RISEN CHRIST
Lutheran Church

CrossTalk

Sharing God's work in our Church and School

November 2026

41 E Possum Road, Springfield, OH 45502 Telephone: 937-323-3688 Web Site: www.risenchristlcms.org Pastor: Rev Dr Scott Sommerfeld

got gratitude?

Research says increased gratitude significantly transforms individuals, homes and communities. Do you want in on that?

Christian writer Ann Voskamp poetically tells the tale of life transformation through lifestyle gratitude in her book *One Thousand Gifts*. It is a powerful read.

I invite you to check out her 25 min. video interview at https://risenchristlcms.org/30-days-of-gratitude/, as she artfully links the science of gratitude with real life transformation of hearts, homes, and communities. She is inviting you, daring you, to join her on a gratitude journey…that transformed her life and many others. I've watched it over 10 times and still find it inspiring.

Today—I am thankful that 10 years ago God introduced me to Ann Voskamp and her gratitude dare. I've been on this gratitude journey ever since and can tell you it continues to be transformational!!

Are you ready to take the "Gratitude Dare"?

This weekend, November 1, you can pick up your gratitude journal and begin writing 3 things each day for which you are grateful. This is a wonderful conversation and activity for children and youth too! It is all part of our new preaching series "30 Days of Gratitude" based on Philippians 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say rejoice!"

Blessings on your Gratitude Journey!

Pastor S



Nov. 1	"Rejoice in The Lord!"	Philippians 4:1-5
Nov. 8	"Antidote for Anxiety"	Philippians 4:5-7
Nov. 15	"Think on These Things"	Philippians 4:8-9
Nov. 22	"The Secret of Being Content"	Philippians 4:10-13

Tuesday, Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Worship 7:00 pm

Are you busy with family on Wednesday or Thursday?
Now you can worship first, on Tuesday!

Getting Ready for November 1
"Congregation Information Meeting"
Fellowship Hall 10:35-11:35

Sunday will start in the sanctuary at 10:00 am as we celebrate All Saints Day and begin our new preaching series 30 Days of Gratitude with "Rejoice in The Lord" based on Phil. 4:1-5.

Then we move to the Fellowship Hall for 60 minutes of "family conversation" that will get you ready for the November 15 Voters Meeting.

Topics for Congregation Info Meeting:

1. Overview of Governance via Governance Org Chart
2. Overview of Management via Management Org, Chart
3. Introduction of new position "Director of Operations"
4. Review of Constitution and Bylaw updates to align with Org Chart Updates
5. Introduce "Willingness to Serve" form to Self-Nominate as a potential candidate for Board of Directors, School Board or Elders.

Getting Ready for November 15
"Voters Meeting"
Fellowship Hall 10:35-11:35

Sunday will start in the sanctuary at 10:00 am as we continue our new preaching series 30 Days of Gratitude with "Think on These Things" based on Phil. 4:8-9.

Then we move to the Fellowship Hall for 60 minutes of "family business" based on topics discussed on November 1st and the 2027 Budget and the proposal to form a Pastor Call Committee.

Topics for Voters Meeting:

1. Introduce updated Pastor Ministry Description
2. Overview of Critical Targets for Next 3-5 Years
3. Vote on Constitution and Bylaws Updates
4. Vote on Board of Directors forming a Pastor Call Committee
5. Vote on Budget
6. Election after normal worship on Dec. 6
7.

Following Jesus Together: Reading the Gospel of Mark
Sunday Morning at 9:00 am
Fellowship Hall

All teems and adults are invited to join Pastor Scott in this reading journey of the Gospel of Mark. We will attempt to cover 1 chapter each Sunday for Sunday, November 1 please read chapters 1 and 2 to get started. Hope you join the team—reading God's Word together—it's the best.

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Elder's Page

WELCOME TO NOVEMBER

As I am writing this, it is October 28, the sun is shining, temps are in the mid-seventies and Life is GOOD!

But change is on the way…it's almost November. The days continue to get shorter, the weather cools and the rain/snow falls-a time of massive change. We will live through it, with God's help.

It is the same at church. We will soon have a finished new building. There is a newly revised constitution, by-laws and organization structure for review and potential approval at meetings this month.

AND YET, the most important part remains the same-our belief in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior and our adherence to our Lutheran beliefs and catechism.

So many of our church members have spent countless hours in diligent thought and dialogue to make Risen Christ attractive and manageable for God's choice as our next Pastor. These changes are also designed to help every member of the church be aware of their responsibilities and opportunities to serve.

So, as we come into this time of change, remember John 3:16 and that Jesus will be with us and has been with us through this whole process. Thank you to all who have participated in this process, knowing that you have helped make Risen Christ more resilient and to be able to bring Christ to our community.

Blessings from Gene Baumgardner

Risen Christ Lutheran School

Introducing FROG

The church bible teachers and school teachers have created a new after school activity on Tuesdays from 3:45 -4:30pm. It encourages participants to FROG (**F**ully **R**ely **O**n **G**od).

FROG is a hopping success!

Our first FROG gathering on September 29 was absolutely fabulous! The students had a wonderful time learning some fun **FROG facts**—including that a group of frogs is called a **knot**!

We learned that **"we is better than me!"** The students discovered how the disciples traveled and served together and talked about how this same idea applies to our own lives. Each of us is like a single strand of rope—alone, we can be easily broken. But when we intertwine our lives with others, we become **stronger together**. Just like a strong rope is made of many strands tied together, our "knot" is better when we are connected, supporting one another, and following God together.

We then put our lesson into action by making **slime!** Each ingredient by itself was plain and ordinary, but when they were combined, they created something completely new and amazing. It was a fun reminder that **when we come together, God can use our individual gifts and strengths to create something greater than we could create alone.**





Risen Christ Lutheran School

Crazy Hair Day!

Each month, Risen Christ students have the opportunity to participate in our Hearts for Jesus mission offering, supporting the work of LCMS missions. Students who bring an offering may enjoy a special out-of-uniform day and participate in that month's fun theme. October's theme was Crazy Hair, and our students had a wonderful time showing off their creative styles!

We are excited to share that our students have already raised more than $100 for LCMS missions already this school year! We are proud of our students for learning the importance of generosity and discovering how even small gifts can make a meaningful difference in sharing the love of Jesus with others.







Connection Report

November Connection

In the quiet of November, let us hear the whisper of God's grace in the rustle of falling leaves.

Thank you to all the ladies in participating in LWML Sunday and Miami Valley LWML Zone Fall Rally Retreat and Pastor Sommerfeld for being our guest speaker.

Upcoming Events for November

-November 1st - All Saints Day

-November 15th - Voters Meeting

-November 26th - Happy Thanksgiving Day

-November 29th - First Day of Advent

As the trees shed their leaves, may we shed our worries and clothe ourselves in the righteous and peace of Christ.



Angel Tree is Coming Soon!!

How the Angel Tree Will Work
The Angel Tree is returning this season with an improved format designed to serve Risen Christ School students more fairly. Each child will receive two gifts:

One item that meets their greatest need
One top wish from their list

Parents will be asked to keep each request at $40 or less. In past years, some children received a carload of presents while others only a handful of gifts. To help us share gifts more evenly, please choose multiple angels rather than giving many gifts to one child.

When to Sign Up
Look for the Angel Tree in the Narthex in early November. A sign-up sheet will be available at that time.

Thank you for helping make the season brighter for every child. Happy shopping!

Verse of the Month

Philippians 4:6 (NIV)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Date	Festival	Theme	1st Reading	2nd Reading	Gospel
Nov 1	All Saints Day	30 Days of Gratitude: Rejoice in the Lord	N/A	Phil. 4:1–5	John 14:1–6
Nov 8	24th Sunday after Pentecost	30 Days of Gratitude: Antidote for Anxiety	See Weekly e-News	Phil. 4:5-7	Matthew 6:25-27
Nov 15	25th Sunday after Pentecost	30 Days of Gratitude: Think on These Things	See Weekly e-News	Phil. 4:8-9	John 14:26-27
Nov 22	26th Sunday after Pentecost	30 Days of Gratitude: The Secret of being Content	See Weekly e-News	Phil. 4:10-13	John 6:1-13
Nov 29	First Sunday in Advent	See Weekly e-News	See Weekly e-News	See Weekly e-News	See Weekly e-News



Name	Date
Christine Buck	1
Hannah Buck	2
Brian Cunningham	4
Karen Cunningham	16
Chris Heilmann	18
Lisa Mulkey	21
Kelsey Vollrath	21
Richard Hockemeyer	26

Baptismal



Name	Date
Brian Cunningham	1
Ben McKee	9
Garrett Perks	11
Jim Brueggeman	13
Charles Cunningham	13
Ethan Cunningham	13
Joshua Cunningham	13
Alisha Ervin	18



Name	Date
Dave & Linda Thomas	5
Rob & Kim Hunt	22