

**Lebanon
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church**

*A Congregation of the North/West
Lower Michigan Synod, of the
ELCA*

*Julie Schneider-Thomas, Bishop
Yehiel Curry, 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 Beekman
Financial Secretary: Curt Crouch

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

**www.lebanonlutheranchurch.co
m**

**Facebook: Lebanon Lutheran
Church (ELCA)**

**Instagram—Twitter :
#llesignsofgrace**

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



Pastor's Notes

November 2025

**All Saints Sunday, November 2, 2025 ~
Remembering those who have died**

*Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one
communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of
faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you
have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

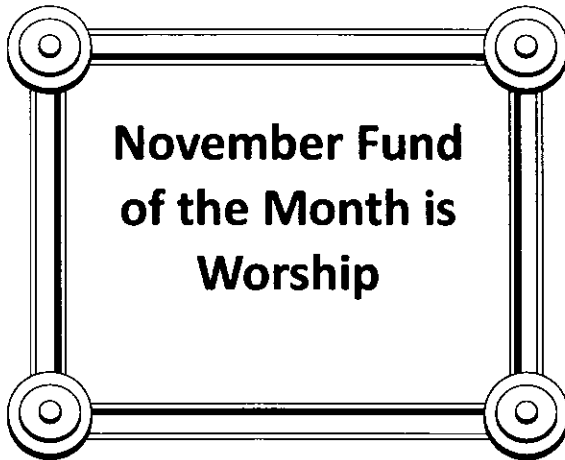
Helen Bartlett	1/22/1926 ~ 9/25/2025
Mary Bernhardt	1/19/1929 ~ 7/31/2025
Darrel Brown	8/27/1946 ~ 4/12/2025
Elin Frietsch	4/20/1973 ~ 3/4/2025
Ronald Scott Funderburg *	6/19/1969 ~ 8/5/2025
Karl Glass	3/17/1935 ~ 8/6/2025
Mitchell Johnson	7/8/1938 ~ 3/13/2025
Jean (Funnell) Kirby	6/28/1929 ~ 3/12/2025
Barbara Smith	5/16/1935 ~ 10/26/2025
Verne Sutherland	10/27/1933 ~ 3/29/2025
Harry Swiatek	2/27/1940 ~ 10/15/2025

* denotes non-members

**Christ The King, November 23, 2025 ~
Celebrating those baptized**

*O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of
service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us
the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the
world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and forever. Amen.*

Gemma DeMumbrum	4/20/2025
Earl Hertel	3/23/2025



**November Fund
of the Month is
Worship**

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.



Poinsettia orders for decorating the Christmas Eve altar (and then to bring home) are due November 17.

Please call or stop by the office by then to order yours in memory of or in honor of someone special.

**YOU PRAY FOR
THE HUNGRY.
THEN YOU FEED THEM.
THAT'S HOW
PRAYER WORKS.**

Pope Francis



The White Lake Giving Tree Arrives



The White Lake Giving Tree season is beginning. This community-wide outreach program provides food and gifts to families in need at Christmas that live in the Montague and Whitehall school districts. Over 315 families received assistance last year. Each family receives perishable and nonperishable food boxes, as well as each child (newborn to 18) receives a clothing gift and a toy or personal gift. Lebanon has a tree in the vestibule with gift and clothing tags for people to take and fill the need, then return the gift and tag by November 23rd. Please help if you are able.

Letter from the Bishop

Dear Siblings in N/WL Michigan,

My daughter sometimes teases me about having dark thoughts and she's not wrong! Among those thoughts is this — that I have thought multiple times as I am up front on Sunday leading worship, including this past Sunday: "What would I do if someone came in the back of the worship space with a gun in hand?" I suspect that there are other pastoral leaders who have wondered the same thing.

Shortly after I had that thought this past Sunday, we finished worship, I fished my phone out of my pocket and then swiped right to see what was in my news feed. There I found a thumbnail photo of a church building on fire and the headline: DEVELOPING: Church Shooting and Fire in Grand Blanc, Michigan. Those are our neighbors. When things happen to our neighbors, it becomes clear that could also happen to us.

These are such dark thoughts as I write my first newsletter article as your bishop, but my call is to lead and so I feel compelled to speak to what is on our hearts and minds today. What shall we say about these things? What shall we do about these things? Here's the best that I have to offer in this moment:

- Pray: Not in a "thoughts and prayers" kind of way, but please name this community — Grand Blanc Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints — in God's hearing. Lift them up to the Light of Christ. These are siblings in faith who themselves value the power of prayer and to hold them in our prayers is a way to support them meaningfully.
- Plan: Ask the questions together as a congregation, "What would we do if someone arrived with the intent to cause harm?" Are there people monitoring doors during worship, especially those that are secondary and unlocked? Do you have the church address posted near phones in case someone needs to call for help? Do you walk out in pairs at night after meetings or worship? A free safety checklist encompassing a broad view of safety issues is available at the link below. [LOOK HERE](#) Work with your local fire and police departments so that they know the layout of your building and to receive advice that they have.
- Act: Work for expansive mental health availability in your community. Listen to the people in your circle who are struggling with deep feelings of anger or hopelessness. Donate to an organization that passes out free fire locks. Contact your local congressional representative to discuss the need for improved mental health programs and funding for veteran mental health services. Advocate for mental health services to be offered in your school district. Examine your own use of language and social media and find ways to turn down the heat of the conversations you are having with others.

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Prayer Concerns



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

Prayers for those who are homebound:

Jane Blyth, 28801 Jefferson Ave., Apt. 332; Saint Clair Shores, MI 48081
Chris Claus, American House - 17383 174th Avenue, Spring Lake, MI 49456
Shirley Glass, with health concerns, 3121 Lake Michigan Dr. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504
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
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
Lucas Carlson, (Terry and Mary Beekman's grandson) for new treatment.
Herb Christenson, (Gil Norwick's friend) under Hospice care
Cheri Crouch, recuperating from surgical procedure
Sheila Fretty, re-occurring cancer and health concerns
Margaret Fountain, (Mary Koenen's sister) diagnosed with multiple myeloma
Brian Holmblade, with heart issues
Mary Lewallen, recovering from spinal surgery
Dwight Mead (Paula Moreau's brother-in-law), non-hodgkin lymphoma mantel type (stage four)
Gil Norwick, with health concerns
Martha Ogden, with health concerns
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
Darlene Willbrandt, in treatment for re-occurring pancreatic cancer

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, November 2—All Saints Sunday
Worship - 10:15am

Color: White

Today we pray for:

Doug & Monica Ogden

Readings

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18
Psalm 149
Ephesians 1:11-23
Luke 6:20-31

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sunday, November 9—Pentecost 22
Worship - 10:15am

Color: Green

Today we pray for:

Stephen & Ariel Ogden

Readings

Job 19:23-27a
Psalm 17:1-9
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38

Prayer of the Day

O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, November 16—Pentecost 23
Worship - 10:15am

Color: Green

Today we pray for: Julie Ostrander

Readings

Malachi 4:1-2a
Psalm 98
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19

Prayer of the Day

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, November 23—Christ the King
Worship - 10:15 am

Color: White

Today we pray for: Don & Kim Nelson

Readings

Jeremiah 14:7-10
Psalm 84:1-7
2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18
Luke 18:9-14

Prayer of the Day

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sunday, November 30— Advent 1
Worship - 10:15 am

Color: Blue

Today we pray for: Chuck & Ann Nessa

Readings

Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122 (1)
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

November



11/1 SuLyn Schmuker	11/19 KP Pelleran Mahoney
11/2 Samuel Troy	11/21 Jack Parks
11/3 Marie Hendrixon	11/21 Elara DeMumbrum
11/3 Sage Lynch	11/22 Kara Jaekel
11/4 Mary Gallihugh	11/22 Richard Carlson
11/8 Lisa Holmblade	11/29 Diana Griswold
11/9 Kathy Palmer	11/29 Jay Otto, Jr.
11/10 Julie Holmstrom	11/29 Macy Hendrixon
11/10 Mike Snell	
11/10 Katie Stacy	
VandeBunte	
11/10 Becky Stacy	
Chynowyth	
11/10 Charles Peabody	
11/11 Brian Hosticka	
11/15 Daniel Holmstrom	



11/5/15	Jon & Danielle DeMumbrum
11/22/22	Dakota & Ginny King

Baptism Anniversaries



11/1 Sandra Kolb
11/1 Brian Jaekel
11/4 Mardi Otto
11/4 Debbie Svensson
11/8 David Roesler
11/9 Jeffrey Hendrixon
11/11 Katie Thompson
11/15 Cindy Albert
11/20 Andy Hildebrandt
11/20 Emily Snell Glass

11/25 Nate Aardema
11/26 Sarah Stacy Schmalz
11/27 Hannah Bowen

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.

WHITEHALL
DISTRICT SCHOOLS



READ
MUSKEGON

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Reading Mentors



- Do you love reading? Do you want to help students love it too? Reading Mentors will be joining **Shoreline Elementary and Ealy Elementary** soon!
- Mentors will meet with students **2:45-3:45pm twice per week for the remainder of the school year.**
- No experience required - **we will train you!**
- To get started or learn more call Adam at (231) 242-3443, email adam@readmuskegon.org, or sign up via the QR code below!

Sign up here



Letter from the Bishop continued from page 4

If you are feeling overwhelmed, please reach out to our staff. If your congregation has come up with a plan that might help others to think about safety in their settings, please share it on our Facebook and/or Instagram page. If you are aware of trainings, please share that information with neighboring congregations. We are church together. As we face these unimaginable acts of violence in our society and in our places of worship, we do not do it alone.

Yours in Christ,
+Bishop Julie

November Church Newsletter—From Thrivent Financial

November is a special time for us to pause and give thanks. As believers, we're called to be wise stewards of the resources God has blessed us with. It's not just about managing money, but about aligning our financial journey with our faith and values. In the spirit of gratitude, this month is the perfect opportunity to reflect on our financial habits with a thankful heart. Consider reviewing your financial plan, ensuring your giving truly reflects the incredible blessings you've received.

As we get closer to the end of the year, let's also set ourselves up for a wonderful start to the new year. Taking simple steps now, like checking on your retirement savings or updating your will, is a beautiful act of stewardship. It's a way of caring for your future and your loved ones. To start aligning your finances with what truly matters to you, discover your top five values through our virtual assessment at: www.rootsandwingslegacy.org/assessment

If you have any questions about new or existing policies or aligning your financial journey with your faith and values. Please contact your local Thrivent Financial Advisor by calling at 231-894-8886 or texting at 231-760-8246!

In all things give thanks





Living in God's Amazing Grace

Lebanon Lutheran Church

1101 South Mears Avenue
Whitehall, MI 49461

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)

