music
- 1:00 - 1:20 - Business / Pastoral
Voting
- 1:20 – 1:40 - Wildfire Dance Party
- 1:40 - 2:00 - Break
- 2:00 - 2:30 - Service Project w/
Prayer
- 2:45 -Closing Song and Sending



"FAN THE FLAME" LWML Rally
Saturday, Oct 10 from 10-2:30 (registration @ 9am)
St John's, 621 North Vine Street, Hazleton, PA
\$10 Registration - call Karen Ann @ 570-582-6046

LWML
Lutheran Women's Missionary League

SELCLCMS

*Gathering for
Orphan Grain Train kits:
Bath size towels,
washcloths, toothbrushes,
paste, heavy combs,
clippers, solo tissue packs*

SING + STUDY | 2 Timothy 1:6-7
with LC-MS musician and speaker *Wendy Sue*



President Vinovskis and East Coast District Presidents Meet with Seminary Students at Concordia St. Louis

The District Presidents from the East Coast gathered in St. Louis and hosted an introduction session for current seminary students studying at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. East Coast District President hosted a meet and greet and spoke to the students and their guests about each of their Districts and where they are located within the Synod.



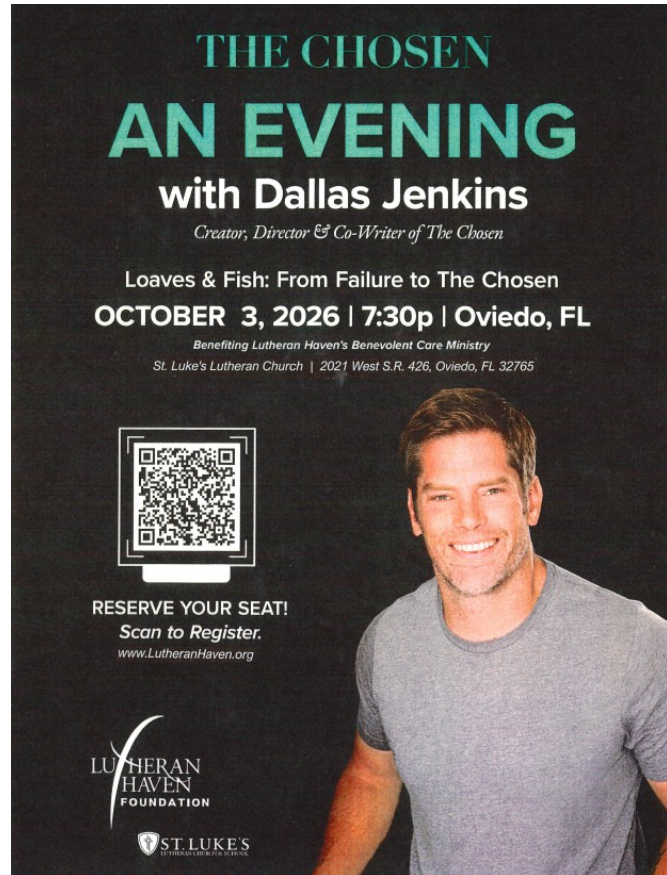


**An Evening with Dallas Jenkins,
Creator, Director and Co-Writer of
The Chosen!
October 3rd**

The
CHOSEN

Lutheran Haven has partnered with St. Luke's Church to present, **"An Evening with Dallas Jenkins, Creator, Director and Co-Writer of *The Chosen*."** His compelling presentation will be held on October 3rd, 2026, at St. Luke's Church and is titled: **"Loaves & Fish: From Failure to *The Chosen*."**

The Chosen is a groundbreaking historical drama based on the life of Jesus seen through the eyes of those who knew him. Set against the backdrop of Roman oppression in first-century Israel, the multi-season show shares an authentic and intimate look at Jesus' revolutionary life and teachings. With over 250 million viewers, *The Chosen* is one of the most watched shows in the world. The series is consistently a top performer across several streaming platforms including Amazon Prime, Peacock and *The Chosen* app among others. What started as a crowdfunded project has now garnered over 800-million-episode views and more than 16 million social media followers.



"Loaves & Fish: From Failure to *The Chosen*" will take you behind the scenes in detail of how God is working through this amazing series. Before God took *The Chosen* to tens of millions of people in every country in the world, God first broke down Dallas Jenkins, the creator of the show. God continues to work in Dallas Jenkins' life even as He works through *The Chosen* to touch viewers around the world.

Because of the global impact of *The Chosen*, we anticipate a great turnout! Our goal for this event is to raise funding for Lutheran Haven's Benevolent Care Ministry which benefits our residents who outlive their resources along with funding various programs which promote healthy aging. Tickets are available now on our website at www.lutheranhaven.org or you can use the QR code below.



2026 Professional Church Workers Conference October 5 - 7, 2026

Only 3 days left to register



Just a reminder to register for the 2026 SELC District Professional Church Workers Conference by September 28th. It is being held at Faith *Viera* in Rockledge, Florida.

Please go to the PCWC website - <https://www.faithviera.org/pcwc26> and click on the **Register link**. Opening Worship will be held Tuesday morning at Faith *Viera* at 8:30 AM. Evening Prayer on Monday evening will be at the Homewood Suites at 7:00 PM.



President Vinovskis Speaks at Pittsburgh Area Circuit Meeting

SELC President Vinovskis attended the Pittsburgh-area Pastors Circuit meeting earlier this month. He spoke to the group on what kind of Pastors are congregations and District Presidents looking for. He also addressed why an online M. Div. would be a helpful option to accomplish some of these goals and what type of congregations would be best served by online seminary education.



Annual School Statistics are Due November 1, 2026

LCMS Rosters and Statistics and LCMS School Ministry request that you submit your statistics for the new school year (2026–2027).

To submit your statistics, log into the LCMS Information Support Network (LISN) for Schools website at: lisn.lcms.org.



Online Life Ministries Conference Scheduled February 26 - 27, 2027

Join the 2027 LCMS Life Ministry Conference, which will be held online from Feb. 26–27, 2027. The conference will feature video presentations on life issues for the strengthening and support of lay members and church workers as they advocate, educate and share the truth of God’s Word, the sanctity of life at all ages, and Christ’s mercy for all people.

Registration for the conference is free, although attendees may choose to purchase extended access to the library of presentations for on-demand viewing. Several sessions conducted in Spanish will be included. Congregations are encouraged to host watch parties during the conference to facilitate further discussion of the presentations.

Please [consider joining us online in February](#) to be strengthened and supported in our shared confession of God’s creation and value of all human life. More information will be shared in the coming months, including a lineup of presenters. With any questions, email lifeministry@lcms.org.



Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday is October 4, 2026

Traditionally, Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday is the first Sunday in October, but it can be celebrated any time. The focus of this year is **Supporting Missions**. The theme is based on Ecclesiastes 3:9 - 15, Galatians 2:1 - 10, and Mark 10:35 - 45. Christ Jesus asks us to be wise stewards of His good gifts.



Family Bible Podcast The Prophet Daniel

The prophet Daniel saw the future and shared his powerful visions with us. Learn how we can find comfort in his visions, frightening as they are, by listening to the Family Bible Journey podcast.



Join the journey
of journaling through the Bible.

Listen on your favorite podcast platform or go to the website familybiblejourney.com.



Mark Your Calendars

September 28, 2026 - Last day to register for the SELC District PCWC

October 3, 2026 - Dallas Jenkins Event - St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Oviedo, FL

October 4, 2026 - Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday

October 5 - 7, 2026 - SELC District Professional Church Workers Conference

October 6, 2026 - Retreat in Sun Prairie, WI for retired pastors, wives, and widows

October 10, 2027 - LWML Fan Into Flame Eastern Zone Fall Rally, Hazleton, PA

November 1, 2026 - Annual School Statistics are due

November 12 - 14, 2026 - Concordia Center for the Family Training at Faith Viera in Rockledge, FL

February 26 - 27, 2027 - Online Life Ministries conference



Preparing for the Unexpected Pastor Ben Hoyer

How does being a dad change how you prepare for a potential disaster? Pastor Ben Hoyer shares his perspective on hurricane warnings. In a threatening world, his experience motivates us to prepare our churches and children for an uncertain future.

[Click here](#) to watch the video.





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Prayer Requests

Rev. Kevin Bergmann and Laura Bergmann, Munster, IN. Pastor Bergmann is regaining his strength at home after a hospitalization. His wife Laura is hospitalized. Please pray for the Bergmanns.

Rev. and Mrs. George Dolak, Cabot, PA. They are living at Concordia Lutheran Ministries in Cabot, PA. Please keep the Dolaks in your prayers as they heal from their falls and adjust to a new phase in their earthly journey with Christ.

Mrs. Joyce Ongstad, widow of Rev. Chris Ongstad, who cancer has metastasized. She will begin targeted chemotherapy. Please pray for her strength, patience, and healing as she deals with a new treatment plan. She is thankful for her supportive family.

Rev. David Triplett, North Ridgeville, OH, is home and working to regain his strength.

Rev. Brian Roberts, Orlando, FL, please continue to pray for him for continued strength.

Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Ballas, Parma, OH. Please keep the Ballas' in your prayers for their health challenges.

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

Rev. Kevin Duff, Hilton Head, SC, please pray for Pastor and Holly Duff, and their children Leo and Oliver, as they battle cancer. Please pray for Pastor Duff as he travels to MD Anderson in Houston, TX for bi-weekly treatments.

Rev. Edward Kucera, and his wife Irene, St. Louis, MO, for God's loving care.

Rev. and Mrs. Otto Baker, Brodheadsville, PA for God's healing and care.

Andrew DeMario, Galloway, NJ, son of Deaconess Helen DeMario, who had successful surgery on September 1st. We ask for His loving care as Andrew recovers.

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

Nita Huffines, St. John, Granite City, IL. Praise the Lord for 7 years of healing, the name *Jesus* is greater than *Cancer*. We thank Him for His presence in daily victories, while we all watch and wait to see Jesus face-to-face.

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.



SELC District - A District Without Borders

Showing Everyone Life in Christ, by Showing Everyone Love in Christ

SELC District of LCMS

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