



2025

A Personal Note

It is nice to finally have my wife and three of my children with us in Bowling Green. We have enjoyed getting to know many of you and look forward to meeting and spending time with all of you in the near future. I encourage you to call me anytime and I would love to come out and visit you and pray with you. One of my goals as pastor has been contacting every family unit on our membership list/address book. Sometimes I leave a message, or a text, when the voicemail is full or there is no answer. Sometimes people have moved and information has changed, and they have failed to inform us. So I haven't been to everyone's house yet, and that is okay. I just want people to know that the opportunity is there and that we care about every single soul connected to our congregation, and we love them all in Christ, who has loved us first. Yet if you know anybody that hasn't yet heard from me and wishes they had, or even if you who are reading this article and somehow didn't get a message from me, then please let me know and I will give you a ring. God loves you and I would hate for anyone to feel like they didn't matter to Him and His holy family: the Church.

Sometimes for these newsletters I have been "recycling" some previous material that I have published elsewhere. This one, below, was printed in a local newspaper in a remote farming community, many years ago. Isn't it neat how the Gospel message is timeless? I hope that you enjoy it:

(CONTINUED)

“The Church is full of Hypocrites”

The cynic complains to the Pastor, "The Church is full of Hypocrites!" The Pastor responds, "Yes, and there's always room for one more!"

The Church is constantly being accused of hypocrisy, but does she ever deny it? No. Why would she? Think about the meaning of the word "hypocrite". It refers to someone who says one thing and acts differently. In one sense all Christians are hypocrites: we claim that we should act lovingly all the time, but we don't. That's hypocrisy.

In another sense, Christians aren't hypocrites. We admit we are sinners. We confess that even though we know what's perfect, right and good, we don't live up to the standard. Instead we're constantly messing up. That's honesty, not hypocrisy.

Yet isn't everyone in some sense a hypocrite? Acting contrary to what he or she believes is right? The Christian is no different. The difference is that the Christian admits his condition, and his need for a Savior.

The Church is a hospital for sick people, in which each of us is the sickest! It is the place where God heals us as individuals and as a community. The place where he forgives our hypocrisy. Jesus says that he came "not for the righteous but for the sinner"; not for the healthy, but for the sick; not for the person who is morally perfect, but for the one who isn't. Yet he also says, "no-one is righteous". No one is perfect. Not one person is acceptable in God's sight: He is holy; we are not. That's why we all need a Savior.

That Savior is Jesus Christ. He is the only perfect one. He is the Holy One. And he shares that holiness with us hypocrites and sinners. In baptism, Jesus has made us holy, and looks past our hypocrisy--not excusing it, but forgiving it. Because of Christ's blood shed on the cross, God not only accepts us hypocrites, but also happily welcomes us into his holy presence. When we go to Church, we enter God's hospital where He heals us. When we don't go to Church we deprive ourselves of that medicine and eventually die. This is why the early Christians and even Luther and the reformers had Holy Communion every week. They saw the need to receive this medicine not just a few times a year, or once a month, but every week (read John 6 v.53 and following). Those that don't think they need the Lord's Supper frequently or don't think that they need to go to Church, don't realize the extent of their spiritual illness. God was made flesh (John 1), medicine for the soul, and we receive His flesh in the Sacrament of the Altar at Church. Jesus offers us His body and blood freely in order to doctor our souls. Come to Church and come to the altar to receive this Good News. For Jesus invites you to His home to forgive you all your sins, and strengthen you for living your faith and a life in new obedience to his holy word in a world full of sick sinners and hypocrites who need the healing Gospel medicine of immortality as much as you and I do. And he uses you and me to bring it to them, by inviting them to worship, Bible Study, Sunday School or youth activities, to name a few.

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Wow! Isn't it amazing that the Holy Spirit uses us to bring others into our church community?

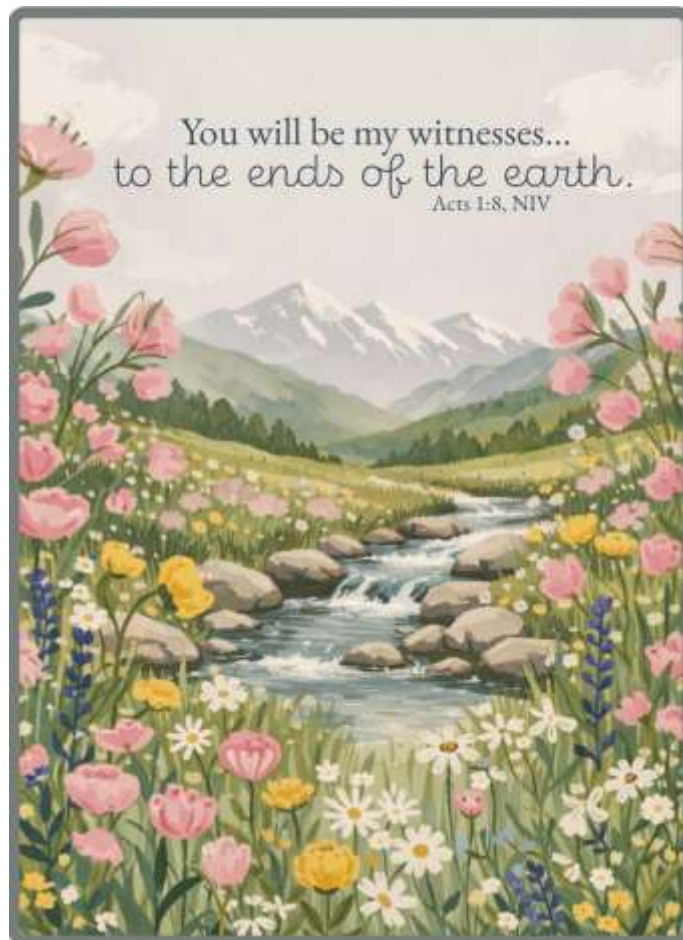
The church has always been filled with hypocrites, in as much as a hospital is filled with the ill. And there is still lots more room for many other sinners, for whom Christ shed his precious blood on the cross.

Smiths Grove Site Outreach

Our schedule looks like this: Saturday at 4 PM is Bible study time, followed by worship at 5 PM. If you can be with us, we would be happy to welcome you. Get to know some of your brothers and sisters in Christ in a new setting!

Please continue your prayers that this outreach would provide more open doors for the Gospel and that the Spirit will lead many to worship the risen Savior. If you know someone who is living in or around Smiths Grove, let us know so that we can contact them. Here is a church home where people get to know one another and grow in service to the Lord Jesus!

Pastor Ristau



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The Church & School Offices will be **CLOSED**
Monday, September 7
for **Labor Day**

If you have a pastoral need please contact Pastor Ristau at (307) 301-9040 or harold.ristau@htlc-bg.org.

The church secretary, Elizabeth, will be on vacation Friday, September 4 – Sunday, September 13. Pam Schmaltz will be here Friday September 4 and Tuesday September 8 – Friday, September 11 to greet visitors, answer phones, take messages, and respond to prayer chain requests. Pam will be here during normal office hours, 8:00am-3:30pm, except for Tuesday, September 8 when she has to leave early and Thursday, September 10 when she won't be here until after lunch. Elizabeth will respond to other emails and voicemails on Monday, September 14.



A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL MINISTRY

Rooted in Christ!

The theme for Lutheran Schools around the world this year is *Rooted in Christ* based on Colossians 2:6-7.

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

There are 1,855 Lutheran schools serving more than 160,000 students taught by 21,000 educators. Lutheran schools serve children in early childhood programs through high school in 1,900 schools nationwide and 3 schools internationally. There are also 9 colleges and universities that operate to serve post secondary and graduate students.

Holy Trinity Lutheran School is a part of a worldwide community that prioritizes Christian education. Excellence, innovation, and sharing the love of Christ are common characteristics of Lutheran schools everywhere. This year HTLS is serving 181 students ages 2 - 12 from 125 families. We are blessed to be able to teach them the importance of being rooted in Christ, rooted in Scripture, and rooted in their faith. Thank you for supporting this outreach to children and families.

*Rooted,
Bill Hiskey*



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Harold Ristau	harold.ristau@htlc-bq.org

The Board of Directors, in an effort to improve communication in the church, has decided to put a copy of their monthly minutes in each newsletter. Below are the minutes from meeting on July 21, 2026. A few paper copies of just the minutes will also be provided in the portico on the welcome center. The minutes from the August, 18, 2026 meeting have not been approved and will be included in the October newsletter.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: Tuesday, July 21, 2026, 6:30pm

Opening Prayer

Attendance Board Members: David J., Jackson, Jim, David H., Mary

Non-Board Members: Al Seavey, Bill Hiskey

Agenda:

Approve this meeting agenda: approved

Minutes from previous meeting: previously approved via email

Ministry Reports

Property Ministry (Al Seavey) See property section of newsletter

Lutheran School Ministry (Bill Hiskey)

- Discussed placing boulders between road and playground and bollards at doors to prevent accidental vehicle entry
- Jackson Cain has rocks available and will place them, and also place new playground mulch. No action to be taken on bollards at this time.
- Based on billing review and payment practices, we have been paying late fees for Sam's Club purchases (mostly school lunch supplies). BoD voted to set up Sam's Club bills for auto pay to eliminate late fees. Review and approval practice will remain unchanged; Elizabeth will just not have to write checks and get them signed. If a problem occurs, it will be dealt with post payment.

Youth Ministry (Sheryl Morris) See Children's/Youth section of newsletter

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MINISTRY TEAM UPDATES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Security and Safety Team (Nelson Feliciano) no report

Technology Ministry (Mike Bryant) no report

Outreach Ministry (Carol White and Pam Schmaltz) (email report; unable to be located)

Servant (Assimilation) and Fellowship Ministry (Bonnie Borth and Jackie Blindauer) (see newsletter sections of servant ministry team and fellowship ministry team for reports)

Parish Report (Rev. Ristau) paper report as Pastor is on vacation

Ministry reports concluded, Bill and Al left meeting.

Old Business:

- 65th Anniversary Celebration planned for October 18
 - Anyone have addresses for Mrs. Rebecca Duport and Rev. James Bettermann?
- Moving expense reimbursement. To be consisted it should hold for Pastor Ristau and new associate pastor. District recommendation is to reimburse actual expenses. Board adopted policy of paying moving expenses as reimbursement of actual expenses.
- Call process update – Next step is for district to send us list of names for us to consider
- Sound system for hearing impaired updated. Jackson still has not found anyone willing to provide demonstration. No report on any contributions to purchase system, so project on hold.

New Business:

- Approve Associate Pastor job description. Board approved job description as our input to district. Dave H. will send to district tomorrow (7/22).
- Review Concordia Plan. Concordia Plan booklets passed out to BoD members. We need to research where we are today, where we want to go, and how that cost compares to budget. Plant to vote on 2027 plan next BoD meeting. Deadline for changes is September 18.
- Continuation of Al Seavey's paid position. Board discussed Al's performance, particularly the church renovation. Voted to continue Al's paid position as budgeted. Future continuation will be part of each year's budget process. Dave H. will talk to Al to ensure he is also happy with current arrangement.

Motion to Adjourn:

Closing Prayer: Lord's Prayer

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 18, 2026, 6:30pm

Submitted by David Hoffman in Katie Fritz's absence.



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MINISTRY TEAM UPDATES

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On March 14, 2023 the Board designated/recognized the following Ministry Teams of HTLC.

MINISTRY TEAMS 2026-2027

Holy Trinity Youth

Ignite Ages 2 through 5th grade Sheryl Morris
Ablaze Ages 6th through 12th grade Sheryl Morris

Lutheran School Elders

Choir Beth Markel
Nursing Home Irene Garrett – Glasgow
Altar Guild Harlan & Judy Klankowski
Compassionate Care Kimberly Parsley

Education

Men's Bible study Dick Stirn
Women's Bible study Pastor Press
Confirmation Pastor Ristau
Sunday Bible Class Pastor Ristau

Fellowship

Jackie Blindauer & Nancy Melke

Finance

Open

Technology

Mike Bryant

Property

Al Seavey

Outreach Ministry

Holy Trinity Carol White & Pam Schmaltz
Smiths Grove Pastor Ristau
Mara Evangelical church Nelson Feliciano

Servant Groups

Jackie Blindauer & Bonnie Borth

CALL COMMITTEE

As you know, we are in the process of calling an Associate Pastor. Here is the list of members serving on the Call Committee:

**Geneva Bentley
Jackson Cain
Jim Davenport**

**Katie Fritz
Marly Hiatt
David Hoffman**

**Pastor Ristau
Ayden Witherspoon
Corey Zirbel**

Right now, we are waiting for the district to send us back a list of candidates. Please support the committee with your prayers.

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MINISTRY TEAM UPDATES

CHILDREN'S/YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

Ministry Team Leader: Sheryl Morris

Ignite Sunday School is a combined multi-age class for PreK through 5th grade that meets in the Ignite room (012) each Sunday at approximately 9:30am. We hope you can join us! Classes for the 2026-2027 year begin August 9.

Ablaze is a place where students in grades 6th-8th can engage in deep conversations and grow in their relationship with God. Join us on Sundays at approximately 9:30am in EO-201 upstairs. Classes for the 2026-2027 year begin August 9.

Students in 9th-12th grades are joining the Adult Bible study in the Fellowship Hall.

IMPORTANT NEWS:

This information is from the July Board meeting minutes. There was some more information provided in the report to the Board but that information was already in the August newsletter.

1. **CURRICULUM:** Through Pastor's approval, we have selected/purchased the curriculum for youth Sunday School classes (Ignite and Ablaze). Ablaze Sunday School curriculum will start following the One-Year Lectionary with the start of the new church year (the beginning of Advent). Ignite Sunday School has already purchased curriculum for the 26-27 year. The goal is to start the one-year lectionary Sunday School curriculum with the 2027 church calendar (beginning with Advent).

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Ministry Team Leaders: Jackie Blindauer & Nancy Melke

Event #1 for October



**Friday, October 2 – play at 7:30pm
Adams, TN bound**

**Leave at 5:30pm from church or
Jackie Blindauer's (307 Turnstone Way/Franklin, KY)**

We are heading to see a musical as our first great event in October. This musical sheds light on the corporate greed that turned farmer against farmer, brother against brother. It is the story of the calm farming communities of The Black Patch and the history of the Tobacco Wars. It will propel you with the bluegrass score into the lives of one farming family and the impossible decision that plowed a deep and lasting wound on The Black Patch forever.

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FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Supper is on your own before or you can check out the food vendors when we arrive plus partake in other activities to include demonstrations and educational displays. We will leave at 5:30pm to get there with plenty of time to enjoy the atmosphere.

The event is at Kay Bagby Theater (7617 US 41/Adams, TN). Please dress for the weather. It is an open air theater with a roof but still outside. The price is \$32.64. Pay Heather Rathert by cash, VENMO, or check when you sign up. Sign up on Sunday, September 6 or Sunday, September 13 so tickets can be purchased as a group ahead of time.

Event #2 for October



**Sunday, October 18
4:00pm Service
Followed by Dinner**

We are so excited that soon we can celebrate as a church family the 65 years that HTLC has been in existence. A special service will be at 4:00pm on Sunday, October 18 where one of our own members from the past will be preaching. Along with special music and a time to reflect.

The meal will follow the service and you will be able to sign up in the Narthex Sunday, September 20 and Sunday, September 27. The food is being catered so we need a head count, plus you will be assigned a table so we use all the seats for this big event. Come enjoy baked ham, marinated chicken, scalloped potatoes, country style green beans, salad, yeast rolls, and beverages. Along with delicious homemade desserts that YOU will be able to sign up for if you so choose. We do ask that desserts be cut ahead of time and ready to go.

There will be a history area that you can check out on October 18, either in the morning or until the end of the event. We are looking for any items that could be shared for this area. Please label them and bring them to the gym on Saturday, October between 10:00am and 12:00pm.

This is a church family event and we want all to come. There is no mandatory cost; however if you would like to help defray the expenses, it is \$20.00 per plate and donations are welcome in any amount. Please write the check to HTLC and in the memo line specify 65th anniversary dinner and get it to Jackie Blindauer by Sunday, September 27. Any questions, see Jackie or call 920-207-9185.

UPCOMING EVENT: Veteran's Dinner, Sunday, November 8 at 4:00pm

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MINISTRY TEAM UPDATES

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

From the July Board meeting minutes, Fellowship portion:

- Previous event (as of July 15) – Bowling was fun for all who attended; a smaller crowd, but we like to make sure we have a variety of events for our congregation.
- Events coming up – The July event will be on the 18th with 37 people signed up to go to Peter and Cindy Brandt's house. We thank them immensely for hostessing this event. The Dulcimer group is returning to entertain us. August 30 we look forward to the Food Fusion Feast. Still working on September. November – Veteran's Dinner.
- 65th Anniversary – looking for addresses for Steve and Bonnie Hansen, Mrs. Rebecca Duport, and Rev. James Bettermann
- Dry fit shirts will be available come August. They look real nice and are a great way to promote our church.
- Meeting held July 7; for full minutes, reach out to Jackie Blindauer.



FINANCIAL MINISTRY TEAM

Committee Leader: Open

June Giving to the General Fund:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
6/7	\$ 9,430
6/14	\$21,727
6/21	\$15,732
6/28	\$ 8,046
Total	\$54,935
	(\$13,733 per week)

Fiscal Year to Date (6/30/2026)

Actual Giving: \$646,071
Fiscal Year Budget: \$730,580

Weekly Average: \$12,424
Budgeted Weekly: \$14,050

Account Balances:

Special Projects Money Market: \$66,912
Operating Account: \$109,200

(CONTINUED)

MINISTRY TEAM UPDATES**FINANCIAL MINISTRY TEAM****July Giving to the General Fund:**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
7/5	\$ 9,186
7/12	\$11,722
7/19	\$13,394
7/26	<u>\$11,636</u>
Total	\$45,938

Fiscal Year to Date (7/31/2026)

Actual Giving: \$45,938

Fiscal Year Budget: \$778,370

Weekly Average:

\$11,484

Budgeted Weekly:

\$14,970

Account Balances:

Special Projects Money Market: \$67,185

Operating Account: \$65,022

We received \$250.00 for a Hearing Assist Device.

Are we still actively seeking funds for this project?

If so, what is the target goal and completion date?

David King
HTLC Financial Secretary

LUTHERAN SCHOOL MINISTRY TEAM

Team Leader: Todd Otto

**Enrollment for the 2026-2027 School Year is OPEN!**

Contact the School Office at 270-843-1001 if you are interested in enrolling a child(ren) or want to give information to a friend.

REMEMBER: For families that are members of HTLC – we will continue to offer the 25% discount in tuition for students (Grades K-6) enrolled full time.

CHAPEL OFFERINGS in September will go towards HOTEL Inc.

HTLS CLOSED for Labor Day, Monday, September 7.The Spirit Day for September is Friday, September 11, Patriots Day – Students may wear red, white, and blue.

(CONTINUED)

LUTHERAN SCHOOL MINISTRY TEAM

FUNDRAISING EVENT on Tuesday, September 22 at Blaze Pizza (2825 Scottsville Rd) Hours to be announced in future bulletins.

UPCOMING: Fall Break is scheduled for Monday, October 5 – Friday, October 9.

2026-2027 HTLS STAFF MEMBERS

Administration

Harold Ristau – Senior Pastor
Bill Hiskey – Director of School Ministry
Heather Carroll – Preschool Director
Jennifer Whittamore – Office Manager (school)

Administrative Assistants

Elizabeth Nehm – Church
Desiree Trudy – Admissions

Teachers

Beth Markel – 6th Grade
Ed Bolman – 5th Grade
Kachina Lopez – 4th Grade
Hannah Vanderpool – 3rd Grade
Felicia Brumfield – 2nd Grade
Melissa Mitchell – 1st Grade
Marty King – Kindergarten
Kirsten Smith – P4 Gold
Lorraine Hall – P4 Blue
Lindsey Walden – P3/P4
Bronda Brown – P3
Nina Vratana – P2
Allison Perea – P1

Classroom Aides

1/2 - Lynsey Rodriguez
Kindergarten – Katherine Moore
P4 Gold – Cing Zam
P4 Blue – Lynsey Kujawa
P3/4 – Anu Khithie
P3 – Jade Owen
P2 – Stephanie Tunk

Preschool Floaters

1) Chetna Bhatnagar
2) Stacey Davenport
3) Lilly Garr
4) Taylor Parson

Enrichment Staff

1) Cara Bedo – Library
2) Pam Thurman – Music
3) Katherine Moore – Art
4) Lynsey Rodriguez – Spanish
5) Brianna Bierbaum – PE
6) Amanda Brooks – STEM

Kitchen Staff

Stalena West
Vangopaw Khithie

Extended Care

1) Sarah Fuller
2) Sarah Graham
3) Alexis Miller
4) Chloe Packard
5) Katie Phelps
6) Makayla Potter
7) Ainsley Stobaugh

Technology Support

Ben Bedo

PTO Chair

Madison Via

Custodial Staff

Norman & Karrita Pippin

K-6 Substitutes

1) Dianne Wade
2) Bart White

Preschool Substitute

1) Jackie Blindauer

Library Volunteers

Laura Shulters

(CONTINUED)

MINISTRY TEAM UPDATES



PROPERTY MINISTRY TEAM

Team Leader: Al Seavey

- All asbestos is now gone; no more periodic inspections and reports. However, the school needs to keep asbestos and removal records forever. Sign to be posted in office and school entrance that the building is asbestos free.
- Church renovation project is nearly complete. Small items like finishing the floor at the new playground door and around HVAC vents in Sanctuary need to be completed. Painting contractor will touch up any dings made during moving back in.
- Renovation budget was \$65k. Actual cost was \$76k, with the school paying for the asbestos removal (\$17k) for a total cost to the church of \$59k.



SERVANT GROUPS MINISTRY TEAM

Team Leaders: Bonnie Borth & Jackie Blindauer

From the July Board of Directors meeting minutes

- The group met on July 12 to review how to reach out to members of the congregation. These groups were formed so the whole family of HTLC can get involved when it comes to Advent, Lent, and funerals. New members were added and will be contacted.
- We thank all our leaders of a group: Janese Cleary and Desiree Trudy; Bonnie Borth and Steve Brooks; Heather Rathert and Deb Hiatt; Jean Nehm and Jackie Blindauer; and Mary Brentlinger and Jackie White.
- On July 16, Group 3 will serve the funeral of Shirley Nelson.

WISDOM BEYOND THE GAME

Basketball coach Phil Jackson, the son of a pastor, became well known not only for winning championships but also for encouraging his players to grow off the court. An avid reader, Jackson often assigned books to players that he believed would challenge and inspire them both personally and professionally.

Over the years, his teams won multiple NBA championships under his unique leadership style. Yet even great coaches have difficult seasons. During one struggling year, former NBA star Charles Barkley jokingly remarked about Jackson's reading assignments, "He needs to give that team a Bible. Only God can help them."

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE



1. **JOIN NATIONAL LWML!** Ladies of HTLC, you are invited to be a part of Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML). Once a year, a membership contribution of \$20.00 is requested to participate and promote LWML. This contribution is for National LWML, Paducah Zone LWML, and for the magazine, "Lutheran Woman's Quarterly."

A check for \$20.00 **payable to HTLC-LWML** can be given to Claudine Stirn (treasurer) in person, by mail (534 Calumet Ct/BG/42104) or into her mail slot at church. The deadline to receive this is Wednesday, September 30.

As always, thank you to everyone who donates to LWML's missions on Mite Box Sundays (most recent August 30), with the last one for 2026 in two months on November 29.



LWML PADUCAH ZONE FALL RALLY

"We walk by faith, not by sight" 2 Corinthians 5:7 (Apostle Paul). This is the theme for this year's LWML Paducah Zone Fall Rally, which Holy Trinity is hosting this year. The rally is Saturday, September 26 from 9:30am-2:30pm and will include a continental breakfast and lunch. Rev. Ristau and Nelson Feliciano will be speaking at the rally. Registration is \$10.00 per person (to help offset the cost to the hosting congregation). RSVP group numbers to Marsha Holm (phone: 407-579-3860; email: mholm0531@gmail.com).



What do you do with your Portals of Prayer after you have finished using them? We would like to extend their use by recycling them.

The Salvation Army will happily take all of these that we bring to them. Please bring them to church and deposit them in the box in the Narthex marked for Portals of Prayer Recycle.



REMEMBER TO PRAY:

- For our members who are going to college whether here in town or in another town/state
- For the students attending WKU that will attend HTLC while here in Bowling Green



Friday, September 11



BIBLE STUDIES

1. The regular Tuesday morning men's Bible study will begin September 8 at 9:30am in the conference room. We will be continuing our topic, "Prepared with a Reason." Please contact Dick Stirn (270-793-9991) if you have any questions.

2. The regular Tuesday morning women's Bible study will begin September 15 at 9:30-10:45am in EO-110 (the old OWLS room). The topic is "God Blesses Through Trials." Trouble and trials come to all people, Christians included. We may wrestle with how to respond when we face difficult situations. Questions arise. Does God not love me anymore? Why does He allow such things to happen? Why do the righteous suffer – and the wicked often seem to get off scot-free? During the fall women's Bible class, Pastor Press will guide in working through some of the experiences of God's people from Scripture so that we see how His Word continues to strengthen and encourage us through all challenges. **If you plan to attend, please contact Pastor Press** (651-788-6940; press@csp.edu). The deadline to register for materials to be available is Monday, August 31.

3. We have a new adult Bible study that is meeting every other Tuesday night for the next few weeks. The first class is Tuesday, September 1 at 6:00pm in EO-201 (the youth room). Those interested in exploring Lutheran theology at a deeper level are welcome to join the bimonthly classes offered through the Lutheran Institute of Theology program (<https://lutheraninstitute.org>). Be prepared for edifying conversations and enriching discussions. Point of contact is Aaron Witherspoon (270-438-9029).



FAITH NIGHT

We have a variety of activities planned each Wednesday evening.

FAITH Night will continue through November 18.

5:15pm

Sanctuary Praise Choir

Led by Beth Markel

6:00

Jr. Confirmation (CR)

Led by Pastor Ristau

6:30pm

Adult Bible Study (EO-110)

Led by Pastor Toopes

Theme: The Book of Romans

7:00pm

Fuel & Friends (EO-201)

Food, drinks, and fellowship for older youth

Led by Nicholas & Bethany Boeneke



AUDIO-VISUAL
---team---

We are looking for people familiar with **PowerPoint** software to assist with providing PowerPoint presentations for the screens in the sanctuary on Sundays. This would be someone to serve as back up, to cover when other volunteers are on vacation, or during weeks like Lent and Advent when there are multiple services.

Please prayerfully consider assisting this important ministry! Please contact the church office or Beth Markel if you are willing to assist.

A worthy CAUSE

The Ichthys Foundation is having a fundraiser night at Blaze Pizza (2825 Scottsville Rd/BG on Saturday, September 5). The online code for the fundraiser is FUNDA.



The new quarter of **Portals of Prayer** are in the narthex on the table by the bulletin boards.

NOTE: We order a certain amount of devotionals. If you want a copy and there aren't any available, please contact the church office at 843-9595.



We would like to invite you to visit our blog <http://lcmsmidsouthdistrictmissions.blogspot.com>

We pray that our blog would be another way for members of the Mid-South District to view, learn, and celebrate God's worldwide mission of bringing the message of Jesus Christ to all people. We also pray that individuals from the congregation who went on mission trips this year will write up a post for the blog. Take a second to check out the posts on the blog. We would love to hear what you think, so be sure to let us know.

Men's Retreat

We invite all men to participate in the Men's Retreat on Friday, October 2 – Sunday, October 4 at Camp Arcadia in Arcadia, Michigan (www.camp_arcadia.com). We will have an opportunity to hear, meet, and talk with Chad Foster, a LCMS Pastor, as the speaker for this event. The main event (October 2-4) costs \$289.00 for room and board and it's \$75.00 for an extra evening on October 1. The website to register is www.camp-Arcadia.com/register or you can call Rachel at 231-889-4361. Please contact Bill Parsons if you have other general questions at 231-944-6150 or David Jurgens if you have questions about transportation at 270-256-2260.



The Veteran's Dinner this year is Sunday, November 8 at 4:00pm. If you are planning on attending, we are asking for your help. The Veteran's Dinner is in honor of all our military. We are asking for pictures of the military members in your family to share with those who attend the dinner. Please send copies of your pictures to Aaron Britton via email to aj22britt@gmail.com. If you have any questions, please call Nancy Melke at 305-781-5782.

Faith and works are like the light and heat of a candle; they cannot be separated.

—Joseph Beaumont



True Royal men's shirt



Women's Polo



Softshell Jacket

TIME TO ORDER: HTLC Polos &/or jackets! Get your orders in for these nice apparel items now! All polos are moisture-wicking; jackets are full-zip, fleece-lined, water repellant, and wind resistant. Prices are as follows:

- **Polos: \$31.25 each/tall \$33.10 each** (sizes XS – 4XL)
- **Jackets: \$46.25 each/tall** (navy not royal) **\$49.85** (sizes XS – 4XL)
- **Youth polos: \$23.30 each** (sizes 4 – 18/20)

The timeline for prepaid order is as follows:

- **Now through September 20 – webstore open to pay with credit card**

https://cspcampaigns.com/holy_trinity_lutheran_store/shop/home

- **Now through September 13 - prepaid orders by cash or check**
- **Sunday, October, 18 – delivered/available for pick-up**, either at morning services or afternoon anniversary dinner

Please contact Diane Thorpe with any questions (419-277-3435).





FAMILY WORKSHOP

The Mid-South District invites you to join Family Ministry leaders and lay people from across our region for a day of practical teaching, discussion, and encouragement as we equip our homes and congregations to disciple the next generation. The District's Family Ministry Workshop will take place Saturday, September 26, 8:30am-4:00pm at Hope Lutheran Church in Jacksonville, AR (1904 McArthur Dr). This free educational event will feature two dynamic presenters:

- Mr. Larry Yochum – Associate Director of Coaching and Implementation, Concordia Center for the Family
- Rev. Andy Becker – Director of Family Ministry, Office of National Mission

Lunch will be provided for this full day of informative talks and engaging discussion. Please help us plan for this event by registering to attend at:

<https://midsouthdistrictlcms.regfox.com/family-min-wkshp-jacksonville2026>.



A new video series about Creation is being held at Chaney's Dairy Barn (9191 Nashville Rd/BG). The series will begin Thursday, September 10 and continue through Thursday, November 19. All sessions start at 6:00pm. Sessions don't build on one another. It isn't necessary for people to attend them all. Chaney's is a great place to spend an evening of food, fun, and faction information presented by PhD scientists in segments from the *Beyond Is Genesis History* series. For more information go to <https://genuinegenesis.net> or email dankentucky@gmail.com.



GATES OF GAZA III

The Gates of Gaza is a competitive event of weightlifting, a celebratory event of strength, a teaching event on Biblical masculinity, and an inspirational event for men to fulfill their callings in church, home, and society. It is for men and boys (10 and up). This year's event takes place Friday, October 23 and Saturday, October 24 at St. Paul Lutheran Church (211 S. 21st St/Paducah, KY). In addition to the competition Saturday morning, there will also be matins and vespers services on Friday evening and Saturday morning. In order to register, please email Benjamin.kirchner@gmail.com or pastorappold@stpaulpaducah.org with names of all participants, ages of all participants, t-shirt sizes of participants, which days you plan to attend, and any travel needs (we can help arrange housing). Please reach out with any questions you may have.



Faith Lutheran Church in Dunedin, FL (1620 Pinehurst Rd) is hosting "In the World, but Not of the World," a conference for Lutheran young adults (ages 18-35) on January 15-27, 2027. Conference attendees will hear from several pastors about living in the world, but not of the world, with special emphasis on Luther's three estates. They will enjoy opportunities for worship, fellowship, and theology with like-minded Christians. Anyone who registers by Sunday, November 1 will receive an early bird discount. For more information and to register, go to <https://faithdunedin.regfox.com/in-the-world-but-not-of-the-world>.



HTLC is happy to support a bimonthly Memento support group for single and married men 18 and above who wish to sharpen their spiritual toolbox as they strive to live marked by clarity, strength, and purpose. Point of contact is Corey Zirbel (515-890-1610).



THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Help support what matters most to you by directing Choice Dollars

- Designated Choice Dollars are based on qualifying insurance premiums, qualifying contract values and Thrivent Financial volunteer leadership.
- Choice Dollars can be directed to thousands of Lutheran organizations Nationwide, including our congregation and school, by visiting Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or by calling 1-800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and saying 'Thrivent Choice'.

Potential amounts range from \$25 to \$500 for each eligible benefit member. If you have any questions or have difficulty directing your Choice Dollars, you can contact your local Thrivent Financial representative, Tammy Brown at 615-681-0265 or tammy.brown@thrivent.com



HTLC member, Kay Murphy, helps with training **Service Dogs for autistic children**. She will occasionally have these dogs in church so they learn how to behave in different situations. If you have any questions or know of a child that could benefit from a service dog please talk with Kay.



Sunday, September 13

The school will celebrate this day on Friday, September 18 by allowing grandparents to come and spend the day with their grandchildren, tour the school, see the classrooms, and have lunch with the students. The annual Scholastic Book Fair will also be held this day.



CHRISTIAN SYMBOL

BREAD — One of the oldest and most familiar foods, bread carries deep meaning throughout Scripture. In the Old Testament, God provided manna, or "bread from heaven," to sustain His people in the wilderness. In the New Testament, Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life" (John 6:35), pointing to himself as the true source of spiritual nourishment. Bread also holds a central place in the Lord's Supper, where it represents Christ's body, given for us. Simple and sustaining, bread has become a lasting symbol of God's provision, Christ's presence, and the shared fellowship of believers.



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church & School are on the Internet.

Our websites are continually updated.
The addresses are:

Web Site Addresses

Church

www.htlc-bgky.com

School

www.HTLSBG.com

There are links on these sites to e-mail Pastor Ristau and Bill Hiskey.



The church services are being “**live streamed**” now. If you are homebound or away from town you can “join worship” from your computer via our Facebook page.

Our e-mail addresses are as follows:

Church e-mail address

church.admin@htlc-bg.org

School e-mail address

school.admin@htlc-bg.org

NOTE: Addresses are case sensitive and there are no spaces in the addresses.



Please be in prayer for these members/family members of Holy Trinity that are in the military. Their addresses are listed below so that you can send them a letter whenever you want to.

Caleb Goad, son of Dana Johnson, is in the Navy Military Police. Caleb is now deployed in Greece and is using Dana's address at this time for all mail.

Goad, Caleb A.
c/o Dana Johnson
527 Henson Road
Bowling Green, KY 42104

Jackson Heinze, son of John Heinze, is serving in the Air Force and is deploying to Africa March – October 2024. All correspondence to John's address at this time.

AB Heinze, Jackson, E.
c/o John Heinze
2170 Greenhill Street
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Jonathan Heinze, son of John Heinze, is serving in the Air Force.

Sgt. Jonathan Heinze

Jordan Heinze, son of John Heinze, is also serving in the Air Force.

Airman Jordan Heinze
17464 E. Keystone Circle S Unit #B
Aurora, CO 80017
(CONTINUED)

Alex Joseph Madison, grandson of Mike & Pam Case, is now a Corpsman in the Navy. He is stationed in San Antonio, TX.



OUR MEMBERS IN LONG-TERM NURSING CARE...Joan Thomason



IN A MEDICAL FACILITY LAST MONTH WERE...Janese Cleary, Don Merkle, Shane Simpson, and Marilyn Titschinger.

We pray the Great Physician will continue to bring them healing and strength.

NOTE: Contact Pastor Ristau if you have questions about any of these members.



OUR MEMBERS THAT ARE HOMEBOUND...

Greg Bergmann, Charles James, Irma Lamm, Don & Donna Ludwig, and Del Wolff



We had several new members join in the month of August.

Chuck Kramp joined on Saturday, August 8 by Affirmation of Faith.

Lane and Lynsey Bartley joined on Sunday, August 23 by transfer. Lane transferred from Our Savior Lutheran Church in Carbondale, IL. Lynsey transferred from Trinity St. John Lutheran Church in Nashville, IL.



The life of the nation is secure only while the nation is honest, truthful and virtuous.

—Frederick Douglass



Births in the Church Family

CONGRATULATIONS!

Whitney and Ben King had a healthy baby boy, **Oscar Gabriel King**, on Wednesday, August 5. The proud grandparents are Marty and David King.

Jeffrey and Victoria Heinze had a healthy baby boy, **Silas David Heinze**, on Wednesday, August 19. Silas has a big sister, Lena Heinze. The proud grandfather is John Heinze.

May God richly bless these miracles of new life.



WE EXPRESS OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES to the family of:

Laurie Seavey in the death of her aunt, Carol Seisser. Carol died on Wednesday, August 12, at 85 years of age. Funeral services were held in Genoa, IL.

We commend Laurie & Al Seavey and Sue Woods to the comfort and compassion of our Loving and Living Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE FOR PATRIOTS DAY

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter through every storm, and our eternal home:

We come before You remembering the lives lost on September 11, 2001. Though many years have passed, the sorrow of that day still lingers in the hearts of families, friends and a grieving nation.

Lord, comfort those who continue to carry loss. Grant peace to the brokenhearted, strength to the weary and light to those walking through seasons of grief. Let Your presence bring hope where memories still ache.

Teach us to care for one another with compassion and courage. Help us to be a people who offer kindness to the hurting, encouragement to the discouraged and justice to those who suffer. Stir our hearts to live with mercy, humility and love for our neighbors.

Forgive us when our words are greater than our actions. May we strive each day to reflect the values of faith, unity and grace that honor You and strengthen our communities.

Thank You, Lord, for Your constant care and unfailing mercy. Even in tragedy, You remain our refuge and our hope.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.





GREETERS FOR SEPTEMBER
 (First person/couple – 8:00 service
 Second person/couple – 10:30 service)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
6	ROBERT, BRITTANY, & ASHLEY HENSON LYNN & CAROLE CLARK
13	PETER & CINDY BRANDT GENEVA BENTLEY
20	MARLY & DEB HIAT KEVIN & PAM SCHMALTZ
27	JEFF & HILARY EVERSOLL DAN & JACKIE BLINDAUER



READERS FOR SEPTEMBER
 (10:30 service only)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
6	PAM SCHMALTZ
13	HEATHER RATHERT
20	STEVE BROOKS
27	SHERYL MORRIS



ACOLYTES FOR SEPTEMBER
 (First person(s) - 8:00 service
 Second person(s) - 10:30 service)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
6	MATTHIAS RISTAU CHARLOTTE FRITZ
13	LUKE RISTAU VERA FRITZ
20	MATTHIAS RISTAU ELLIE HISKEY
27	LUKE RISTAU AUGUST MERKLE

The Deadline to have
 Articles into the Office
 for the October Newsletter
 is **Tuesday, September 15.**





ALTAR GUILD FOR SEPTEMBER

8:00 A.M.	PATTI STUCKWISCH
10:30 A.M.	HEATHER RATHERT MARSHA HOLM



COMMUNION ASSISTANTS FOR SEPTEMBER

8:00 A.M.	AARON WITHERSPOON MARCUS RISTAU
10:30 A.M.	AARON WITHERSPOON STEVE BROOKS

USHER WHO SENDS COMMUNICANTS FOR SEPTEMBER

8:00 A.M.	COREY ZIRBEL PETER BRANDT
10:30 A.M.	TIM RATHERT JASON OWENS

When a man is wrapped up in himself, he makes a very small package.

—John Ruskin



USHERS IN SEPTEMBER

8:00 A.M.	BOB OTTO HARLAN KLANKOWSKI MIKE HARTWEIN CHARLIE STUCKWISH
10:30 A.M.	RON CRITTENDEN NICK BOENEKE RALPH STEWART NATHAN HEYUNGS



AUDIO-VISUAL ---team---

AUDIO/VISUAL FOR SEPTEMBER (First person - 8:00 service Second person - 10:30 service)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
6	MICHAEL MOORE AUGUST MERKLE
13	MICHAEL MOORE VERA FRITZ
20	MICHAEL HARTWEIN SYDNEY DAVENPORT
27	MICHAEL MOORE ELLIE HISKEY



2 Steven E. Tarrence
Adam A. Maulden
6 Elizabeth D. Britton
7 Carol C. White
Kevin S. Schmaltz
9 David G. Jurgens
Katherine H. Maulden
Keegan Unick
10 Veronica M. Loggins
11 Martha A. Lawrentz
12 Darrell R. Burns
13 Katie P. Fritz
14 Timothy L. Rathert
15 Jodi K. Praxl
Catherine C. Towe
Taliyah Byrd

18 Jay T. Davis
19 Shirley R. Moore
Jeffrey D. Owens
Noah R. Burns
20 Christopher M. Veith
21 Laurie J. Jurgens
Michael D. Bryant
22 Mckenzie L. Matthews
23 Ron Crittenden
Tage Haase
Sonya E. Owens
26 Frank Kutschenreuter
27 Ronald W. Belek
Alexander M. Ulm
29 Geneva Bentley
Steven G. Adams
Diane Thorpe
Bailey M. Wold
Raelyn Simpson
30 Wolfgang W. Goad



1 Richard & Nancy Melke (42nd)
4 Martin & Sharon Hahn (21st)
5 Bill & Kathleen Parsons (62nd)
Jim & Sheryl Morris (45th)
Steven & Melissa Albert (17th)

12 Lynn & Carole Clark (67th)
14 Markus & Neisha Schadwill (2nd)
15 Bruce & Bonnie Borth (47th)
20 Jim & Jessica Davenport (23rd)
27 Tim & Heather Rathert (12th)
27 Kyle Loftus & Maya Dobelstein (1st)