



**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**P.O. Box 763 – 206 N. Court Street**  
**AuGres, MI 48703-0763**



**1-989-876-8910**  
**e-mail address – [office@stjohnaugres.com](mailto:office@stjohnaugres.com)**  
**web site – [www.stjohnaugres.org](http://www.stjohnaugres.org)**

### **Mysticism**

I'm so thankful that we deal with historical facts in Christendom. I believe it's so important today to understand that the Christian faith is built on facts and promises delivered by our Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

There are many references among folks today about being 'spiritual', whatever that is. I guess that could mean they have 'spiritual' thoughts of just about anything that they wish to classify as 'spiritual'. Popular in some Christian circles these days is a move towards spiritual formation through the reading of works by religious mystics ... what's this all about? Are there some Biblical insights or understanding regarding mysticism that we missed in God's Holy Word, the Bible?

First of all, we need to define 'mysticism'. According to The Lutheran Cyclopedia, that term has been applied to a wide range of phenomena, such as a state of dreaminess or strange experiences. The goal of mysticism is to achieve an intuitive and emotional contact or personal communion with a god or some other spiritual value. In some Christian traditions there exists the teaching that God may put what is sometimes called a burden on one's heart to pray or intercede for someone else. Two important questions to answer are: one, can people receive a new and ongoing personal revelation; and, two, can God encourage us to pray for a specific someone?

To answer these questions, we need to ask another one ... does God offer ongoing revelations about Himself and Christian doctrine through some sort of mystical experience? That's an important question. There are numerous cults which claim to have received some kind of "special revelation" from God. Not to mention certain media evangelists who claim to receive special revelations about people who are watching the TV; you know, like how much they should give, and so forth. Although their special revelation tells them somebody is ready and willing to give, they never mention that person by name. Now, if the revelation is really accurate, they ought to just be able to pick up the phone and call the person. If the Lord can reveal the amount a person is supposed to give, He ought to be able to reveal a name and phone number.

In the Lutheran Church, we do not believe that God is today providing new doctrinal revelations that replace or supersede what He has already revealed to us in the Bible. In fact, Martin Luther went so far as to say, "We ought and must constantly maintain that God does not wish to deal with us otherwise than through the spoken Word and the Sacraments". Some people would call that narrow-minded, and they would say, "Well, what gives you the right to say that?"

God gives us that obligation. Jesus Himself said, "***If you continue in My Word, then you shall know the truth.***" That's in John 8:31. Listen to what Jesus said before He ascended into heaven: "***Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and***

**of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" Matthew 28:19-20. Jesus said teach them "to observe all things that I have commanded." He doesn't say, "all things that I'm going to command." Jesus did His work, and upon Him the church has been built. Jesus said He is present with His Church through His Word and Sacraments, and not through some sort of special, extra-biblical revelation or experience!**

There have been problems in the Church in the past with this very thing. From the beginning, false prophets tried to change, or add to, Jesus' words. Saint Paul spoke to that when he wrote to the Christians in Galatia. He said, (Galatians 1:6-8) **"I am astonished that you are so quickly ... turning to a different gospel-not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the Gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed."**

Now, what about the other question, about whether the Lord encourages believers to pray for specific individuals? There is no doubt in my mind, and Scripture will bear this out, that the Holy Spirit can direct our hearts and our prayers toward specific people and needs. But when and if this happens, it is a private, and not a public thing. Nobody can say, "God has laid on my heart that all of us should pray right now for Billy Bob who has this need which has been revealed to me." God wants us to pray for others, and maybe even specific individuals, but we can't command others to do that. Such a prayer would be private not public; it leaves the ultimate result of the prayer in God's hands; and it certainly doesn't dictate to anyone that this is what they're supposed to do.

That's the View from Here

Pastor Bill Winter



## May 2024 Mission of the Month Orphan Grain Train

On April 11 they sent out a 40 foot high cube shipping container filled with 1,867 boxes of humanitarian relief supplies to Lima Peru from the regional branch in Sebewaing, MI.

They ship infant supplies, medical equipment, hygiene & school supplies, clothing, quilts & miscellaneous sports equipment & bicycles around the world.

Videos and local branch news can also be found online at

[www.ogt-mi.blogspot.com](http://www.ogt-mi.blogspot.com)



## CALL COMMITTEE

They have 4 candidates that are willing to engage with us at this time and will set up video interviews with them in the upcoming week. Please keep the committee in your prayers as we seek the Holy Spirit's guidance in the call process.

**NEED A PASTOR? During the Pastoral vacancy, Pastor Bill Winter (989-329-0164) and Pastor Ted Voll (989-980-1750) will be providing spiritual care for the Congregation. If you need to talk to a Pastor, please do not hesitate to call them.**



# CHRIST 4 KIDS 2024

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Saturday, May 11, 1-3pm

Theme: APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS

- We will begin our event by serving a light lunch
- Listen to a Biblical Kids Message
- View a "Douglas Talks" video based on scripture
- Crafts
- Play a variety of games (Ping pong, Musical Chairs, Wii, Twister, Basketball, Bag toss, Board games)
- Fellowship

This event is open to all children ages 4yrs. and up. Older kids are encouraged to attend and lend a helping hand to the little ones. Come and join us for a FUN afternoon and bring your friends. Please text Sheri 248-953-0034, or call our office 876-8910 to sign up, this will help us plan for food and supplies!

## The Closing of Church Doors

*Redeeming the Time – Fall 2023*

Brad K. Gsell

In our travels, it is always sad to see church buildings either being torn down, or "repurposed" as bars, nightclubs, restaurants, museums, apartments, and so forth. Some never were sound Bible-believing churches, but many were built with the sacrificial love of faithful saints who desired to see the work of the Lord flourish in their communities.

Recently, while traveling in Canada and New England, we saw quite a few of these "repurposed" buildings. Where we live, the local Methodist Church recently closed its doors. Dating from the 1800s, no trace remains. The land is now the site of newly-constructed apartments.

Hymnwriter Isaac Watts once penned the sentiment of all true Christians: "We long to see Thy churches full / That all the chosen race / May, with one voice and heart and soul / Sing Thy redeeming grace."

It would be nice to think that only "churches" which have abandoned Bible Christianity are closing down. But, in truth, even many solid churches in the United States are facing great challenges.

When we see the closure of church buildings, it is only a symptom of some troubling trends:

1. Our society is plummeting headlong into wickedness, and away from God.
2. The mainline churches have largely fallen into apostasy and decay. People leave because they are being served rocks for bread.
3. Many evangelical churches have adopted a surface, feel-good religion of self help and entertainment, which lacks solid Biblical nourishment.
4. Members of Bible-honoring churches have far too often become lukewarm and complacent. Young people have left the church in droves.

May we "Rise up, O men of God! / Have done with lesser things. / Give heart and mind and soul and strength / to serve the King of kings."

The church is NOT the building. It is we, as "living stones," that make up Christ's church.

Let us never forget, that no matter what, Christ promises us: "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"! (Matthew 16:18).



**TIMBERLINE ZONE LWML**  
**SPRING RALLY 2024**

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
5625 US 23; Oscoda, Mi.  
Phone: 989-739-9292



*We will be carpooling from Church  
to Trinity Lutheran in Oscoda  
leaving at 8:43am.*

Date: SATURDAY, MAY 4  
Time: 9:00am - 10:00am Refreshments  
10:00am - 3:30pm RALLY  
Theme: "God's Children"; Matt. 25-40  
Speaker: ANN HUME

INGATHERINGS for Ann's children:

MEN: Sleeveless muscle T-shirts, Boxers  
(size SMALL & MEDIUM), black & white socks.  
Belts (size SMALL).

BOYS: sleeveless muscle T-shirts (size 8-10),  
boxers (size 12-18), black & white socks,  
backpacks, twin sheets, thin bath towels,  
wash cloths, clotheslines. Belts (size 8-18)

FREE WILL DONATION accepted for Ann's  
children in her orphanage.

Henrietta Fortney 248-563-2133

Ann Hume 989-305-0888





## Alabama Supreme Court Rules That Frozen Embryos Are Persons

Ken Ham

answersingenesis.org

March 4, 2024



Good news from the state of Alabama! It's always encouraging when we can comment on an example of God's Word being consistently and accurately applied to the issues of our day—and we pray that this continues, because a recent Alabama Supreme Court decision has the potential to save the lives of countless unborn babies.

Here's the background on this decision. Three couples experienced the heartbreak of having their frozen embryos—their children—destroyed at a fertility clinic in Alabama. They brought forward a wrongful death case that made its way up to that state's highest court, which concluded that “an

1872 state law allowing parents to sue over the death of a minor child applies to all unborn children, regardless of their location.”

Justice Jay Mitchell stated,

Unborn children are “children” . . . without exception based on developmental stage, physical location, or any other ancillary characteristics.

And Chief Justice Tom Parker said,

Even before birth, all human beings bear the image of God, and their lives cannot be destroyed without effacing his glory.

Wow—it's incredibly rare to see a public figure acknowledge the truth that each person (including the unborn) is made in the image of God and that destroying a human life is wrong because it destroys a person who bears the image of the Creator. And it's important to understand that life begins at fertilization.

What's fascinating about this ruling is the response from the fertility industry, which is claiming that defining frozen embryos as what they are—human beings, persons—“really puts into question, the practice of IVF [in vitro fertilization],” with many claiming it will end this kind of fertility treatment in the state (reportedly some hospitals and clinics have temporarily halted the practice already). This is incredibly revealing! What these people are basically saying is that if we define, and must therefore treat, an embryo as a human being, IVF will be much more challenging.

Here at AiG, we have pointed out for years that typical IVF procedures destroy human life on a regular basis as a standard practice. Babies are graded, and only the ones deemed most “viable” are implanted. Babies that show signs of a genetic abnormality; are less “fit”; or, perhaps, are the sex the parents don't want are routinely discarded (killed). Or consider the fate of embryos who had siblings implanted and now mom and dad are finished having babies—those children will either be discarded, languish for years or decades in a freezer, or in some cases, will be mercifully put up for adoption so they can have a chance at life with a loving family.

The very fact that so many people are concerned about the future of reproductive technology in Alabama is a testament to the fact that practices like IVF, as a general rule, don't value human life or consider the babies they're creating in the lab to be actual persons, made in God's image with infinite value. It's horrifying to think of the thousands of babies “discarded” each day because of the eugenical practices of the reproductive industry!

As Christians, we can rejoice in this ruling that recognizes what's evident from the Word of God and from science—human life begins (whether in the womb or out of it) at the very moment of fertilization. And each and every person is uniquely fashioned in God's image and deserving of life. I encourage you to teach this truth to your children with resources such as *Crafted by God* by AiG's Dr. Georgia Purdom and Stacia McKeever.



# PENTECOST

## The Day

We celebrate the Day of Pentecost as the birthday of the Christian Church. The living and ascended Jesus poured out the Holy Spirit upon his disciples, fulfilling his promise to "send another Counselor." With a lively wind like the creative breath of God in Genesis' first chapter, the Spirit energized the disciples. This Spirit of Truth showed them the meaning of the Old Testament, the significance of Jesus' life and death, and baptized them with power to bring the Truth to the people of the world. They demonstrated this power by speaking in languages understood by visitors to Jerusalem from all over the ancient world.

## The History

St. Paul celebrated Passover-Easter with the Philippians, then hurried to keep Pentecost in Jerusalem (Acts 20:6,16).

In early centuries of the Western Church, Pentecost was the last call for baptisms for those who were not able to be baptized on Easter. Baptisms took place on the Saturday vigil, as at Easter, and included many of the same lessons and prayers.

In the Middle Ages, a variety of local customs developed around Pentecost. Roses were dropped from rafters to simulate the tongues of fire. Trumpets were sounded to recall the sound of the rushing wind. In Italy, the day was called *pasqua arassa* from the red vestments. Most widespread was the use of a dove to represent the Holy Spirit. A live dove was set free inside the church to fly off or a carved one was let down by a rope from the roof. Pentecost partying became widespread in England and Germany and, later, among the slaves and white settlers of the colonies of the New World.

## The Symbols

"Tongues" of fire appeared to hover over the disciples on Pentecost as a sign of the Lord's presence and power. In Old Testament times fire was often the sign of God's presence (Moses met the Lord at the burning bush) and of God's holiness, which may purify or punish.

Red is the liturgical color for Pentecost Day, a major festival of the Christian Church. Red traditionally reminds us of the offering of life—our lives—in the service of our Lord.

Baptism and acceptance of new members or confirmands is often part of Pentecost Sunday. In the New Testament, receiving the Holy Spirit is tied to baptism. John the Baptist talked about a baptism with the Holy Spirit and with fire which Jesus would bring. And when Jesus was baptized with water by John, the Spirit descended like a dove above him (Luke 3:15-22).

## The Words

*Pentecost* means *50th day*. The name *Pentecost* (like *Pascha*, the early Christian name for Easter) was taken over for Christian use from the Jews. For the Jews, Pentecost was the Feast of the Weeks, celebrating the end of the grain harvest. They presented bread made from the new grain as an offering to God. Also associated with the Jewish Pentecost was the giving of the Law to Moses and the founding of the Jewish community of faith. Early Christians found in their Pentecost a thanksgiving for the fruits of the Spirit, as the Jews gave thanks for the fruits of the earth, as well as the founding of the Christian Church, the successor to the Old Testament community.

The *Holy Spirit* throughout Scripture is a gift of the Lord and is, indeed, the Lord Himself. In the New Testament this Spirit of God descended on Jesus like a dove at his baptism (Matt. 3:16). On the Day of Pentecost the Spirit descended on Jesus' followers to clothe them with power, as he had promised (Luke 24:49). In the Book of Acts the Spirit that guided the apostles was called "the Spirit of Jesus." Peter proclaimed that the Day of Pentecost was the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy of an outpouring of the Spirit of prophecy (Acts 2:16-21). This gift was not confined to the Pentecost disciples, but the promise was "to you and your children and to all that are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him" (Acts 2:39).

*Paraclete* (Greek: *paraklytos*) is someone called to aid or to plead for, an advocate or counselor who exhorts, strengthens, and comforts. Jesus promised that the Father would give his disciples another *paraclete*, the Holy Spirit, who would guide and strengthen them, as Jesus had, but who was different from him. He would be the Spirit of truth, the guide to Christ, the Truth for the disciples and for those to whom they would preach the Gospel.

## The Season

This, the longest season of the church year, reaches from Pentecost Sunday (in May or June) to the First Sunday in Advent (in November). In the parts of Europe and England where the Festival of Trinity was popular, Sundays from Pentecost to Advent were usually numbered "after Trinity." The Roman Church continued the ancient practice of counting the Sundays "after Pentecost." In the Orthodox (Eastern) Church, the Sundays are known by their Gospel lessons (i.e., "after Matthew," etc.). Christian churches historically use this season to apply the lessons of the first half of the church year to our Christian life.

## Spiritual Gifts and Fruits of the Spirit

The New Testament pictures the Church as a community stirred and guided by the Spirit. Christians are "in the Spirit" and the Spirit lives in them (Rom. 8). They have tasted the "first fruits of the Spirit"—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control (Gal. 5:22-23). The gospel of salvation first announced by Jesus, then proclaimed by those who had heard it, is now confirmed by God through "signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his own will" (Heb. 2:4). Such "spiritual gifts" are for the common good and the well-being of the Church. Some Christians may find their gifts in healing, prophesying or teaching. Others in administration, assisting in worship or meeting other needs of the Christian community. Though our gifts vary, they come from one and the same Spirit for the good of the one Body of Christ, the Church. (1 Cor. 12).

## Hymn and Prayer to the Spirit

Come, Spirit Creator, live in the minds and fill the hearts of those whom you have made with perfect grace.

We know you as the Comforter, gift of food most high, fire, love, living fountain, and holy anointing of our lives.

With seven gifts you move as the finger of the Father's right hand; you are the One He promised to teach us heavenly words and understanding.

Warm us with fire from above, pour love into our hearts, and strengthen our weaknesses.

Drive the Evil One away, and give us lasting peace, so that, led by you, no harm will come to us.

Let us know the Father through you. Let us know the Son through you. Let us believe forever that you are the Spirit proceeding from the Father and the Son. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

# prolife update

According to the Urban Dictionary, this is what the expression “going in blind” means...“Approaching a situation without having any previous knowledge or not knowing what the outcome will be.”

Would you attempt to drive a car with your eyes closed? Would you ever dive off a dock headfirst without knowing how deep the water was? Would you take a job before you understood the hours, the pay, or the benefits? Would you sign a legal document without reading the fine print first? Of course not!

Nor would you agree to “go in blind” to a serious surgical procedure that has the potential to impact your mental, emotional, and physical health, and the risk of ending your life following severe complications.

Yet, that’s what Governor Whitmer and every Democrat in Lansing are trying to force on women when it comes to abortion, making it even more dangerous. How is it these folks claim to represent women when time after time they sacrifice a woman’s well-being at the altar of their abortion-loving special interest groups?!

## BACKGROUND

As you know, in 2022, our abortion-obsessed Governor, Attorney General, and Secretary of State won a second term. Equally as dangerous, pro-abortion Democrats took control of both the State House and the State Senate. Here’s just a partial description of the damage that has been done thus far:

- They repealed abortion clinic health and safety licensing regulations.
- They repealed the abortion reporting law.
- They eliminated all abortion complication reporting.
- They legalized partial-birth abortion.
- They repealed the abortion insurance opt-out law.
- They removed guardrails against college pregnancy centers referring for abortion.

All the above has been struck from the Michigan law, putting Michigan families, women, parents, and children, including of course the unborn, at greater risk than they have been in decades. Still, the Governor and her pro-abortion colleagues are not satisfied...not by a long shot! They are moving quickly to the next items on their abortion-only agenda.

## LONG TERM

To defeat the deadly forces at work in our state capitol, we must stay one step ahead of our opponents. Below, is a brief description of the long-term battles that lie ahead:

- A four-bill package has already been introduced in our State Senate designed to legalize physician-assisted suicide in Michigan.
- Pro-abortion forces in Lansing threaten parental rights with their desire to eliminate parental consent in the abortion decision-making process.
- To add insult to injury, our opponents want to force you and me to pay for abortion on demand with our hard-earned tax dollars.

(over)



## SHORT TERM

In the short term, here is an issue that needs our immediate attention:

- On February 6, four groups, with an abortion provider leading the way, launched a horrendous lawsuit threatening a woman's right to know. Their goal is to strip informed consent from abortion in Michigan.
- That's right. After the Democrats in Lansing failed to get the votes to remove informed consent last fall, they are now attempting to weaponize the courts against women.
- They want to eliminate the requirement that a woman be provided with detailed information on the abortion procedure and the aftermath.
- No more 24-hour waiting period.
- No requirements ensuring that a doctor performs the abortion.

In other words, a woman who is scared and considering an abortion would go in blind! She would no longer be provided unbiased, uniform medical information by the state on the risks that abortion poses to her physical, emotional, and psychological health. She won't even know if the person performing her abortion is a licensed physician.

This is what the Governor, pro-abortion Democrats in the House and Senate, along with the pro-abortion apparatus in this state call "*pro-woman.*" No way!

Asking a woman to go in blind to make one of the most important decisions of her life is anything but pro-woman. You know it, and I know it. It's just common sense.

While abortion in Michigan is legal, every woman has a right to know the risks involved with the abortion procedure and the available alternatives. She also has the right to take at least 24 hours to think about this critical decision rather than being rushed into a life-altering choice.

Informed consent is a standard of care and is expected of any other medical procedure.

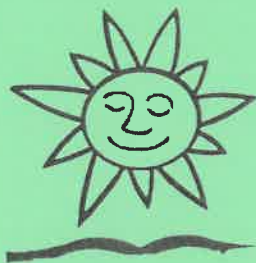
At Right to Life of Michigan, we are committed to standing for and with women. No one should go in blind to get an abortion – facts matter! If we work together, with your unyielding support, we can shed the light of life on the dark and deadly practice of abortion in Michigan.

Thank you and God bless you for your continued support!

With deepest appreciation,



Amber Roseboom  
President  
Right to Life of Michigan



### **Camp Lu Lay Lea Registration is now OPEN!**

Camp Lu Lay Lea is a Christian Summer Camp for youth ages 8-14. Camp Lu Lay Lea is located on Henderson Lake near West Branch, Michigan. We are offering 5 one-week sessions (Sunday-Saturday) this summer. Youth campers have the ability to participate in daily Chapel, boating/canoeing, campfires, arts and crafts, gaga ball, devotions, three different games a day, skits, singing, swimming, making new friends and so MUCH MORE! To learn more about our camp and schedule, go to [www.camplulaylea.org](http://www.camplulaylea.org).



## Coffee Hour, Snacks & Fellowship

after worship on Sundays.

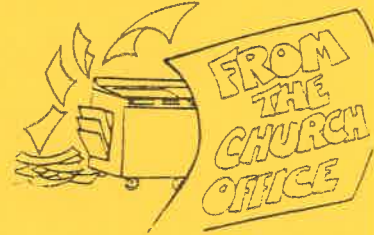
Come & enjoy some yummy snacks!

If you wish to donate/help serve for the month of May see the signup sheet in the fellowship hall or contact our

May hostess:

Vicki Huber 989-646-2187

St. John Lutheran Church, AuGres is looking to hire a new church secretary. We are hoping to fill this position before we bring our new Pastor on board. Cheryl Appold, our current secretary, plans to continue in her position through the transition to a new Pastor. It is our hope that the new secretary will have shared time with Cheryl before and during the transition to our new Pastor. Anyone interested in the church secretary position can obtain a copy of the Position Posting/Description in the office of the church.



All-Church

Voter's Meeting

*Please join us after worship & coffee hour*

*Sunday, May 5,*

**& Potbless**

*approximately 10:15am.*

*Bring your favorite dish to share with your church family.*

*See you there!*

### Children's Church:

Regular Sunday Children's Church continues with 2 classes having varying numbers of children attending each Sunday. The children participated in the Palm Sunday service as a palm-waving procession and handing out palms to the congregation. This session of Children's church will end on May 19<sup>th</sup> and be on summer break until September 8<sup>th</sup> when it restarts.



Submitted by Roxanne Klein



**Summer Worship:** Please note that due to our pastor vacancy situation we will not be holding the summer Saturday evening worship services. Sunday worship will remain at 9:00 am as the only weekly summertime worship until our vacancy is filled.





## Creation's splendor

In Romans 1:20, St. Paul writes that God's powers are on display for all people through creation. Humans, he reasons, should conclude there's a God simply by observing.



What does creation's splendor and beauty reveal to us about God? Take a moment and stick your head out the window. It's amazing how colorful creation is. God isn't a boring God who sees only in black and white. He's a God of beauty with an amazing imagination. God creates with a splash of joy.

Every day this week, stop and ask, "What is God's creation revealing to me about his character?"

—Rev. Mike Paulson

# St. John Lutheran Au Gres Phone Directory 2022 Phone Directory Updates



If you know of any changes/corrections of your families information, please let the church office know either by phone (989-876-8910) or e-mail (office@stjohnaugres.com). All updates will be printed in the monthly newsletter. Please remember to update your 2022 directory.

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# CELEBRATE the Savior Jesus Gives Us Joy

We will be making a 2024 Directory soon. Please look over the 2022 Directory and see if any changes and/or additions are needed.

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
206 North Court St., Au Gres, Michigan



Invites children ages 4 thru teens to  
***Celebrate the Savior***  
**Vacation Bible School**  
**July 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**Evenings - 6 to 8pm**

## ?? ? Bible Quiz ? ? ?

Which follower of Jesus preached to the crowds after receiving the Holy Spirit on Pentecost?

- A. John
- B. Peter
- C. Mary Magdalen
- D. Paul



Answer: B (See Acts 2:14ff)

### Lots of Fun Activities

Music & Singing / Bible Lessons / Outdoor Games  
Craft Projects / Snacks / Mission Project  
Family Night & Picnic

For questions or to pre-register call 989-876-8910  
or e-mail [office@stjohnaugres.com](mailto:office@stjohnaugres.com)



Please join us for quilting  
Thursday, May 16, 10am-3pm  
or however long you wish to stay.

You also may take squares home to assemble  
at your convenience.

All our quilts are donated to those in need  
either locally (pregnancy centers, The Closet  
Exchange, veterans hospitals, or to  
Orphan Grain Train in Sebewaing, MI.



Join us as we gather with Pastor & Linda Cordts and the residents for  
Hymn Sing-along  
with Bible Lesson & Prayer  
at Eden Fields Assisted Living in Standish  
(front lobby - sitting area)  
Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 1:00pm.



They love music so come and sing unto our Lord with them.  
All are invited to share the love of Christ with the residents.



### Ladies Card Party

Come for an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and competition  
Learn some new games on Friday, May 10, 2024  
in the multi-purpose room.  
Snacks & beverages provided.

~ Worship Services Online ~

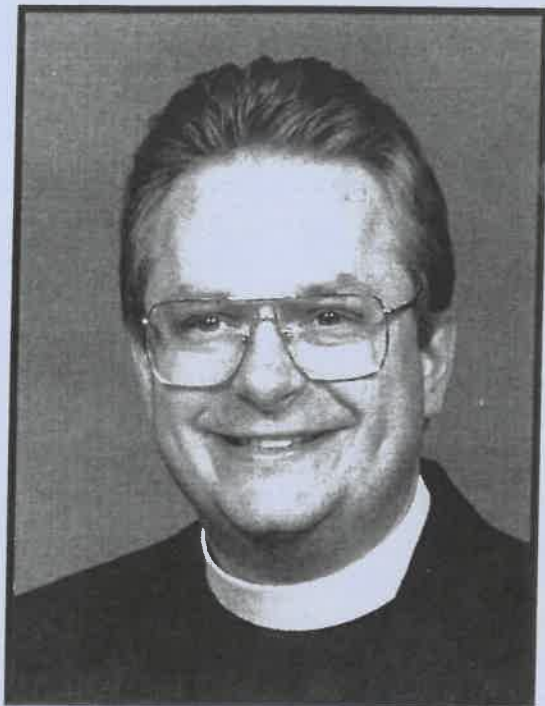
You may stream our worship services online  
[www.stjohnaugres.org](http://www.stjohnaugres.org) or directly on YouTube.

Subscribe today.





## *In Remembrance*



***Rev. David Michael Ulm***  
***January 26, 1954***  
***May 26, 2020***

Rev. David M. Ulm first attended the University of TN where he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Biology and Chemistry. Next he obtained his Master's of Divinity Degree in 1980 from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. Rev. Ulm answered his first solemn call to St. John's Lutheran Church in Au Gres, MI, where he was ordained and installed in June 1980. He accepted his next call to Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chesterfield, MI in Jan. 1984. He continued to serve as pastor here for 35 years, until his retirement in December 2019. Pastor Ulm was passionate about striving to deliver flawless Divine Service liturgy. He supported music and sang in the church choir. Pastor worked tirelessly to teach the catechism to youth and dedicated adults desiring church membership. Pastor Ulm was proud of the children growing up in his parish. He was an avid reader, enjoyed movies and was an active theatre supporter (Stratford, ONT, his favorite). Pastor was a thorough perfectionist, yet joined in with our joking. Rev. Ulm was the beloved son of Marlys and the late Walter Ulm. He is the dear brother of Barbara O'Quinn, Daniel and Mark. He is also survived by many admiring nieces and nephews and great nieces and great nephews. Due to Covid, a semi-private funeral was held on June 3, 2020. Today we rejoice as a community to share in our grief and celebrate the positive impact Pastor Ulm has made in our lives.

## *In Remembrance*

***Rev. David Michael Ulm***  
***January 26, 1954 - May 26, 2020***

### ***Service:***

*9:15 a.m.*  
*Sunday, June 9, 2024*  
*Good Shepherd Evangelical*  
*Lutheran Church*  
*Rev. Timothy D. Storck, Officiating*  
*Rev. Larry Peters, Preaching*

*Please join us in social gathering immediately following the service where we can share fond memories. A light brunch will be served.*  
*RSVP – Carol 586-549-8145*

Wasik Funeral Home  
New Baltimore



## **MEMORIAL DAY**

**Let's remember our brothers & sisters  
who served and/or are serving today  
in the branches of military service.**

## + St. John Lutheran AuGres + Church Activites for May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 *** *** ***	2 *** *** ***	3 *** *** ***	4 LWML Timberline Zone Spring Rally @ Trinity Oscoda 10am-3:30pm Carpooling 8:43am
5 Contemporary Worship/HC 9am Voter's Meeting & Potbless 10:15am	6 WOW Bible Study 10am	7 *** *** ***	8 *** *** ***	9 *** *** ***	10 Ladies Card Party 1-4pm	11 Christ 4 Kids 1-3pm
12 Worship Ascension (obs) 9am Blood Pressure Clinic 10:15am Bible Study 10:15am	13 WOW Bible Study 10am	14 *** *** ***	15 *** *** ***	16 Quilting 10am-3pm Elders 6pm Church Council 7pm	17 *** *** ***	18 *** *** ***
19 Worship/HC 9am Bible Study 10:15am Eden Fields 1pm	20 WOW Bible Study 10am	21 Ladies Aid Meeting 1pm	22 *** *** ***	23 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	24 *** *** ***	25 *** *** ***
26 Worship 9am Bible Study 10:15am	27 MEMORIAL DAY	28 *** *** ***	29 *** *** ***	30 *** *** ***	31 *** *** ***	

by Cheryl Appold  
St. John Lutheran Church Secretary



## Free refills

God's kingdom is like free refills at a restaurant. Wait — *what?!*

Jesus used common, everyday items to explain the kingdom of God; we can too! The kingdom is like free refills. Still thirsty after one soda or coffee? Get another — no charge. In fact, the kingdom of God is *better* than free refills because you don't even have to pay for the first glass.

It's like having a parent buy you a favorite meal when you're young. You sit back and savor it without the price crossing your mind. That's okay, because the generous giver loves you and wants to be with you.

Sure, that's simplistic, but so are Jesus' parables. Overanalyze them and they may fall apart. But ponder the single point each makes, maybe get a chuckle and an *a-ha!* out of it, and that parable has done its job. So grab another free refill — of your beverage and of God's love!

—Heidi Mann

**L**oving  
**I**nvolving  
**G**rowing  
**H**onoring  
**T**eaching

### Mission Statement

"The mission of St. John Lutheran Church is to make the love of Christ known within the church, the community, and the world through preaching, teaching, reaching out to the community, and spreading the Word of God to all people."



Sunday Worship 9:00am

Sunday Bible Study 10:15am

Monday WOW 10:00am  
(Women of the Word)  
Bible Study

may

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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