

BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Bethlehem Star



Volume 20 Issue 1

September 2026

Worship Schedule

Sunday: Divine Service 9:00 a.m. with Holy Communion

Chapel: Wednesday - Matins 10:00 a.m.

Midweek: Wednesday Spoken Service 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Dates: September

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 8 | Visual Faith 6-8pm |
| 13 | Rally Day Potluck - 10:30 am
Elders Meeting - 11:30 am
Youth Group - 6:30-8pm |
| 14 | Women's Bible Study - 2:00pm
Wholyfit - 6:00 pm |
| 17 | Women's Bible Study 7:00pm |
| 26 | SPK-Family DevotionEvent 12-1:30pm |
| 27 | Youth Group - 6:30-8pm |



SUBSCRIBE:

Subscribe to individual calendars on our website:



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

CONTACT INFO

Senior Pastor

Rev. Samuel Wirgau

260-273-7595

Samuel.wirgau@gmail.com

Associate Pastor

Rev. Anthony Dodgers

616-648-6489

Kantor

Richard Brinkley

260-705-4105

Deaconess

Deac. Wendy Boehm

260-415-8526

Church & School Secretary

Heidi Kleppinger

260-597-7121

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blcsossian.org



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

The Bible and the Lutheran Confessions: Löhe on the Scriptures

Over the coming months we will be looking at the importance of the Bible and the Lutheran Confessions for our faith and life in the Christian Church. We will begin with the Holy Scriptures, the inspired and inerrant Word of God and the only rule and norm for our faith and life.

Pastor Wilhelm Löhe (1808-1872) writes concerning the security of God's Word in the Scriptures. "The Scriptures, although stemming from various centuries, are a united, non-contradictory message of God, while among the [Church] Fathers none may be found who remains exactly the same. Holy Scripture knows of no contradictions. It speaks more simply, irrespective of time and place, than even the purest of the [Church] Fathers. We acknowledge that in the Bible, even in the New Testament, there are difficult passages, but we maintain that they are fewer than one thinks and are hardly of the kind of importance that would cause the general sense of the Scriptures to be called obscure. Either they do not at all concern the way to eternal life or, if so, are in no way contrary to the properly understood content of clear passages that deal with the same subject, nor could they be, for both originate in the Holy Spirit who does not contradict Himself.

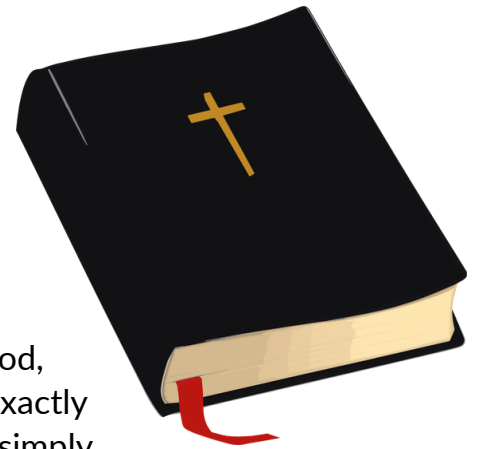
"Scripture is like the stars in heaven. Whoever lifts his eyes from earthly darkness will immediately see the great shining stars of the first magnitude and the path of light that girds the heavens. Becoming accustomed to the light, the eye sees more and more stars. Eventually, even the blue seems interwoven with light. So to the eye of the reader of Scripture, there first come those shining, mighty passages, whose meaning is easily understood and undeniable. The longer we read, strengthened by the first light, the more other passages become bright and clear. At last, we see more than just a Milky Way of bright truth in the heaven of the Bible; an awareness, indeed a clear, conscious perception of complete harmony within it overpowers us and edifies us.

So this is not merely a ruse but rather an assertion that proves true in every conscience, that the harmony of the clear passages of Scripture, such as those one collects for a children's catechism, comprises the analogy of faith and the proper interpretation on which the unclear passages are made clear. On the contrary, it is doubt of God's truth if you fear that obscurity might be hidden in dark corners of Scripture that could extinguish the bright stars of the analogy of faith and simple passages that even a child can understand. Besides, Scripture has always proven itself in its clarity. . . ."

Praise be to the Father,
With whom is the Fountain of Life,
And in whose light we see the Light!

(The Word Remains: Select Writings on the Church Year and the Christians Life, pages 42-43)...

Rev. Samuel Wirgau



Church Membership

Membership

Baptisms

Aspen Grace Todd 6-21-2026
Bodie Alan Schumm 7-19-2026
Everett Steven Laley 8-2-2026
Eleanor Grace Springer 8-2-2026

Deaths

Norwin Bauermeister 6-27-2026
Ruth Witte 6-28-2026
Ron Whitesel 8-11-2026

Transfer out

Joel Stoppenhagen 8-9-2026
Amelia, Kelsey, Felicity Phillips 8-9-2026

Weddings

Jared and Delaney Conrad 6-20-2026

Wedding Anniversary

Sept. 2 Peyton and Destiny Laley (3)
Sept. 6 Ben and Heather Crayner (12)
Sept. 9 Mark and Deb Patrick (31)
Sept. 26 Jon and Nikki Caldwell (17)
Sept. 27 Denis and Joyce Glisson (51)
Sept. 29 Brian and Sara Nahrwold (14)

Church Officers

Chairman - Dave Flesch

Vice Chairman - Stan Meyer

Secretary - Josh Boehm

Treasurer - Ed Black

Board of Elders Steve Conrad, Jeff Gresley, Brian Scheumann,
Mike Schumm, Dan Springer, Andrew Stoppenhagen

Board of Trustees Dan Kleppinger, Gary Oliver, Todd Ottinger,
Darrin Werling, Jay Werling, Lee Werling

Board of Finance Brian Bauermeister, Dan Buchinger, Rory Geiger,
Collin Laley, Jason Laley, Jay Louison

Board of Education Aaron Anthony, Jeff Holtzclaw, Nathan Householder,
Jacob Meyer, Darren Patrick, Brandon Schumm

happy BIRTHDAY September

- 1) Kari Baker
Brian Bauermeister
Mike Meyer
Harper Miller
Lee Werling
- 2) Luke Harkless
Julie Werling
- 5) Lane Harkless
- 6) Miriam Dodgers
- 7) Owen Lesh
Emma Roembke
Vincent Schumm
- 9) Brad Meyer
- 11) Otto Clausen
- 12) JT Holtzclaw, III
Jasson Werling
- 13) Clyde Holtzclaw
- 14) Graham Stoppenhagen
- 16) Susan Graft
Lacey Meyer
Aralee Price
Robert Trammel
- 18) Carlee Bryant
Piper Krumma
Beckett Streeks
- 19) Caleb Rekeweg
Grant Scheumann
Jessica Schumm
- 21) Sandy Meyer
- 25) Melissa Avey
Heather Crayner
Emily Werling
Garrett Werling
- 26) Nick Krick

Endowment

**The Bethlehem Endowment Committee thanks the Lord
and our congregation for the generous gifts to the School Endowment Fund**

Here is the monthly report for the Bethlehem Lutheran School Endowment Fund by the Lutheran Foundation. The following information is accurate as of June 30, 2026:

\$381,427.82 - Amount Bethlehem sent in since 2009
238,283.00 - Amount the Lutheran Foundation matched
459,182.01 - Amount generated since 2009
-219,500.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2009
\$859,392.83 - Value of the Endowment Fund as of June 30, 2026

Dr. David Nahrwold Fund|
\$ 90,078.93 - Amount sent in since November 2024
16,706.87 - Amount generated since November 2024
-10,000.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2024
\$ 96,785.80- Value of Dr. David Nahrwold Fund as of June 30, 2026

Library Fund
\$5,000.00 - Amount sent in since March 2026
320.89- Amount generated since March 2026
\$5,320,89 - Value of the Library Fund as of June 30, 2026

E-Giving

Enjoy the convenience of the Electronic Giving Option!!

Single OR reoccurring gifts can be attributed to a particular fund(s).

More information can be found on our website, www.blcsossian.org

OR

through our third-party provider-Vanco Payment Solutions.

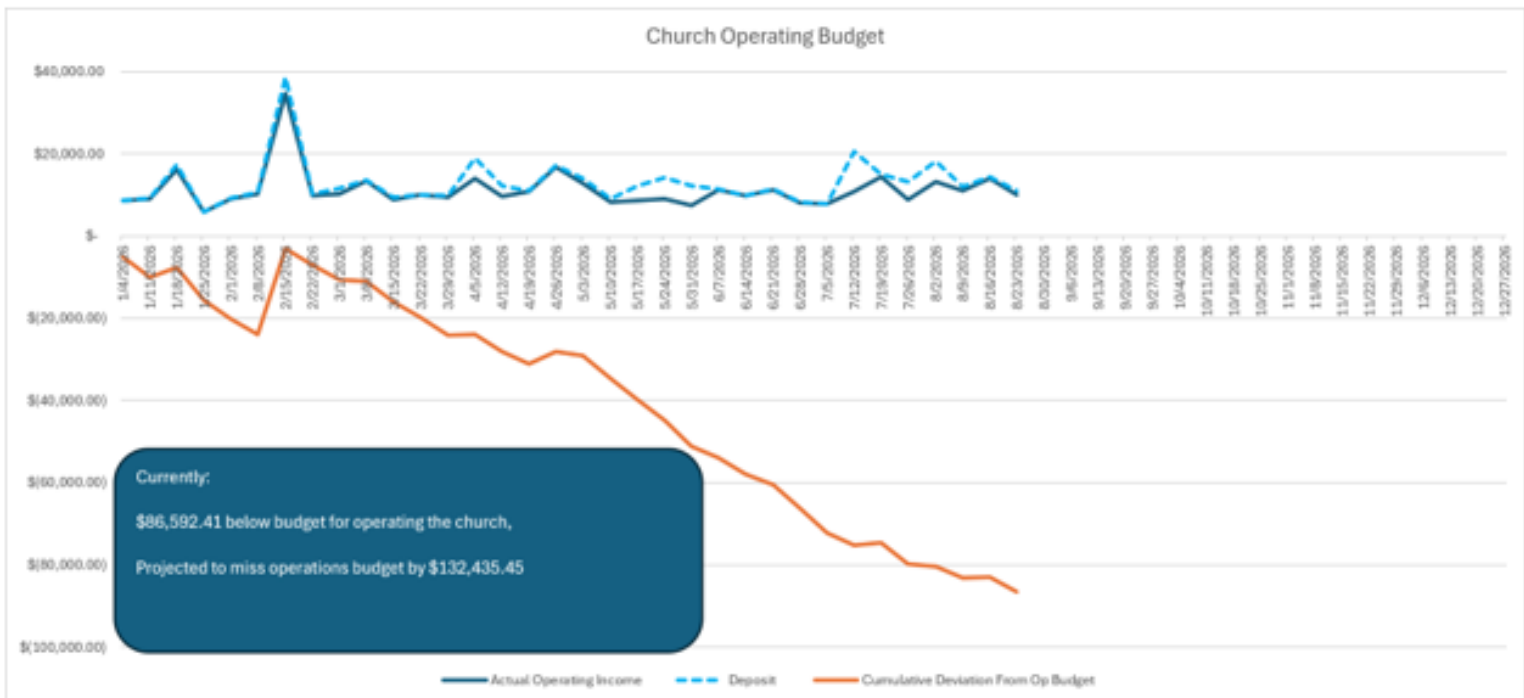
Online giving may be done as a credit card payment or ACH bank transfer.

Please note, the church will incur a processing fee on each online transaction. You may your also elect to increase your gift to cover the cost of the transaction fees.



Financial Report

As of	August 27, 2026								
BETHLEHEM FINANCIAL REPORT									
Cash					Special Accounts				
Checking	\$	9,660.06			Improvement Fund:	\$	37,129.23		
Savings	\$	97,544.00			Scholarship Fund:	\$	17,576.10		
Total Cash	\$	107,204.06			Music Fund:	\$	4,369.53		
Operating Loan	\$	-	of \$30,000 max available		Relief Fund:	\$	1,481.83		
					Organ Fund:	\$	7,973.49		
					Endowment:	\$	1,490.00		
					Synod/Seminary Fund:	\$	2,550.00		
Special Account (Pavilion)	\$	92,375.16			Reserved (Sing, Pray, Praise)	\$	5,000.00		
					Special Account - Vicar Program	\$	51,295.05		
					Reserved (TBD):	\$	2,469.26		
					Total	\$	131,334.49		
	\$	33,790.49	added to checking account from special accounts to operate church						
Bills Due:	8/31/2026	\$	5,000.00						
	9/7/2026	\$	15,000.00						



Joel Stoppenhagen, was installed as the new assistant Kantor at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Des Peres, Missouri. We give thanks and praise to God as we celebrate the ways Kantor Stoppenhagen will lend his exceptional musical gifts to their worship life.



Pavilion & Sidewalk Project – Bethlehem Church & School has been awarded a matching capital grant for \$42,554.00 from The Lutheran Foundation for the construction of a new pavilion adjacent to the playground area, a new sidewalk along the east side of the church, the replacement of existing sidewalk between the church & parsonage, and replacement of sidewalks at the parsonage. The work is expected to start soon.

The Friends of Wyneken will host an Oktoberfest at the Wyneken House on Saturday, September 26 from 5-9 PM. There will be German and American food and beverages, a silent auction, live music by the duo String Theory and tours of the historic Wyneken House. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Additional information can be found on the Friends of Wyneken Facebook page or by calling/texting (260) 437-0420. The Wyneken House is located at 11730 NW Winchester Road, Decatur, Indiana.

VISUAL FAITH MINISTRY

**We're thrilled to kick off a new season of Visual Faith Workshops
beginning Tuesday, September 8 from 6-8 PM!**

Join us on the **second Tuesday of each month** as we gather in the Fellowship Hall for an uplifting, creative, and Scripture-centered experience.

Each workshop features a different practice designed to help you slow down, engage with God's Word, and enjoy meaningful time together. It's not about making a perfect project — it's about being present, exploring Scripture in fresh ways, and discovering how creativity can open space for prayer and reflection.

No artistic experience needed. Just come as you are, bring your Bible, and enjoy a welcoming space to learn, create, and connect.

If you plan to attend, please take a moment to register at blcsossian.org/visual-faith-ministry. Questions? Reach out to **Deann Oliver** at 616-894-0144.

We can't wait to share this new season with you and see how God moves as we gather each month.



SEPT. 8 - 6-8PM



LWML

LWML – Over 260 Lutheran Women in Mission attended the LWML Indiana District Convention held June 26-28th in Evansville, Indiana, hosted by the Kentuckiana, Evansville West and Evansville East Zones. Be Still and Know.... Psalm 46:10.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! The convention offerings were as follows:
Mites \$12962.00; Lutheran Child/Family Services \$1666.00; South Sudan Seminary \$2778.00;
Katie Retreat Scholarship \$1640.00.

Let's welcome our newly elected District Officers: Becky Thibodeau, President, (Trinity Lutheran Church, Indianapolis), Trisha Letterman, Vice President of Communication, (Trinity Lutheran Church-Darmstadt, Evansville), Carmen Gierhan, Financial Secretary, Ligonier (Shepherd by the Lakes, Syracuse) and Rev. Nathan Schieber, Pastoral Counselor, (Zion Lutheran Church, Wabash)

SAVE the date: Donation Day – Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne – October 13, 2026.
All ladies attending are invited to sing in the choir recording in the afternoon at the Worship Anew studio located on the campus. Further registration details forthcoming.

Marilyn Bulmahn, Pres. Decatur Zone



LWML Mite Boxes: Just a reminder that mite boxes are located by the church bulletins in the church entrance. When a mite box is filled, it can be dropped off in the LWML slot in the church office.

These mite boxes (for small offerings) are used to support mission outreach, church worker scholarships, and humanitarian aid projects. Thank you!



A Word from His Mouth

September 6, 2026 – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Paul Shoemaker

God's Word is of love, forgiveness, and restoration. It is also a Word of correction and discipline. Ezekiel, the prophet, spoke this Word of God to Israel. God entrusts His Word to us so that we, too, may share His Word so all may know His love and forgiveness and that we are restored to Him for all eternity.

Sermon Text: Ezekiel 33:7-9

Readings: Psalm 32:1-7; Ezekiel 33:7-9; Matthew 18:1-20

Featured Choir: St. Paul's Choristers, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Forgiveness Cancels Paybacks

September 13, 2026 – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. William Mueller

The account of Joseph forgiving his brothers appears to be so nice and neat. We read it and marvel at the grace Joseph extends to his (at one time) ruthless brothers. But then we are confronted with the truth that we are also called to forgive like Joseph. How can we? We begin to discover the answer when we examine the "payback."

Sermon Text: Genesis 50:15-21

Readings: Psalm 103:1-12; Genesis 50:15-21; Matthew 18:21-35

Featured Choir: Holy Cross Treble Choir, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: Redeemer Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind.

God Is Not Fair!

September 20, 2026 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Scott Zeckzer

We want things to be fair. I want what I deserve, but God does not work that way. Thanks be to God that He is not fair but generous.

Sermon Text: Matthew 20:15

Readings: Psalm 116:12-13, 15-17; Isaiah 55:6-9; Matthew 20:1-16

Featured Choirs: Valley Lutheran High School, Saginaw, Mich.; Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School, Centralia, Ill.

Featured Art and Architecture: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Rockford, Ill.

The Sins of Our Youth

September 27, 2026 – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

The sins of our youth and all of our past sins can rise up to haunt us. But the Good News of Jesus our Savior gives us comfort, reassurance, and the strength to move forward in life as mature Christians.

Sermon Text: Psalm 25:7

Readings: Psalm 25:1-10; Ezekiel 18:25-32; Matthew 21:23-27

Featured Choir: St. Paul Preble Adult Choir, Decatur, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: St. Peter Lutheran Church, North Judson, Ind.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY APOLOGETICS

FALL 2026

MONDAY
14 SEPT @ 2PM

THURSDAY
17 SEPT @ 7PM

WHAT IS APOLOGETICS?

MONDAY
21 SEPT @ 2PM

THURSDAY
24 SEPT @ 7PM

JESUS

MONDAY
28 SEPT @ 2PM

THURSDAY
1 OCT @ 7PM

TRUSTING GOD AND HIS WORD

MONDAY
5 OCT @ 2PM

THURSDAY
8 OCT @ 7PM

BEGINNINGS

MONDAY
12 OCT @ 2PM

THURSDAY
15 OCT @ 7PM

CHRISTIAN LIFE



WholyFit Classes Begin September 14!

WholyFit is a gentle, faith-centered movement practice that blends stretching, strengthening, and meditating on God's Word. Each class offers a calm, supportive space to care for your body while grounding your heart in Scripture.

Movements are slow, intentional, and adaptable for all fitness levels.

Beginning Monday, September 14,
classes will meet Mondays and Tuesdays
from 6:00–6:45 PM
in the music room downstairs.

You'll experience guided breathwork, purposeful movement, and a brief devotional focus designed to help you settle your heart in Scripture as you end your day.

What to bring:

- Comfortable clothing
- A water bottle
- An exercise mat

If you have any questions,
reach out to Deann Oliver at 616-894-0144.

Sing, Pray & Keep His Ways

LCMS SYNODICAL CONVENTION - JULY 2026

On July 18, the 69th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church –Missouri Synod (LCMS) began with a special Opening Divine Service at the Phoenix Convention Center in Phoenix, Arizona. With thousands of people gathered for the convention, the service had an especially joyful Easter theme, centered on the convention theme, “Christ Is Risen Indeed,” based on 1 Corinthians 15:20–22.

The service brought together 55 young singers, altar guild servers, crucifers, and acolytes from the first cohort of LCMS Worship’s “Sing, Pray and Keep His Ways” (SPK) initiative. The goal of SPK is to help children and youth actively participate in the Divine Service and grow in their faith through opportunities in the church such as choir, acolyte and altar guild service, etc.

SPK is a pilot program made possible through a grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. and includes 12 congregations across the Synod, including Bethlehem.

Three of our youth and some of their family members had the opportunity to participate in the convention’s Opening Divine Service: Ginny Wirgau served with the altar guild and choir, JT Holtzclaw served as an acolyte, and Clyde Holtzclaw sang in the children’s choir.

We are thankful for their service at the convention and the opportunities given at Bethlehem.



Alleluia



CHECK OUT:
KFUO Coffee Hour
LCMS Convention Video
LCMS Reporter Article



Sing, Pray & Keep His Ways

HOW TO? Family Devotions

Saturday

26 September

12:00pm-1:30 pm

Bethlehem Lutheran Church-
Fellowship Hall **LUNCH PROVIDED**

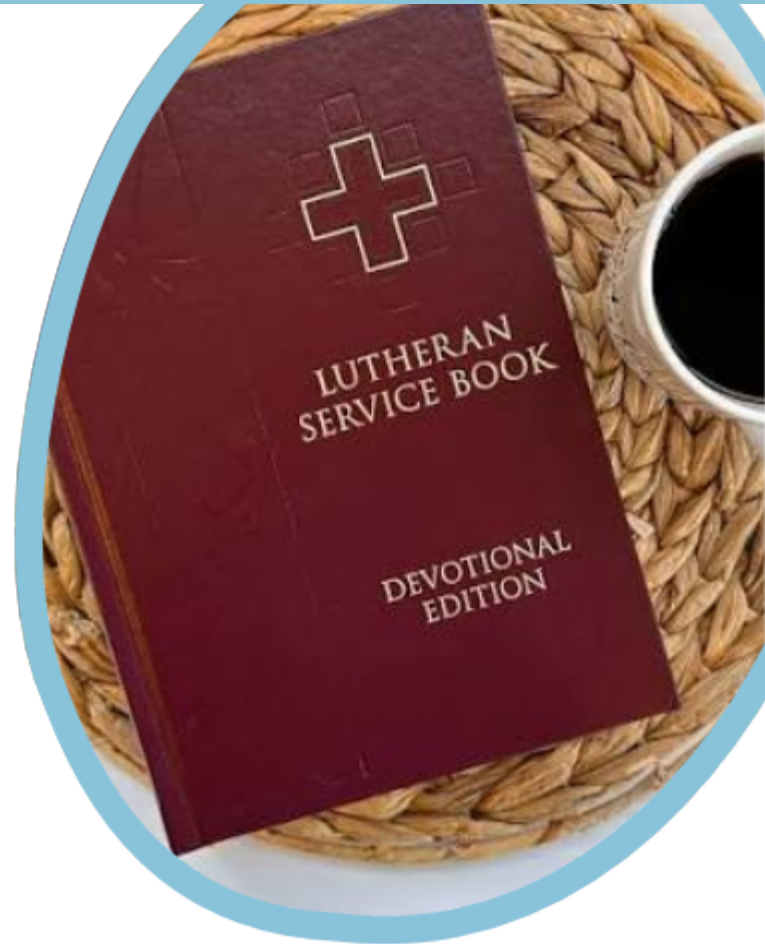
About:

God comes to us through His Word and Sacraments during worship at church, and then the family's devotional life at home keeps its members connected to those gifts all week long. This routine creates a lifelong rhythm that helps keep kids in the faith throughout all stages of their lives.

Struggling with family devotions or looking for new resources to use at home?

Join us for a time of faith, family, and fellowship! **Everyone is welcome**—not just families with children! We'll talk about the importance of family devotions, share helpful resources, and spend time practicing simple ways to incorporate devotions and prayer into your own home. Come learn, ask questions, share ideas, and leave with practical tools to help make faith a regular part of everyday life.

This event is made possible through the Lilly Endowment grant supporting the LCMS "Sing, Pray and Keep His Ways" (SPK) initiative. It is the first of a three-part 1 year series focused on equipping and encouraging Christian families.



REGISTER at
<https://blcsossian.org/sing-pray-keep-his-ways/>



MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

SEPTEMBER

- 13 Bible Study
27 Bible Study

OCTOBER

- 11 Bible Study
25 Fall break
21-24
Ark Encounter &
Creation Museum

REFRESHMENTS

- Donut Duty:
Bultemeier
Bible Study:
Sept 13 Wirgau
Sept 27 Wirgau

FORMULA OF CONCORD



The six primary authors of the Formula of Concord:

Jacob Andreae (1528-90)
Martin Chemnitz (1522-86)
Nicholas Selnecker (1528-92)
David Chytraeus (1531-1600)
Andrew Musculus (1514-81)
Christopher Comerus (1518-94)

What is the Formula of Concord?

The Formula of Concord has two parts, the Epitome and the Solid Declaration.

- Epitome: A concise summary of the twelve articles.
- Solid Declaration: A thorough and detailed exposition of the same articles.

Together, these comprise the final document of the Book of Concord (1580).

Historical Background

- After Martin Luther died, the unified Lutheran movement turned into internal fighting between different theological camps.
- Arguments over vital teachings- 1 Original sin; 2 Free will; 3 The Righteousness of Faith; 4 Good Works; 5 Law and Gospel; 6 The Third Use of the Law; 7 The Holy Supper; 8 The Person of Christ; 9 Christ's Descent into Hell; 10 Adiaphora; 11 Election; 12 Other Factions and Heresies



Photos from our youth group kick off at The Wyneken House. We will be studying the Formula of Concord this year in honor of the 450th anniversary in May 2027.



Book Club



THE GUERNSEY LITERARY AND POTATO PEEL PIE SOCIETY
BY MARY ANN SHAFFER & ANNIE BARROWS

January, 1946: London is emerging from the shadow of the Second World War, and writer Juliet Ashton is looking for her next book subject. Who could imagine that she would find it in a letter from a man she's never met, Dawsey Adams, a native of the island of Guernsey, who has come across her name in a book?

As Juliet and her new correspondent exchange letters, Juliet is drawn into the world of Dawsey and his friends—and what a wonderfully eccentric world it is. The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society—a book club born as a spur-of-the-moment alibi when its members were discovered breaking curfew by the Germans occupying their island—boasts an outstanding cast of characters, from pig farmers to phrenologists, literature lovers all.



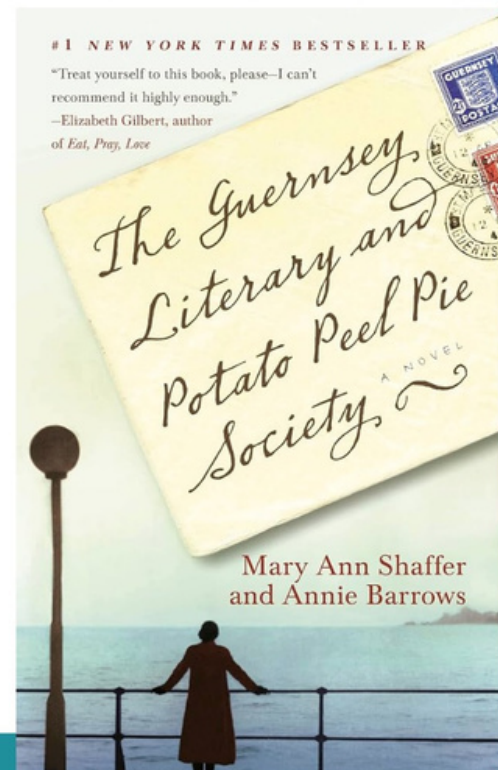
This book is this year's "One Book One County" which is a community read program for Wells County Public Library held in September and October every year.

The program is designed to create a countywide discussion by encouraging all residents to read the same book.

There are also a number of special events at the library related to themes found in the featured book and potentially an author visit.

Events start September 1

There is also a movie about the book that came out in 2018.



HOW IT WORKS

- PURCHASE THE BOOK (AUDIO, EBOOK OR PHYSICAL COPY)
- WE WILL MEET IN PERSON AT CRIMSON HOUSE NOVEMBER 7 TO DISCUSS THE BOOK.
- ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

CONTACT DEACONESS BOEHM TO JOIN: 260-415-8526



SPEED EUCHRE & CORNHOLE TOURNAMENTS:

SPEED EUCHRE - 40 PERSON LIMIT
(individual sign up)

CORNHOLE - 20 TEAMS (team signup)

ENTRY FEE TO PLAY - A MINIMUM OF A \$40 BOTTLE OF
LIQUOR or \$40 CASH per person playing
entry fee will be put towards SPIRIT NIGHT 2027

SEPTEMBER 19TH, 2026

DOORS OPEN
6:00pm

CROSBY BARN
10605 N 100 E

PLAY BEGINS
6:30pm

21+ EVENT

Decatur, IN 46733

BYOB

Want to Play? Email spiritnight@spilutheran.org

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: SEPTEMBER 15th

Water & Light Snacks will be available for a cash donation



RIGHT TO LIFE
OF NORTHEAST INDIANA

**We invite you to join us for the*

29TH ANNUAL FALL BANQUET

★ ★ ★ OCTOBER 12TH ★ ★ ★

ALLEN COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL COLISEUM

DOORS OPEN: 5:00PM | PROGRAM START: 6:30PM

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS

\$50


SALES ARE OPEN
SPONSORSHIPS, PROGRAM ADS, TABLE ORDERS, TICKETS

FULL TABLE OF 8

\$400

K E Y N O T E S P E A K E R

KAYLEIGH MCENANY

Featuring **Kayleigh McEnany**, host of Saturday in America on Fox News and former White House Press Secretary. Prior to serving in the White House, Kayleigh worked as the national press secretary for the Trump Campaign and formerly the national spokesperson for the Republican National Committee.

T E S T I M O N Y S P E A K E R

DAVID SCOTTON

We're excited to welcome **David Scotton** as our testimony speaker! David is a practicing attorney and adoption advocate who was seconds away from not having life. He is also the subject of the award-winning adoption documentary, *I Lived on Parker Avenue*.



www.ichooselife.org/fallbanquet



Kayleigh McEnany is appearing at this event only as a featured speaker and is not asking for funds or donations.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE 10 REASONS TO JOIN YOUR LOCAL VIGIL

1. You'll save lives. 40 Days for Life vigils have saved more than 26,000 lives—that we know of! Former abortion workers report that when somebody shows up to pray outside an abortion facility, the no-show rate can go as high as 75%.

2. To bring healing and mercy to those who have suffered the trauma of abortion. Many Christians keep quiet about abortion out of fear that women who have abortion will feel judged. But many who have had abortions say they feel more condemned by silence. Your loving witness can be the first sign of mercy after abortion.

3. You can foster conversions. More than 275 abortion workers have left their jobs in the abortion industry in response to a 40 Days for Life vigil.

4. Prayer closes abortion facilities. More than 185 abortion facilities have closed their doors and gone out of business forever following a 40 Days for Life campaign.

5. To make sure abortion-bound babies don't die alone. Even when your presence doesn't save a baby from abortion, it's a powerful act of solidarity. Even if that little girl or boy is aborted on your watch, that little girl or boy was loved because you were there. And that simple act of prayer and witness might be the only act of love that child receives in his or her short time on this earth.

6. You'll grow spiritually. More than 90% of 40 Days for Life participants report experiencing spiritual growth through their involvement.

7. To serve as the conscience of your community. Abortion thrives in the shadows. Your peaceful, prayerful witness exposes the tragedy of abortion and makes it impossible for your community to simply look away.

8. It's just the beginning. The impact of a 40 Days for Life campaign is rarely limited to the 40 days. Prayer on the sidewalk has led to numerous long-term fruits, including new pregnancy help centers, educational efforts, and year-round 40 Days for Life 365 vigils.

9. To obey God. "Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter" (Proverbs 24:11).

10. You could end abortion in your community. Nearly 100 cities have seen their LAST abortion facility close following a 40 Days for Life campaign.

BONUS REASONS

- The time outside will boost your vitamin D.
- Meet new friends...or even your future spouse!
- Become an expert on how to dress for the weather!

