

**Lebanon
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church**

*A Congregation of the North/West
Lower Michigan Synod, of the ELCA
Craig Satterlee, Bishop
Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop*

**1101 S. Mears Avenue
Whitehall, MI 49461
(231) 893-5745**

Rev. Douglas M. Ogden

**Sunday Morning Worship
10:15 am in person
YouTube Worship on the Web**

Office Hours
Please contact the church office for
current hours

Bulletin Announcements
Margaret Everling

Newsletter Editor
Meg Eaton

Church Council
Cheri Crouch Dave Dusenberry
Laura Hollister Wietse Schaafsma
Sarah Schmalz Amy Swope
Al Wheeler
Treasurer: Terry Beckman
Financial Secretary: Curt Crouch

**"We are baptized members of God's
Church, forgiven and set free by
grace through faith.**

www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com

**Facebook: Lebanon Lutheran
Church (ELCA)
Instagram—Twitter :
#llesignsofgrace**

TO BRING GOD'S GRACE AND LOVE TO EACH OTHER
AND TO THE WORLD



I will be in Springfield, Ohio when my mother has cancer surgery at OSU hospital (The James).

Thank you to the whole group who led worship July 20 and 27!

For August worship will either be led by me when I am in Whitehall, or the team of leaders, or a supply pastor, who will be authorized to celebrate communion.

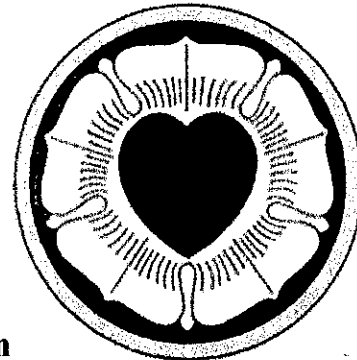
In the meantime, we thank Bishop Satterlee for 12 years leading the North/West Lower Michigan Synod of the ELCA, and look forward to this event I hope all Lebanon members and friends will try to attend:

Installation of Bishop Elect Schneider-Thomas

The Rev. Julie Schneider-Thomas will be installed as bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod on Saturday, September 13, 2025 at 4:00pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids (2700 Fulton Street E).

All are welcome to attend! Rostered ministers are invited to vest and process. The color of the day is red.

Pastor Ogden



In **Schneider-Thomas** **ect**

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Websites of Interest

www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com

www.mittensynod.org

www.elca.org

www.whitelakescouting.com

www.whitelakechorale.com

www.hopescarves.org

LivingLutheran.org

www.samaritas.org

Suicide Hotline 1-800-273TALK.org
www.co.muskegon.mi.us/cmh/suicide_prevention

Every Woman's Place 231-722-3333 or
www.everywomansplace.org

The Trevor Project 1-866-488-7386

The Trevor Project is the world's largest suicide prevention and crisis intervention organization for LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning) young people.



& **thrivent** &
present our annual



Montague
Foods

Back to School **BACKPACK GIVEAWAY**

FREE
Backpacks
&
Water
Bottles

FREE

Hot Dog
Dinners

Wednesday, August 13th
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

at

Lebanon Lutheran Church

1101 S. Mear's Ave. Whitehall, MI 49461

Additional Parking at Shoreline Elementary



STUDENTS MUST BE PRESENT & WITH THEIR PARENT/GUARDIAN.
FIRST COME FIRST SERVED, WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

QUESTIONS? CALL (231) 893-5745

A Message From Thrivent

As a financial advisor, I see a clear parallel between the back-to-school season and our financial lives. Just like setting up new routines for classes and extracurriculars, it's the perfect time to establish or revisit your financial habits. The structured approach we take with our children's schedules – planning, organizing, and preparing – can be incredibly effective when applied to your budget, savings, and investments. This fresh start offers an ideal opportunity to set new financial goals and build sustainable routines that will pay off throughout the year. Let's embrace this season of new beginnings and apply that same focus to your financial well-being!

Contact me to schedule an appointment at 231-894-8886 or text me at 231-760-8246.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon,

Marci Bentz

Financial Advisor at Thrivent

Many projects at Lebanon Lutheran get partial funding through Thrivent Action Team grants and Thrivent Direct Choice Dollars. Thrivent offers opportunities for community outreach, education, and service that are a free benefit to members:

Direct Choice Dollars

Thrivent members can help their favorite organization by logging in to direct their Choice Dollars to them. Choice Dollars lets eligible clients with membership choose where Thrivent distributes a portion of its funding each year.

Thrivent Action Teams

Gather a volunteer team of friends, family or neighbors to put on a fundraiser, educational event or service activity—like organizing a school supply drive, or hosting a dinner fundraiser. Thrivent provides the resources you need to get started, including up to \$250 in seed money.

To apply for a Thrivent Action Team, you must be a Thrivent client with membership. Not sure if that's you? Visit our Membership page for details at [Membership | Thrivent](https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership#apply-1) (<https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership#apply-1>).

If you need help or advice navigating the computer work necessary to access your Choice Dollars or to fund an Action Team, please call or text Meg Eaton at 231-215-0154.

Prayer Concerns

It is an important part of our ministry to be praying constantly for one another. Please add names to the prayer list with consent in order to maintain privacy and confidentiality in your prayers, please remember:



Prayers for those who are homebound:

Helen Bartlett, at daughter Carol Roods' home now.

5337 W. McMillan, N. Muskegon 49445

Mary Bernhardt, at Robinswood Assisted Living #115, 2650 Ruddiman, N. Muskegon 49445

Jane Blyth, 28801 Jefferson Ave., Apt. 332; Saint Clair Shores, MI 48081

Chris Claus, American House - 17383 174th Avenue, Spring Lake, MI 49456

Karl Glass, @ Edison Christian Health Care Center, 1000 Edison St., Grand Rapids, MI 49504. Room #382.

Shirley Glass, with health concerns, 3232 Richmond NW, Walker, MI 49534

Marlene Holmstrom, at home. 2643 Benston Road, Whitehall, 49461

Ken & Sandy Kolb, with health issues - 6755 W. Old Channel Trail; Montague 49437

Elaine Liska, Sunrise Senior Living—Sunrise of Troy; 6870 Crooks Road, Troy, MI 48098-1704. Elaine Liska—Room 130.

Phyllis Monte, at Legacy of Caring - Whitehall—1302 Warner Street, Whitehall 49461

Ruth Nurmi, with health concerns —308 E. Dayton Street, Fremont, 49412

Barb Smith, at Legacy of Caring - Whitehall—1302 Warner Street, Whitehall 49461

Lois Szczerbinski, at Robinswood Assisted Living, 2650 Ruddiman, N. Muskegon 49445

Special Prayer Concerns:

Brianne Beekman, (Terry & Mary Beekman's granddaughter) diagnosed with multiple brain tumors.

Esther & Roy Baldridge, Esther is receiving chemotherapy treatment.

Lucas Carlson, (Terry and Mary Beekmans grandson) for new treatment.

Sheila Fretty, re-occurring cancer and health concerns

Margaret Fountain, (Mary Koenen's sister) diagnosed with multiple myeloma.

Brian Holmblade, with heart issues; hospitalized with blood infection

Dwight Mead (Paula Moreau's brother-in-law), non-hodgkin lymphoma mantel type (stage four)

Martha Ogden, with health concerns

Sarah Schmalz, recuperating from surgery

Wendy Shalifoe, recuperating from surgery for re-occurring cancer

Bev Statz, with health concerns

Stella Strong, (5-year-old friend of Donna and Ernie Stacy) in remission after battling cancer for 3 years

For our partners in faith, our companion synods in Salud para la Vida in San Pedro Sula, Honduras for their mission and ministry in their place as we fulfill our mission in our place; for all the churches of the Lutheran World Federation, for people of the gospel throughout the world.



Worship Notes

Sunday, August 3—Pentecost 8 Color: Green
Worship - 10:15am

Readings Today we pray for:

Dustin King

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14;

2:18-23

Psalm 49:1-12

Colossians 3:1-11

Luke 12:13-21

Prayer of the Day

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sunday, August 10—Pentecost 9 Color: Green
Worship - 10:15am

Today we pray for:

Donna Knoth

Readings

Genesis 15:1-6

Psalm 33:12-22

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sunday, August 17, Pentecost 10 Color: Green

Worship - 10:15am

Today we pray for: Ken & Sandra Kolb

Readings

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Psalm 82

Hebrews 11:29—12:2 Luke 12:49-56

Prayer of the Day

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sunday, August 24 —Pentecost 11 Color: Green

Worship - 10:15 am

Today we pray for:

Readings

Caryn Koster

Isaiah 58:9b-14

Psalm 103:1-8

Hebrews 12:18-29

Luke 13:10-17

Prayer of the Day

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sunday, August 31—Pentecost 12 Color: Green

Worship—10:15 AM

Today we pray for: Jack &

Readings

Linda Lamoreaux

Proverbs 25:6-7

Psalm 112

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Prayer of the Day

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

August

THIS MONTH'S
birthdays



8/2 Jackie Martin
8/4 Kay Snell
8/14 Lori Will
8/15 Linda Blakemore
8/15 Rob Rop
8/16 Lisa Clark
8/16 Doug Roesler
8/16 Rikki Lee Will
8/19 Jessica Gelvin
8/20 Nicholas Will
8/20 Jessica Knoth



8/3/74 Frank & Rita Lundell
8/7/71 Andy & Wendy Shalifoe
8/10/91 Carl & Jennifer Nordberg
8/13/93 Randy & Cathy Nurmi
8/13/11 Seth & Megan Ahrenholz
8/21/82 Tony & Patty DeNicolo
8/22/64 Tom & Sheila Fretty
8/31/68 Harry & Yolanta Swiatek

Baptism Anniversaries



8/1 Alaina Moreau Leo
8/2 Megan Crouch
8/4 Thomas Swiatek
8/7 Jodi Nichols

Celebrate your baptism anniversary with a candle a meal or this prayer:

“Stir up within me the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and joy, on this day when I give thanks for my baptism in to Christ.”

DONATE RIGHT FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE

Giving through our Vanco Mobile app is an easy and convenient way to donate to our church. It only takes a moment to set up and account:

1. Download the free Vanco Mobile app from the App store or Google Play.
2. Find our Church by searching for our Church name:
Lebanon Lutheran Church
3. Donate: to the General Fund

Thank you for your generosity

This is the new version of the GivePlus app, and must be downloaded again from your App Store.



Yehiel Curry Elected Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

PHOENIX (July 30, 2025) — The Rev. Yehiel Curry was elected July 30 to serve a six-year term as presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The election took place during the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly being held July 28–Aug. 2 at the Phoenix (Ariz.) Convention Center.

Curry was elected on the fifth ballot. There were 799 votes cast, with 400 votes needed for an election. Curry received 562 votes, and the Rev. Kevin Strickland, bishop of the ELCA Southeastern Synod, received 237 votes. Curry is the first Black presiding bishop of the ELCA.

Speaking to the assembly after his election, Curry reflected on his membership at Shekinah Chapel in Riverdale, Ill., where he eventually became a lay mission developer while he participated in the Theological Education for Emerging Ministries program, which prepares individuals for ordained ministry in the ELCA, with a focus on emerging ministry contexts like ethnic-specific, multicultural, rural and inner-city settings. He spoke to the assembly about his initial hesitation in accepting that first ministry role.

“Perhaps I’m out there in one of you,” Curry said. “I never saw myself as good enough, so for two years, I said no. I finally said yes. When I said yes, your support, this church’s support, of that ministry meant everything. So if you want to know what your benevolence dollars look like, it looks like me, and I want to say thank you. Thank you for your investment.”

Curry has served as bishop of the ELCA Metropolitan Chicago Synod since 2019. He previously served as mission developer (2009-2012) and pastor (2012-2019) of Shekinah.

He received a Bachelor of Arts from Lewis University in Romeoville, Ill., in 1995 and a Master of Divinity from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC) in 2013. LSTC is one of seven ELCA seminaries.

The churchwide assembly, the chief legislative authority of the ELCA, is meeting under the theme “For the Life of the World.” The assembly will participate in plenary discussions to make decisions about the work of this church. They will also spend time in worship and engage in various ways of theological reflection.

Live video of the plenary sessions will be accessible at www.elca.org/CWA.



Mark your calendars and bring a friend!

Frank and Alice Hollister have again invited us to a church potluck picnic at The Water's Edge, 6195 Murray Road, next to White Lake and the White River Light Station beach.

Sunday, September 7, at 2:00 PM

Bring a dish to pass, a lawn chair, and your own table service. You may also want to bring your suit and towel for swimming or boating.



Lebanon Lutheran Church

1101 South Mears Avenue
Whitehall, MI 49461

Living in God's Amazing Grace

The Light is published monthly by Lebanon Lutheran Church, 1101 S. Mears Avenue, Whitehall, MI 49461. Submissions are accepted through the 15th of each month. Submissions **MUST** include your name and a way to contact you in case of questions.

2 ways to submit your information:

- yellow folder in Margaret's office
(better)
- office@lebanonlutheranchurch.com
(best)

