

## NEWS AND NOTES for January 25 & 26, 2025

\*\*\*\*Don't miss the Voters' Meeting Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm.\*\*\*\*



### Building on the Cornerstone Campaign

\$2.5 Million Matching Goal:

Commitments and Gifts:	\$ 2,724,847
Gifts Received:	\$ 2,672,866

**Adult Information Class** to join the church or review the teachings of the church will begin February 9. We will meet in the Office Conference Room Sunday mornings from 11:00am to noon. Please call the church office (989 642-8188) for more information.

**Volunteers needed** to help with Sunday Morning Fellowship. Join our Sunday morning Fellowship crew and help spread smiles one cup at a time! No barista experience required, just a willingness to brew, chat and share a smile with others. Deaconess Shirley will show you the ropes. Sign up for a Sunday (or two 😊) in the church office or call to pick a date.

**Below are the General Fund Income and Expense numbers**, as well as others, for the prior months and the current fiscal year to date. We hope that these numbers provide a clear picture of our operating status.

	November 2024	December 2024	2024-25 Fiscal Year-to-Date
General Fund Income	\$ 130,112.97	\$ 228,017.58	\$ 827,287.55
General Fund Expenses	\$ 126,749.95	\$ 121,202.01	\$ 701,548.37
<b>Gain or (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 3,363.02</b>	<b>\$ 106,815.57</b>	<b>\$ 125,739.18</b>
Building on the Cornerstone Fund	\$ 325,748.00	\$ 369,609.00	\$ 1,068,835.00
Missions (Goal: \$35,000)	\$ 3,082.00	\$ 5,456.00	\$ 15,408.00

**Church Attendance Last Week: 222 (85-137); Communion: 180**

**Donation Bins** The cupboards in the north hallway are now labeled and is where the following bins have been relocated: Lutheran World Relief, Lost & Found, Funeral Dishes, Stamps, Eyeglasses, and Coupons.

**Mary-Martha** St. Peter Ladies are invited to the Lutheran Women in Mission Prayer Day for the Saginaw Valley Zone on Saturday, February 8, 2025. 8:30 - 9 am registration & light breakfast. Service starts at 9 am at Peace Lutheran Church, Adams St., Saginaw. Mary Martha also meets next on Tues., Feb.11th at 7 pm in Classroom 3

**The Bible & Other Religious Writings...** The Koran, The Book of Mormon, The New World Translation, The Analects of Confucius, The Gospel of Thomas. Issues, Etc., a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, is doing a series on the origins of religious writings with Dr. Adam Francisco of Concordia University Chicago. You can listen to this multi-part series at [issuesetc.org/religiouswritings](http://issuesetc.org/religiouswritings).

**The Lutheran Hour** is broadcast Sundays on WSAM 1400AM Saginaw at 8:30am and XM 131 at 10:30am. It can also be heard on-line at [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org). Next Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Lutheran Hour Speaker *Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler's* sermon is titled, "Do the Things That Make for Unity". Jesus crosses borders and even breaks down the barrier of death to do the things that make for unity: shared worship, shared mission, shared harvest.

**Community News:** \*See flyers on the bulletin board in the gathering space\*

**Ushers for next week: Saturday: Larry Graf, Corey Harry Sunday: Gary Graf, Josh McQueen**

**Videographer for next week: Sheila Bauer**

### ***A LifeQuote from Lutherans for Life of Michigan***

"Babies are born into the world wrapped in surprising packaging like disabilities or poverty, but even so, God has a perfect plan for each one of them. Abortion is a tragic end to the countless blessings in store for those who would have surrounded these children."

- Brad Mattes, Life Issues Institute

### **THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:16-30

### ***The Lord Is Manifested as Our Savior through the Preaching of the Gospel***

When Jesus opens His mouth to preach, gracious words flow from His lips. The Scriptures are, indeed, fulfilled in your hearing (Luke 4:21-22). For Christ was anointed by the Spirit of the Lord "to proclaim good news to

*the poor,” “to proclaim liberty to the captives” and “to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor” (Luke 4:18–19). By this proclamation, Christ releases His people from captivity and gathers them to Himself in His Church. So it was when the Lord released His people from Babylon and returned them to Jerusalem. “Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people,” sanctified the whole congregation by the reading and preaching of the Law (Neh. 8:8–9). As the people then were urged to “eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready” (Neh. 8:10), so are you anointed by the Spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ to share in His feast and to serve the fellow members of His Body with His good gifts, “giving greater honor to the part that lacked it” (1 Cor. 12:12, 24).*