

**ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
CHURCH MOUSE  
OCTOBER 2023**



**Sunday, October 1, 2023**

**18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Worship in Church or Drive In With Communion 10:00 am

Pastor Ivy Gauvin

**Sunday, October 8, 2023**

**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Worship in Church or Drive In 10:00 am

Pastor Laura Csellak

**Sunday, October 15, 2023**

**20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Worship in Church or Drive In With Communion 10:00 am

Pastor Ivy Gauvin

**Sunday, October 22, 2023**

**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Worship in Church or Drive In 10:00 am

Pastor Ivy Gauvin

**Sunday, October 29, 2023**

**22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Worship or Drive In 10:00 am

Pastor Ivy Gauvin



***Join us for indoor worship or in the church parking lot for  
the Drive In service***

## **PASTOR'S PONDERING- By Pastor Ivy**

October is a month of celebration. We enjoy the colors of the changing leaves. How many of us as kids loved to jump into the piles of raked leaves in our yards?

For me, I'll be celebrating the 50th anniversary of my graduation from Penfield High School, Penfield, NY. That will take us away the weekend of Sunday, 10/8.

For many of us, our calendars are filled with some of our favorite things. We know what the children like—Halloween. However, on the very same date, the Lutheran Church celebrates the Reformation. We commemorate Martin Luther's posting of the 95 Theses. It wasn't until I was a pastor that I learned that other Protestant denominations do not celebrate the Reformation as we do.

We cooperate with so many Protestant churches. This week, I'm part of a webinar called Kaleidoscope of Stewardship, which is a joint project between the ELCA and the Presbyterian Church USA. They don't celebrate the Reformation as we do.

We cooperate with the Episcopal Church in many ways, including the sharing of pastors. They don't celebrate the Reformation like we do.

Why do we? What's the big deal? We all believe about the same things, don't we? On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted his 95 theses, or reasons why he objected to the Roman Catholic Church's sale of indulgences. Our salvation is not dependent on anything we do, including the purchase of indulgences. We are forgiven because of God's love and mercy, God's grace.

Why does Reformation Sunday matter? First, it gives us a chance to tell our story, and it's a chance to remember our faith family story. It is not a time to say we're better than any other church. All the Protestant churches can trace their roots back to the Reformation.

Second, on Reformation Sunday, we return to the core elements of our faith: God loved us first, and God continues to shower us with grace and mercy.

Third, Reformation Sunday challenges us to do better. God calls us to be more loving and grace-filled because of what God has done for us. We are called to repent of times we have placed barriers that have kept others from

hearing the Good news. All that we are is a gift from God. Our faith is all about the grace and merry given to us in Jesus Christ.

So, as the children and grandchildren start getting ready for Halloween, let us get ready, prepare our hearts to celebrate God's great gifts. Hope to see you on Reformation Sunday!

***Happy Reformation Sunday!***

**Pastor Ivy**

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**St. Timothy Church Council**

President– Kristie Bloomquist

Vice President - Marty Hunt

Secretary – Marcy Saar

Kathy Carlson      Bob Pecuch

Linda Milks      Pastor Ivy Gauvin

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Treasurer – Julie Bihler

Financial Secretary – Kathy Carlson

*Do you have questions or ideas for Council? Feel free to share them with any council member or write them down and leave in the office.*

**Thank  
You!**

**September 10<sup>th</sup> Church Picnic a Big Success!!**

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our picnic on September 10.

It was a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and to get to know better some of our new friends. It truly was a fun time!

Thanks to our Picnic Committee members who did a great job from the invitations, the food, the raffle basket, and the games – they thought of everything!!! (Bob and Trish Pecuch, Mike Krott, Marty Hunt, Kathy Carlson, Kristie Bloomquist and Linda Milks.)

And thank you to Thrivent, Tops Friendly Markets, and Peterson Farms for their donations!



## 5 Loaves & 2 Fish Backpack Ministry

We are continuously collecting food items for the 5 & 2 Ministry. Bring your donations and place in the black bin in the church narthex. Lists detailing items needed are also available in the narthex. Monetary donations welcome! Contact Gale-Svenson-Campbell for details [gales1949@gmail.com](mailto:gales1949@gmail.com)



## Prayer Requests:

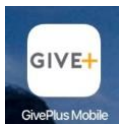
Dianne Sloan, Kay Marker Magneson, Roy Pihl, George Balcom, Thom Shagla, Adam Hull, Lianne Edborg, Marty Wittstrom, Sarah VanStaalduin, Charlene Hunter, Joe Gauvin, Emerson Allaby, Karen Brown, John Gingrass, those serving in the military and law enforcement and their families, including Christine Kaffka and Ben Wickerham, those caught up in violence and war who have no safe home in which to live.

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## ONLINE GIVING at St. Timothy for Debit/Credit cards

*Three ways to give:*

- Go directly to our website at [www.sttimothybemus.com](http://www.sttimothybemus.com).
  - Use our QR code with the QR reader on your smartphone.
  - Download the app 'GivePlus Church'. Create an account.
- For further information, see Kathy Carlson on Sundays or call her at 485-1316.*



## 5 Week Dog Tricks and Canine Good Citizen classes at

### St. Timothy.

Carly Davis, from Chq Dogs, is having 5 week dog training sessions on Monday evenings in the Fellowship Hall in October and November Her tentative time is 5:00 pm.

She will be teaching dog tricks along with the Canine Good Citizen Class.

The dates are 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, and 11/20.

- Novice Trick Dog 5 week Course: \$150
- Canine Good Citizen (2 prep classes and evaluation): \$100
- Therapy (2 prep classes and evaluation): \$125

\*For your parishioners, a 10% discount (*off my fees - the certifying organizations have their own as well*)

If interested, contact Carly at 716-268-1421.

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### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Allyson Saar

15 Nathan Saar

2 Patricia Helfrich

19 Greg Fish

3 Kay Marker Magneson

22 Kathy Carlson

6 Genevieve Sellstrom

27 Dan O'Brien

14 Rose Johnson-Prieur

30 Kristie Bloomquist

30 Alexandria Daniels

## MONTHLY READINGS

### October 1, 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost,

#### Reading and Psalm

[Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32](#)

*The fairness of God's way*

[Psalm 25:1-9](#)

Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love. (Ps. 25:6)

[Philippians 2:1-13](#)

*Christ humbled to the point of death on a cross*

[Matthew 21:23-32](#)

*A parable of doing God's will*

### October 8, 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

#### Readings and Psalm

[Isaiah 5:1-7](#)

*The song of the vineyard*

[Psalm 80:7-15](#)

Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine. (Ps. 80:14, 15)

[Philippians 3:4b-14](#)

*Nothing surpasses the value of knowing Christ*

[Matthew 21:33-46](#)

*The parable of the vineyard owner's son*

### October 15, 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

#### Reading and Psalm

[Isaiah 25:1-9](#)

*The feast of victory*

[Psalm 23](#)

You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over. (Ps. 23:5)

[Philippians 4:1-9](#)

*Rejoice in the Lord always*

[Matthew 22:1-14](#)

*The parable of the unwelcome guest at the wedding feast*

### October 22, 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

#### Readings and Psalm

[Isaiah 45:1-7](#)

*An earthly ruler as the instrument of God's will*

[Psalm 96:1-9 \[10-13\]](#)

Ascribe to the LORD honor and power. (Ps. 96:7)

[1 Thessalonians 1:1-10](#)

*Thanksgiving for the church at Thessalonica*

[Matthew 22:15-22](#)

*A teaching on giving to the emperor and to God*

### October 29, 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

#### Reading and Psalm

[Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18](#)

*Holiness revealed in acts of justice*

[Psalm 1](#)

Their delight is in the law of the LORD. (Ps. 1:2)

[1 Thessalonians 2:1-8](#)

*The apostle's tender care for the Thessalonians*

[Matthew 22:34-46](#)



The Evangelism Committee is inviting anyone interested in becoming part of our ministry to contact Marty Hunt at 716 720-0460. We have a card ministry that is very active. We are responsible as a member to do twice a year sending out Birthday wishes, Thinking of you, Deepest Sympathy, etc., to our church members, family and friends. We also partner with Bemus Point Methodist Church with the Food Pantry and help during the year with activities of our church. We hope you will join us and spread God's Love.

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### Church Picnic - super fun!

We had a wonderful turnout Sunday, Sept. 10 for our Church Picnic. So exciting to see everyone again in one place having a good time. Thank you to Peterson Fam Markets, Thrivent and Tops Market for their contributions! MANY more photos can be found on our website: <https://www.sttimothybemus.com/photo-album-list.html>



## St. Timothy Lutheran Church Parsonage

3754 Route 430 Bemus Point, NY 14701      716-386-1022

### Jesus Revolution Film and Discussion

October 22, November 5, 12 – Dinner included, 5 pm

“Jesus Revolution” is one person’s view of events occurring in CA which led to the Jesus Movement, Jesus People or Jesus Freaks in the 1960s and 1970s. There are some challenging and exciting ideas in this film. We may disagree with others. Come, join us at the parsonage to watch the movie and discuss it.

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### 5&2 Ministry Partners with Ashville BOCES.

Thank you for your warm welcome and your willingness to help and support the youth in our community!! For those of you I have not had the pleasure to meet, I am Alissa Rinaldo. I am the School Social Worker in Career and Technical Education (CTE) at the Erie 2 BOCES Hewes Educational Center in Ashville. At the Hewes Center we have 11 different vocational, career and technical programs; Auto Body, Automotive Technology/Diesel Mechanics, CDOS, Conservation, Construction, Cosmetology, Criminal Justice, Culinary Arts, Health Careers, Information Technology Computer Systems, and Small Animal Science. Our student population at Hewes CTE is composed of students from 12 neighboring school districts; Bemus Point, Chautauqua Lake, Clymer, Falconer, Frewsburg, Jamestown, Panama, Randolph, Ripley, Sherman, Southwestern, and Westfield.

We have a new project brewing at the Hewes Center - a Food/Clothing/Hygiene Closet! Whether it be a basic need for these items, an upcoming job interview, an upcoming school or personal event, a dress code concern, or a need for appropriate work attire for our vocational programs - we will have these resources on hand for all our students on the Hewes Campus to have their basic needs met. We hope for the students to create and vote on a name for the closet and make it their own!

The closet will be managed in house by our Career Development Occupational Studies (CDOS) students. Our CDOS program is a specialized special education program to develop work and soft skills for career readiness. Our CDOS program instructed by Ms. Christie Asel and Mr. Todd Erickson are leading the charge on the operations of the closet. The students are working through the clothing donations, laundering them, pressing and hanging items, and taking inventory. When a Hewes student is in need of a specific item in the closet, "an order" is placed and the students fill that order. Students volunteering in the closet are earning work based learning hours to fulfill the requirements of a CDOS Certificate.



We are now accepting donations! When making a donation, please think of our population, TEENAGERS! Please only donate items you would see a 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 year old wearing/needing. Accepting clothing items of all adult sizes from size Adult Small - 5x Plus Size. Below is a list of items we are in need of:

- Mens & Womens Clothing- casual, business & workwear
- t-shirts
- sweatshirts
- sweatpants
- leggings
- winter necessities- coats (casual & business), hats, gloves
- jeans - work jeans
- shoes & boots - casual & work footwear
- scrubs
- work outerwear - flannels, work coats, work gloves
- business apparel for job interviews or formal school & personal events
- womens and mens undergarments
- deodorant
- toothbrushes & toothpaste
- shampoo & conditioner
- body wash and soap
- hair brushes & combs & hair products
- lotion
- laundry detergent - preferably pods or smaller bottles to be sent home
- laundry stain remover
- feminine hygiene products
- reusable shopping bags
- backpacks
- travel bags (bags are for students to bring items home, discreetly)
- cosmetic bags
- clothing hangers

\*\*\*\*And a HUGE thank you to the support of 5 & 2 for supporting the Hewes Center as a new location to receive food bags. Since getting the bags on campus last week, the food insecurity need and conversation has been a heavy topic in my office. Students are feeling safe and supported to have these difficult conversations of need. We can't thank you enough for the work you do and are so grateful to be on your team.\*\*\*\*

Christie or myself will be in attendance at the monthly food packing nights. Donations for our closet can be brought to the church to be picked up on packing nights or can be dropped off at the Hewes Educational Center in Ashville, NY in the main office of building A. When you pull onto the campus, veer right. "A Building" is attached to the main parking lot.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me via email - [arinaldo@e2ccb.org](mailto:arinaldo@e2ccb.org)

Thank you in advance,

Alissa

**DONATIONS CAN BE LEFT IN THE NARTHEX AND WE'LL GET THEM TO ALISSA. THANK YOU!**

**Dear Friends of the Honduras Promise Children Project,**

**We are having the Auction and Chinese Auction at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Route 430, Bemus Point, NY, to benefit the Honduras Promise Children Mission.**

**The auction will be on Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (viewing from 5 pm- 6 pm)**

I am writing on behalf of our ecumenical mission in Chautauqua County, who continues to work with families in the small village of la Villa de San Francisco. Over 130 people from many different churches have gone on this mission over the past 29 years, and it has been life changing for the people we serve and also for us.

We have an on-going weekly program of education, physical activity, spiritual learning, crafts, and tutoring for over children and their families. The mothers also learn new skills, and monthly, we provide the families with protein based foods. We are also using the new center recently completed, which we share with the Hope Mission Project from the Pittsburgh area.

**We are asking you to donate an item, a gift certificate, or anything that we might be able to use in our Auction and Chinese Auction. Please** call me (Gale-716-753-6319), and I will arrange for someone to pick up your item. You may also leave your donation at St. Timothy Lutheran Church on Route 430, Bemus Point. We also invite you to come to the auction.

Thank you for your consideration this year!

**Honduras Promise Children Project Committee**

Lisa Best, Sarah Goebel, Tammy Haas,  
Candy Jett, Mindy Moore, Gale Svenson-Campbell

For more info, contact Gale 716-753-6319 or [gales1949@gmail.com](mailto:gales1949@gmail.com)

Sarah Goebel – 716-450-2986  
St. Timothy Church - 716-386-7280

**St. Timothy Lutheran Church**

**PO Box 9190**

**Bemus Point, NY 14712**

**Honduras Mission Project**

*Saturday, October 14, 11:00*

*St. Timothy parking lot*

*Blessing of the Animals*

The blessing will take place in the main parking lot.  
All kinds of pets are welcome.

**OCTOBER 2023**  
**WORSHIP AND SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**  
**AT ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

|                     | OCTOBER 1                  | OCTOBER 9                 | OCTOBER 15                 | OCTOBER 22                  | OCTOBER 29                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Assistant Liturgist | Trish Pecuch               | Tammy Haas                | Kristie Bloomquist         | Trish Pecuch                | Sarah Goebel                |
| Ushers/Greeters     | Ginny Sloan<br>Linda Milks | Marty Hunt<br>Linda Milks | Ginnie Sloan<br>Marty Hunt | Ginnie Sloan<br>Linda Milks | Linda Milks<br>Ginnie Sloan |
|                     |                            |                           |                            |                             |                             |
|                     |                            |                           |                            |                             |                             |

St. Timothy Lutheran Church 716-386-7280  
Church Email: [sttimothy2015@gmail.com](mailto:sttimothy2015@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.sttimothybemus.com](http://www.sttimothybemus.com)  
Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/sttimsbemus>

# ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH OCTOBER 2023

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday                                       | Thursday   | Friday  | Saturday  |
|---|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| <b>1</b><br>10:00 am Worship<br>w/Communion<br><br>Allyson Saar   | <b>2</b><br>Bemus Point Friends<br>of the Library 6pm<br><br>Patricia Helfrich   | <b>3</b><br><br>Kay Marker<br>Magneson   | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>   | <b>6</b><br><br>Genevieve Sellstrom             | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>8</b><br>10:00 am Worship<br>Rev. Laura Csellak  | <b>9</b><br><br><br>Healthy Bones 9am | <b>10</b>  | <b>11</b><br>Healthy Bones 9am                  | <b>12</b><br>Tai Chi 9:30 am<br>12:00 pm<br><br>Choir 5pm                  | <b>13</b><br>Ellery Senior Citizens<br>11:30 am | <b>14</b><br>Shower Trish Pecuch<br><br>Rose Johnson-Prieur |
| <b>15</b><br>10:00 am Worship<br>w/Communion<br><br>11:00 Church<br>Council<br>Blessing of the Animals<br><br>Nathan Saar | <b>16</b><br>Healthy Bones 9am<br><br>Dog Training 6:30 pm   | <b>17</b><br><br>5 & 2 Packing<br>7pm  | <b>18</b><br>Healthy Bones 9am<br><br>Zonta 4pm | <b>19</b><br>Tai Chi 9:30 am<br>12:00 pm<br><br>Choir 5pm<br><br>Greg Fish | <b>20</b>                                       | <b>21</b>   |
| <b>22</b><br>10:00 am Worship<br><br>Kathy Carlson  | <b>23</b><br>Healthy Bones 9am<br><br>Dog Training 6:30 pm   | <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b><br>Healthy Bones 9am                  | <b>26</b><br>Tai Chi 9:30 am<br>12:00 pm<br><br>Choir 5pm                  | <b>27</b><br><br>Dan O'Brien                    | <b>28</b>   |
| <b>29</b><br>10:00 am Worship<br>w/Healing  | <b>30</b><br>Healthy Bones 9am<br>Dog Training 6:30 pm<br><br>Kristie Bloomquist<br>Alexandria Daniels                 | <b>31</b><br> |   |  |   |   |

**26** “Sing to the Lord; bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples” (Psalm 96:2-3). Ask the Spirit for the words we need to share our faith and tell God’s story of love, hope and forgiveness.

**27** Ask God to make us a dynamic and engaged church of the present and future, driven by God’s redemptive love to be attentive to the world and culture and agile in how we proclaim the gospel and do God’s work in the world.

**28** Give thanks for grandparents who inspire our faith, share their wisdom and gifts, care for grandchildren and enrich our communities of faith with diverse perspectives and ideas.

**29** *Reformation Sunday* Give thanks for Martin Luther and other Protestant reformers who, at significant risk, challenged traditions and practices of the church that strayed from Scripture and proclaimed that God’s love and forgiveness are ensured through Jesus Christ.

**30** Pray for ELCA World Hunger’s Education and Networking Grants, which assist congregations, synods and partner organizations throughout the United States and the Caribbean in developing education and service-learning programs that deepen our understanding of hunger and poverty.

**31** *Reformation Day* “Faith is a living, bold trust in God’s grace, so certain of God’s favor that it would risk death a thousand times trusting in it. Such confidence and knowledge of God’s grace makes you happy, joyful and bold in your relationship to God and all creatures” (Martin Luther). Lift up prayers of thanksgiving and praise for God’s grace, which comes to us as a gift and sets us free, lifting our spirits and restoring our relationships with God.

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*This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact [info@elca.org](mailto:info@elca.org) for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631-4101. Telephone: 800-638-3522.*

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*These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities and world. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.*

**1** Ask the Spirit to strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ and renew our trust in the authority of his teachings and actions as the Son of God, born among us for our salvation.

**2** Remember in prayer those who have suffered tragedy, displacement and loss as a result of the wildfires in Maui. Ask God to stir their hope and strength for the long recovery ahead and inspire our generosity in supporting relief and rebuilding efforts, including the work of Lutheran Disaster Response and the Pacifica Synod.

**3** “Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others” (Philippians 2:4). Pray that our lives might reflect the selflessness of Jesus and the work of the Spirit, which enable us to act with compassion and empathy for the well-being of our neighbor, our communities and the church.

**4** *Feast of St. Francis of Assisi* Pray for the Spirit to stir within us humility, generosity and respect for our neighbors in need and for all living creatures. Give thanks for pets that provide joy and companionship and for service animals that benefit people with physical and cognitive disabilities.

**5** Pray for those gathering for the Center of Addiction & Faith annual conference in Bloomington, Minn., including rostered ministers and lay leaders, health care professionals, addiction specialists, people in recovery and those who love people affected by addiction. Pray that we might grow in our awareness of addiction and respond with compassion.

**6** Praise God for the love and mercy woven into the Bible, pray that we might share God’s story and the good news of Jesus Christ everywhere, and ask the Spirit to inspire our belief, faith and awe. “We will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord and his might and the wonders that he has done” (Psalm 78:4).

**7** Pray for the work of ELCA World Hunger in feeding the hungry and connecting people with education, health care, clean water and sustaining sources of income. Give thanks for our partners in this work, including

global companion churches, the Lutheran World Federation, Bread for the World, Church World Service and Lutheran World Relief.

**8** Jesus, the Son of God, was humble yet strong, and endured suffering and death to be resurrected for our sake. This is the cornerstone of our faith and salvation. Praise God and sing with thanksgiving and joy for all to hear.

**9** *Indigenous Peoples' Day* Remember in prayer and give thanks for Indigenous communities that have lived in the Americas and other parts of the world for thousands of years. Pray that we will not waver in our commitment to repentance, reconciliation, healing and unity as neighbors and children of God.

**10** Pray for a peaceful resolution to the war in Ukraine, and be mindful of how it impacts every nation and our daily lives.

**11** Praise God for our faith in Jesus Christ, who frees us from the restraints and shortcomings of our past so that we can move forward in our baptismal journey of connecting our faith with everyday life, serving neighbors in need, spreading hope and living with gratitude.

**12** Ask God to guide and, when needed, temper our words so that others will know God's love and forgiveness and the truth of the gospel through what we say. "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer" (Psalm 19:14).

**13** Pray for the vitality and effectiveness of our seminaries as they prepare leaders who will respond to God's call, equipping congregations and other communities of faith to nurture disciples of Christ and do God's work in the world.

**14** Pray for our neighbors and siblings in Christ who are overwhelmed by confusion, conflict and suffering. Ask the Spirit to make us bearers of hope, encouragement and wisdom for our neighbors, reflecting the trustworthy light of Jesus Christ and the comforting love of God.

**15** We trust in the promise of eternal life with God. Pray that, rather than take this gift for granted, we might be inspired to live in joy and gratitude, sharing that joy with others and proclaiming what God has done for us through Jesus Christ.

**16** Remember in prayer the 131 ELCA missionary households and 25 Young Adults in Global Mission volunteers who serve alongside our siblings in Christ and global companions in 45 countries.

**17** "Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times" (Psalm 106:3). Ask the Spirit to fill us with love and reverence for our neighbors as children of God, that people of all backgrounds, abilities, ages, beliefs, needs and circumstances might be treated with respect, fairness and compassion.

**18** Give thanks for the gifts and service of military chaplains, who care for U.S. military personnel and their families across our nation and in their countries of deployment.

**19** Give thanks for writers, editors and photographers who serve the church by sharing the gospel, telling stories of faith and service, inspiring us and revealing how God works through our church, congregations and siblings in Christ.

**20** Pray for those whose lives and communities have been forever changed by severe weather and wildfires, and who are immersed in the long, demanding work of rebuilding their lives and communities, here and around the world.

**21** Ask God to bless the work of the Christian Education Network of the ELCA and its members, professionals and volunteers who are involved in lifelong faith formation ministries in congregations and ELCA-affiliated organizations.

**22** Pray that we will be obedient and loyal to God and, at the same time, respond to God's call to live as responsible, involved citizens in our communities and the world.

**23** Give thanks for Lutheran Men in Mission and Women of the ELCA, and pray for their ministries, which nurture faith, promote healing and wholeness, help people discern their spiritual gifts and vocations, and equip them to serve as disciples of Christ.

**24** Pray for our congregations and synods, affiliated ministries and organizations, and full communion partners that we might encourage and support one another, share resources and ideas, and work together to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

**25** Pray that God will further the work of our church's AMMPARO strategy (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities) for welcoming and protecting migrant children and their families, accompanying them in court, advocating for just and humane immigration policies and supporting companions in Latin America who care for deported and returned migrants in their countries of origin.