



MEET OUR NEW VICAR

by Vicar Charles Wallace

My name is Charles Wallace, but please, call me Chuck. I was born in Houston, Texas, where I lived through my elementary school years before moving with my family to Houma, Louisiana, about an hour south of New Orleans. At the start of high school, life took us north to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a city I still proudly call home. I am married to Katrina, a “Michigander.” She now serves at Bethlehem Lutheran Church here in St. Louis as the Director of Worship Arts, a call she began in January 2024. We were married later that summer, in June of 2024, and are grateful to serve the Lord together.



I attended Concordia University Ann Arbor (CUAA), where I earned a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Theology in 2023. At first, I planned to become a high school teacher, but through the encouragement of pastors and professors, I came to see God’s call to pastoral ministry. While at CUAA, I was involved in various ministries, from leading the Pro-Life group to serving as a Campus Ministry leader. Most importantly, CUAA was also where I met Katrina, a reminder of how God weaves His plans in ways I could never imagine. Immediately after college, I enrolled at Concordia Seminary and have proudly been repping St. Louis ever since.

I have a passion for urban ministry and for bringing the timeless truth of the gospel to those who are hurting. The city is full of stories, of both struggle and resilience, and I believe the church is called to step into those stories with the hope of Christ. For me, ministry is always more than Sunday mornings; it is about walking with people through the week, pointing always to the grace and freedom we have in Jesus. When I’m not studying or serving, you’ll often find me cheering on my Houston Astros, adjusting my fantasy football lineup, or exploring St. Louis with Katrina.

I am truly excited to be serving as your vicar at Chapel of the Cross, and I look forward to growing with you in faith this year.

Blessings in Christ,
Charles “Chuck” Wallace



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Chapel of the Cross – Lutheran presents:

Annual Christmas Concert & LESSONS Carols

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14
11:00 A.M.**

Please join us for this special musical service featuring Chapel's choir and special music as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Hear how ancient prophecies find their fulfillment through the coming of the Messiah in this service of Scripture readings with carols and anthems.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

by Mike and Ellen Kehe

A community in Ghana viewed Christians as unwanted foreigners, until God used Operation Christmas Child to soften the hearts of local leaders.

Two years later a new church has formed, 500 children have come to know Jesus, and 70 adults have become Christians!

Chapel of the Cross Operation Christmas Child packing day is coming up! Join in on the fun on Sunday, November 2 in the gym after the late service. We will begin with a light lunch, followed by our packing time! Here is a chance to make a difference in a child's life! Keep Sunday, November 2 in mind and be a part of packing day! All ages are welcome. Invite friends to join us! If you have any questions, contact the Church Office, or Ellen and Mike Kehe, 314-607-3734.†††



**Chapel of the Cross
Packing Day
Sunday, November 2,
12:00 noon
in the gym**

Thanksgiving, Advent & Christmas Worship Schedule

Thanksgiving Eve Service
Wednesday, November 26
6:30 p.m.

Thanksgiving Day Service
Thursday, November 27
9:30 a.m.

Service of Confession and
Absolution
Monday, December 1
6:30 p.m.

Midweek Advent Services
Wednesday, December 3, 10, 17
6:30 p.m.
Advent Dinners at 5:00 p.m.

Christmas Concert
Sunday, December 14
11:00 a.m.

Children's Christmas Program
Sunday, December 21
11:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Worship
Wednesday, December 24
5:00 & 10:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Worship
Thursday, December 25
10:00 a.m.

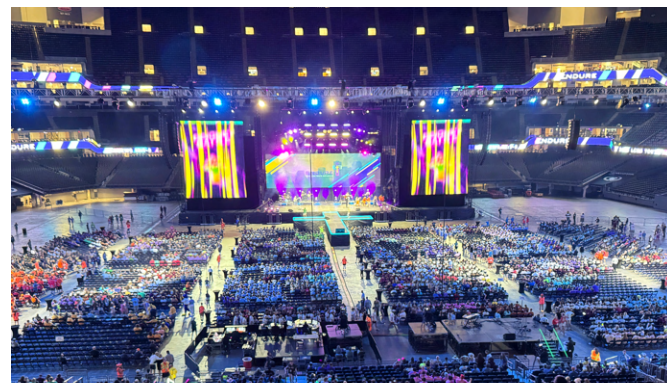
New Year's Eve Worship
Wednesday, December 31
6:30 p.m.

LCMS YOUTH GATHERING 2025

by Mary Laesch

This July, eight youth and three adults from Chapel traveled to New Orleans to participate in the LCMS Youth Gathering. They joined with 20,000 other LCMS youth and adults from around the world to praise God, grow in faith, and serve the community. One youth reflected:

"Throughout the week, I've been able to grow so much in my faith. I've learned to look to Jesus, the author and perfecter of my faith. He endured all the pain and suffering of the world on the cross so that we would be wiped clean of our sin. Hebrews 12:2 says, 'who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame.' It was so cool to hear that the joy set before Him was us! Because Christ endured the cross, we endure as well. Praise God!" ✠✠✠



HELP GIVE THE GIFT OF A THANKSGIVING DINNER!

by Mary Laesch

This November, the Helping Hands Food Pantry will be giving out Thanksgiving boxes to families in need. Chapel members are invited to donate food items to help provide families with a complete Thanksgiving dinner. Please take one or more food cards from the table in the Chapel commons area and bring in the food items to Chapel. You may donate cash in lieu of purchasing food. Make checks out to Helping Hands Food Pantry and place in the offering basket or bring to the church office. Thank you for helping to bring joy and Thanksgiving dinner to families in need! ✠✠✠



BIBLE STUDIES

by Bill Rusnak

**12-Week Bible Study: David, A Man After God's Heart**

This Bible study examines David's life, exploring His faith, struggles, and his role in God's redemptive plan. Each week focuses on a key theme and includes relevant Scripture passages. The group meets in the lower level, Room 8, beginning at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday. What we discover can be helpful in navigating our own trials, troubles and triumphs as we study God's Heart and Ways. Isaiah 55:8-9 tells us, "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts." Join us at any time as we gather together.

Ladies Bible Study

Every first and third Tuesday from September through May, Chapel's ladies love to gather for study and fellowship. In 2024, we began a new study of "Heroines of Faith" in the Bible. Why should we study biblical heroines of faith? Because it is a Bible study about some ordinary women who can edify and encourage our walk with God and each other in some extraordinary ways. Such a celebration of the work of redemption that God brings about in and through the lives of saints points to our Lord, Jesus Christ. From January through May, we studied: Sarai/Sarah (c. 2166 B.C.) with the themes of resistance and courage. Deborah and Jael (c. 1209-1159 B.C.) with themes of leadership, and Ruth (c. 1209-1159 B.C.) considering the themes of loyalty, love, and redemption.

Our study has introduced us to Hannah (c. 1100 B.C.) around the theme of prayer, Abigail (c. 1050-1010 B. C.) under the theme of peacemaking, Esther (c. 486-465 B.C.) with the themes of providence and obedience, Mary, Mother of Jesus (c. 4 B.C.), with the topics of obedience and family. This September 16, 2025, we resumed with Mary Magdalene (30-33 A.D.) under the topics of service and faith. Then finally we will finish with Women of Godly Character with the themes of character and beauty.

When you join our ladies you will quickly see that our study is not intended to move quickly, but rather at a pace allowing for discussion, laughter, sharing, and prayer. Please feel free to join us at any time. †††



Christmas Church Decorating Party!

Saturday, December 6, 2025
Starting at 9:00 a.m.

Great refreshments, too! See Bill Rusnak to join the fun!



MISSOURI VETERANS' HOME

by Pastor Ellory Glenn

This fall, I have begun to visit the Missouri Veterans' Home located on Highway 367 here in North County. I am very excited to be working with the veterans' home again, having been away in August while on vacation.

The veterans' home in North County is home to both male and female veterans who need specialized care due to various health reasons. This group of men and women are hungry to hear God's Word.

Our typical chapel service is thirty minutes long, consisting of hymns at the beginning, a devotional, and prayers to end the service.

We could use a few musically talented volunteers to enhance our service to veterans. We could occasionally use musicians, especially piano players and solo singers. We could also use volunteers to move veterans back and forth to their rooms. This would also help increase attendance, as the home is short-staffed on weekends. This would be an excellent way of showing Christ's love, as well as our appreciation for those who have served our country and now need our help.

As a disabled veteran myself, I would like to thank Chapel of the Cross for all of the support that you have given me and Kathy over the last three years.

God's blessings to those of us who are veterans, celebrating our 250-year service.
Semper Fi and God's blessings. †††

FRIEND OF MOMS

by Clara Mueller



Friend of Moms serves more than 20 clients each month. Each week our schedule is usually filled with at least 10 appointments. Even with reminder calls, not everyone shows up, though we do have walk-ins at times.

I do appreciate the support from our church family. Thank you all so very much! We always seem to run short of size 5 and 6 diapers. Presently we also need socks from NB to 2-4 child size.

The four volunteers who each serve once a week are very faithful. Then there are seven others who come to help weekly, monthly, or when needed.

At the end of September we changed over from spring/summer clothing to fall/winter. We do have a large supply of the fall/winter wear that is already washed and ready to be hung up. But we also have several bags of winter clothes to be washed when needed.

The boutique is open for clients on the first, third, and fourth Wednesdays and the second Monday. We have appointments available from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Thank you to all who support this ministry. If anyone would like to help or see the boutique, just come on by or call Clara at 314-914-6030.
†††

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Deaths:

Linda R. Edgington
(June 24, 2025)

Janet R. Gronemeyer
(August 20, 2025)

Transfer Out:

Ryan and Anne Meyer, children
Jonah, Grace,
Elinor, and Lily Mae to Zion
Lutheran Church, Belleville, IL

Former number of members:	853
Gains:	+0
Losses:	-5
New number of members:	848

CROSSROADS SUBMISSIONS:

Contributions for the Winter issue of the CrossRoads are due by Sunday, December 7. Please submit both a paper copy to the CrossRoads box as well as a digital copy, if possible, (including any pictures) emailed to office@chapelofthecross.org

THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST JESUS

by Jonathan M. Bellmann

What is sin?

Sin is the breaking of God's Law in rebellion to God's will. "Whoever keeps the whole Law but stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it" (James 2:10). "Therefore, no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the Law, rather through the Law we become conscious of sin" (Romans 3:20).

From the inherited "original sin" of Adam we have been corrupted and depraved.

By our own free will, we sin in thought, word, and deed against God's Law. We desire nothing of God's will. We are lost and condemned creatures unable to fulfill God's Law; unable to save ourselves from the agony of eternal death. God hates sin, and we will be held accountable for the sins which we commit.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23). From the Law and the Prophets, the righteousness of God has been made known. "This righteousness of God is given through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe" (Romans 3:22). "God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of His blood – to be received by faith" (Romans 3: 25).

What is Grace?

Grace is the unmerited, unending favor and kindness through which God offers hope, redemption and transformation.

Since the fall of Adam, God had compassion on mankind and through His mercy and grace sent His Son to redeem mankind from their sins. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

In our stead, Jesus lived the perfect life which we could not, and He bore the judgement of God's wrath for our sins. Jesus suffered the pains of eternal death which were meant for us. "For our sake God [the Father] made him [Christ] to be sin, who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:19).

Christ Jesus was raised from death on the third day for our justification, declaring us righteous before God. "By grace you have been saved through faith, and not of yourselves: it is a gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2: 8-9).

What is Faith?

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).

It is the object of your faith, Jesus Christ, that saves you, not the strength of your faith. God's Word, Baptism, and Holy Communion are given to you for the strengthening of your faith. Through contrition and repentance, the Holy Spirit daily sanctifies us until life eternal. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" (2 Corinthians 5:17) †††

FAITH AND SEWARDSHIP

by Gary Timm

You may remember for a couple of weeks in August, the Epistle lessons were on that section of Hebrews, chapter 11, sometimes referred to as the Hall of Fame of Faith because of all the “**By faith** . . .” statements. Such as . . .

“**By faith** Abraham, even though he was past age--and Sarah herself was barren--was enabled to become a father because he considered him faithful who had made the promise.”

“**By faith** Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.”

“**By faith** Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.”

“**By faith** Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.”
...just to list a few.

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Moses are certainly heroes of the faith. Not of their own doing, but **by faith**. Faith imparted by the Holy Spirit. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Moses, while celebrated for their faith, were, in fact, sinful everyday people like you and me, who when it was time to make a decision or take action, chose their path by faith.

Let's skip ahead a few thousand years to the present day. We are sinful everyday people, gifted by the same Holy Spirit with the same faith of our spiritual forefathers. As we live our lives, we encounter opportunities to share our God-given time, talent, and treasure to benefit our neighbors. When the time to make a decision or take action comes, Satan will jump into our heads and try to convince us that **we** don't have enough time, or **we** don't have the skill to do that task, or **we** cannot afford to make a financial contribution, the emphasis being on what **we** can or cannot do, not on what **God** can do.

Our fall Stewardship Commitment Weekend is planned for November 15-16. You will be hearing more about it soon. As we consider our response to this and other opportunities for generosity, may God grant us the wisdom to rely not on ourselves or the world's wisdom but to respond like Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Moses, **by faith**, understanding that God is capable of achieving anything and everything. †††

MARY-MARTHA GUILD

On September 8, the Mary-Martha Guild held its annual Salad Supper. The members all brought salads to share and the board furnished the rest of the meal. We also discussed the agenda for the coming months.

At our October 13 meeting, our guest speaker will be Dan Fuller, a historian from Bellefontaine Cemetery.

On the weekend of November 1-2, Mary-Martha will be selling Mixin' Fixins'. The cost is the same as last year, \$10.00 each. Preorders can be picked up at that time. Recipients of the sale will be announced in the Chapel Weekly. Thank you for supporting the fundraiser.

On Monday, November 10, Mary-Martha member Jennifer Krupp will be our guest speaker and will talk about her mission trips to Uganda and Kenya.

December 6-7 are the dates for our annual Christmas Cookie Fundraiser. The price this year will remain \$10.00. Mary-Martha members will decide on the recipients of the fundraiser proceeds at our May meeting. We thank you for your continued support.

Our annual Christmas party will be held on December 8. We will meet upstairs in the commons area. It will once again be catered by Catering to You. This year we will feature appetizers. Reservations will be required and additional details will follow. Everyone is invited to bring a white elephant or inexpensive gift to exchange. Vicar Chuck Wallace will be our guest and will narrate the Left-Right game. †††

LAMP MINISTRY

by Mike and Ellen Kehe

While the LAMP Mission trips did not go as planned this summer due to the ongoing wildfires in Northern Manitoba, we were still able to travel to the town of Churchill to bring the Good News of Jesus to the children there. This was the first time since 2019 that a LAMP team was able to get to Churchill.

The team consisted of Ellen and Mike Kehe. We knew this was going to be a “reintroduction” year, a time to reconnect with the community and the children, all of whom were too young to attend Bible Camp the last time a LAMP team was there. Our purpose, in addition to being with the children, was to build and make plans for future years, in the hope that word would spread that the LAMP team is back, and would be coming back each summer.

Just as in any LAMP Mission trip, our primary mission was the Bible School week with the children. Due to the flight schedule, we arrived in Churchill Tuesday afternoon, which meant our Bible School “week” was going to be Wednesday – Sunday. We spent the day Tuesday learning where we would be holding Bible School, setting up, and walking the town to spread the word, and we found out that posters about our Bible School were up around town.

We had no idea how many children we were going to see on that first day, though we found out that there was a community children’s camp that was happening the first three days of our time. We prayed that God would lead children to us, and He delivered quality in place of quantity. We had a total of 8 children through the week that participated, and while the number is not overwhelming, the interaction with each of the children was remarkable.



Most of these children were very new to anything we had to share about God, the stories we had, and Jesus’ love for them. The question from one of the girls, “what is sin,” stands out in my mind as an example of the opportunities that we had to share the Gospel with them as they soaked it all in.

The children were all 8, 9, or 10 years old – what a perfect age to tell them about Jesus, answer all their questions, and just have fun together. That’s what we did, and Lord willing, we will be able to go back to do next summer! †††



OCTOBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Bible Class 6:30 p.m.	2 Choral Singers 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.	3	4 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
5 Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	6	7 Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m. GriefShare 2:00-4:00 p.m.	8 Bible Class 6:30 p.m.	9 Choral Singers 7:00-8:30 p.m.	10	11 Women's Fellowship 9:30 a.m. Room 8 Worship Service 5:00 p.m. LVMML Mtg Rm A 9:30 a.m.
12 Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	13 Mary-Martha Meeting 6:30 p.m. Elders Meeting 7:00 p.m.	14 GriefShare 2:00-4:00 p.m.	15 Bible Class 6:30 p.m.	16 Choral Singers 7:00-8:30 p.m.	17	18 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
19 60th Anniversary Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Anniv. Luncheon 12:30	20	21 Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m. GriefShare 2:00-4:00 p.m.	22 Bible Class 6:30 p.m.	23 Choral Singers 7:00-8:30 p.m.	24	25 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
26 Reformation Day Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	27 Board of Directors 7:00 p.m.	28 GriefShare 2:00-4:00 p.m. Assembly Mixin Family Night 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	29 Bible Class 6:30 p.m.	30 Choral Singers 7:00-8:30 p.m.	31	
		Notes:				

NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 LWML Rally Room 8 9:30 am - Noon Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
2 All Saints Day Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	3	4 Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m. GriefShare 2:00-4:00 p.m.	5 Bible Study 6:30 p.m.	6 Choral Singers 7:00-8:30 p.m. NAMEeting 7 p.m.	7	8 Wedding 11a.m Kehe-Lenz Women's Fellowship 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
9 Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	10 Mary-Martha Meeting 6:30 p.m. Elders Meeting 7:00 p.m.	11 GriefShare 2:00-4:00 p.m.	12 Bible Study 6:30 p.m.	13 Choral Singers 7:00-8:30 p.m. NAMEeting 7 p.m.	14	15 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
16 Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	17	18 Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Surviving the Holidays 2:00-4:00 p.m.	19 Bible Study 6:30 p.m.	20 Choral Singers 7:00-8:30 p.m. NAMEeting 7 p.m.	21	22 Funeral 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
23 Christ the King Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	24 Board of Directors 7:00 p.m.	25 Choral Singers 7:00-8:30 p.m. Family Night 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	26 Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service 6:30 p.m.	27 Thanksgiving Office Closed Worship Service 9:30 a.m.	28 Office Closed	29 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
30 Advent 1 Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.					Notes:	

DECEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Confession and Absolution Service 6:30 p.m.	2 Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	3 Advent Dinner 5 pm Advent Service 6:30 p.m.	4 Choral Singers 7:00-8:30 p.m. NAMeeting 7 p.m.	5	6 Christmas Decorating 9 a.m. to Noon Worship Service 5:00 p.m. MMG Cookie Assem 9:00 a.m.
7 Advent 2 Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	8 Mary-Martha Christmas party 6:30 p.m.	9	10 Advent Dinner 5 pm Advent Service 6:30 p.m.	11 Choral Singers 7:00-8:30 p.m.	12	13 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
14 Advent 3 Worship Service 8:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Christmas Choir Concert 11:00 a.m.	15	16 Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	17 Advent Dinner 5 pm Advent Service 6:30 p.m.	18 NA Meeting 7 p.m.	19	20 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
21 Advent 4 Worship Service 8:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Children's Christmas Prog 11:00 a.m.	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Services 5:00 & 10:30 p.m. Office Closed	25 Christmas Day Service 10:00 a.m. Office Closed	26	27 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
28 Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	29	30	31 New Year's Eve Office Closed worship Service 6:30 p.m.			
					Notes:	



CHAPEL OF THE CROSS - LUTHERAN

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Weekend Worship Services

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Education Hour

(Sunday School, Youth, & Adult Classes)

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.

Holy Communion

1st, 3rd, & 5th Sunday of the month: 8:30 a.m.

2nd, 4th, & 5th Sunday of the month: 11:00 a.m.

1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday of the month: 5:00 p.m.

*Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran
exists to show the love of Jesus to
the people of North County and
beyond so that all may have a
living relationship with Christ.*

