

Pastor's Letter





Grace, Mercy, and Peace to you and your family from our Creator, our Savior Jesus Christ, and our Sustainer, the Holy Spirit!!

September begins our intentional discernment journey of 'Listening Together.' This collective journey will guide us as a church to what God is calling us too next.

As we begin this journey together, it is valuable to discover our

biblical, given to everyone, essential to discipleship, and

exciting to discover and reveal. We know through scripture that we all have gifts through the Spirit.

1st Corinthians 12: ⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, ⁵ and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.



God has given each of us useful gifts, as we are part of the Body of Christ. These spiritual gifts are special abilities, talents, or capacities given to us by the Holy Spirit for the purpose of loving God, others, and creation. They are gifts that come naturally to us and bring us joy and life. Some enjoy reading, others organizing. Some folks like to work behind the scenes, while others prefer hospitality. I would like to offer a tool to help us recognize our spiritual gifts. To help us better recognize our gifts and talents, I invite you to visit this website, <u>*Gifts for You: Opening Your Spiritual Gifts*</u> for a Spiritual Gifts Assessment. The assessment is found on pages 10-15 of the document.

On September 15^{th,} OSLC will hold a Ministry Team 'Open House' during our Fellowship hour after the 9:00 am worship service in the Fellowship Hall. What is a ministry team 'Open House?' I'm glad you asked. Each Ministry Team will have time and space to explain their

role and responsibilities in our ministry together at OSLC. We hope this will be an invitation for you to connect your gifts and talents (the gifts and talents that give you life) to the communities of OSLC and PLM. By taking some time and completing the Spiritual Gifts inventory, you will discover the gifts God has blessed you so that you can continue in God's call individually and collectively for OSLC. We hope you will join us in this fun and exciting time together.

Peace,

Pastor Randy



Wabash Pastoral Leadership Program:

October 4-16 (Study Tour to Ghana) December 2-4



News & Notes



Ministry Team Open House-Sunday, Sept. 15th

As we approach our annual fall stewardship campaign, we will once again be inviting all members of OSLC to pledge their financial support for the coming year. This year, we're also placing a special emphasis on encouraging members to volunteer their time and talents by joining one of our many ministry teams. To give everyone a better understanding of the vital work these teams do, your Church Council has organized a special Ministry Team Open House during the Adult Forum hour on Sunday, Sept. 15th. Each ministry team chair or representative will present a brief 2-3 minute "elevator speech" to highlight their team's contributions to the life of our congregation. This is a fantastic opportunity to learn more about the different ways you can get involved and make a meaningful impact in the life of OSLC. Plus, there will be a bit of friendly competition to see which team can attract the most new members! Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this informative and inspiring event. We look forward to seeing you there!

Council Highlights

- Faith Formation: Ministry Fair: There will be volunteers sitting at the table and talking with people. Missy will have information about Faith Formation and pictures to share. Holly Black is reigniting the Book Club and Hearts & Crafts this fall. The Women's Retreat will be September 21st and will be lead by Missy Schroeder and Suzanne Clemenz, who is the pastor at Trinity UMC and a fellow Spiritual Director.
- **Social Justice:** Working on school kits and line items for the budget.
- Stewardship: Carl Behnke is putting together a Stewardship pamphlet for the stewardship package to go out with the pledge cards. Stewardship campaign will be held in Sept. and Oct.

Stewardship

You are amazing! Truly amazing!

Because of your generous gifts of time, talents, and treasures, OSLC and PLM continue in God's call and ministry.

OSLC Members: The Stewardship Team is currently working on the information for the Stewardship packages. These packages will include the proposed 2023 budget, a 'Time and Talents' form, a stewardship prayer, and an invitation to prayerfully discern your financial contribution to support God's mission through OSLC in 2025. Stewardship packages will be available to pick up at church on Sunday, September 29th during service hours. If you are not available to pick them up, we will mail out what remains on September 30th. Pledge (Commitment) Sunday, when we invite you to return those pledges, will be Sunday October 20th. You may place them in the offering plate that Sunday or mail them using the included envelope.

Ministry Team Chairs/ Teams: <u>Remember to discuss your annual budget requests and send</u> <u>them to Steve Belter for budget planning by September 10th</u>. During September and October, the Financial Team will need those requests as the stewardship process begins to budget for 2025. Current Ministry Teams include Property, Worship & Music, Faith Formation, Operations, Social Justice, Mutual Ministry, Care, and Fellowship Events. If you coordinate specific ministries, such as LUM, Family Promise, or Food Finders and wish to include gifts as separate budget lines, please request the gift amount for consideration.

Thank you for all you do, your continued support of loving and serving God and neighbor. You are appreciated and loved. You are a child of God, deserving of love and respect and God will use you to change the world!

Peace,

Pastor Randy

Our Saviour's Love we Celebrate



Faith Formation September News



As we transition into the new routines of school, fall activities, and the bustling life at OSLC, I find myself reflecting on the words of Jerome Berryman, the founder of Godly Play: "We have all the time we need." While I may not always feel this way amidst the busy pace, it's a reminder to embrace and explore.

I believe God doesn't want us to be driven by obligation, societal expectations, or external pressures. Instead, God calls us to be drawn toward life, light, and love. In John 10:10, Jesus says, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

As the Faith Formation Director, my prayer is that we provide opportunities that infuse our community with life, meaning, and joy. I encourage you to find what nourishes and helps you experience this abundant life. As you navigate this new season, consider how God invites you to embrace a fuller, richer existence. Whether you engage in activities at OSLC, explore other community opportunities, or simply take time to rest, I hope you encounter the boundless life and love that God generously offers to us all.





Facebook-"Like" OSLC's page for Sunday Worship streamed live, updates and upcoming events: https://www.facebook.com/osluth/

Happy Fall!! *****

Nursery is Available

OSLC has a nursery for children from infants through 5 years old in our lower level staffed with a paid nursery attendant, Crystal. Crystal is a Purdue Student majoring in Elementary Education and has completed the Red Cross Adult, Child, and Infant First Aid and CPR course. Crystal will welcome your child

(ren) during our 9:00 am service and Faith Formation hour. For more information or questions, contact Missy Schroeder at missy@osluth.org or 260-402-4477.

Sunday School- Begins on September 8th

Sunday School is from 10:15 am to 11:15 am. We have classes for children ages 2-5 in the Nursery with Crystal. We offer Godly Play for our elementary school-age children in grades K-5 and confirmation classes for 6th -8- 8th children. Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for a coffee hour around 10:00 am. The children will be welcomed to the Godly Play Worship Center (the Sunday School room) and Nursery at 10:15. If you have any questions or want more information, contact Missy Schroeder at missy@osluth.org or 260-402-4477.

Adult Forum

September 8th- Servant Sunday (All ministry teams are invited to meet during the adult Forum time for their monthly meetings.)

September 15th- Ministry Fair—Please join us in the Fellowship Hall to explore all the different ministries OSLC offers and learn how you can be part of the amazing ministry happening at OSLC.

September 22nd- Christian Spiritual Practice Experiential Learning time with Missy Schroeder (This is part of OSLC's discernment process.)

September 29th-Christian Spiritual Practice Experiential Learning time with Missy Schroeder (This is a part of OSLC's discernment process.)

Women's Retreat– Wisdom, Prayer & Our Bodies

September 21st, from 9:00 am- 3:30 pm at Ross Hills Camp. Join us for a day to explore our relationships with our bodies, prayer, reflection, conversation, lunch, a gentle yoga session, and time in nature. Spiritual Directors Missy Schroeder and Suzanne Clemenz, along with Gentle Yoga Instructor Linda Kelly, will guide the retreat. The attendance fee is \$35.00, payable by check to OSLC. For more information, contact Missy at missy@osluth.org or 260-



402-4477. To sign up, click the Women's Retreat Sign Up link, scan the QR Code, or sign up in the Narthex.



Listening Together: OSLC's Discernment Journey facilitated by Missy Schroeder



In September 2023, OSLC embarked on a spiritual journey to discern God's invitation for our community's future. This discernment process began with three retreats involving both our church council and congregation. Together, we reflected with honesty and love on our past, our present identity, and the Spirit's guidance for our future.

As we continue this journey, our focus is on understanding what God is calling us to do next. Over the next six months, I am honored to guide you through this discernment process, which is distinct from decision-making or strategic planning. In the Adult Forum this September, we will delve deeper into the differences between discernment and decision-making. Our goal during this period is to deepen our understanding of discernment and practice listening attentively to God, each other, and our community.

Many of you know me from my role as the Faith Formation Director at OSLC, a role I deeply cherish. My broader experience also prepares me uniquely for this journey:

- Spiritual Director
- ELCA Accredited Coach
- Professional training in Discernment, Deep Listening, Spiritual and Congregational Transformation, Missional Development, Discipleship, Leadership, and End-of-Life and Grief
- Assistant Director of the Indiana-Kentucky Synods' transformational ministry process, Ecumenical Connect (E-Connect)

Our discernment process will include the following key components:

1. **Spiritual Practices**. We will engage in prayer and practices designed to help us listen to God both individually and as a community. Our approach will remain centered on openness to God's leading throughout our discernment.

2. **Grounding**. We will explore OSLC's current identity through a congregational values exercise I will lead in October. This builds on our previous work in the "Honoring the Past, Experiencing the Present, and Discerning the Future" retreats. The insights from these retreats will inform our ongoing process. Additionally, the church council will participate in a retreat early next year to further discern OSLC's purpose and guiding principles.

3. Listening. Our process starts with prayer and attentive listening to the Spirit. We will continue by engaging in community conversations and listening to feedback from the congregation.

4. **Exploring**. As we stay grounded and listen deeply, the council will explore and evaluate options that arise from our discernment. Together, we will develop goals and plans aligned with where the Spirit is leading us.

You will have multiple opportunities to participate in this journey and in prayer as we seek to understand where God is inviting OSLC. Please check the bulletin and Evangel for upcoming times and dates. I look forward to embarking on this journey with you. For any questions, feel free to contact me at <u>missy@osluth.org</u>, Council President Bob Nielsen at <u>cornguy.rln@gmail.com</u>, or Pastor Randy at <u>randy@osluth.org</u>.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thurs-	Fri-	Saturday		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
9 AM Worship in-person & Zoom 11:15 AM Servant Sunday 5 PM Breaking Bread Meal 5:45 PM Breaking Bread Worship	9 AM Centering Prayer via zoom	6 PM Pax 6:30 PM Pints with Pastor @ Nine Irish Brothers, West Lafayette	12pm Luncheon Lectio via zoom	7 PM AA		8:30 AM Men's Breakfast @ Café Literato		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
9AM Worship in-person & Zoom 5PM Breaking Bread Meal 5:45PM Breaking Bread Worship	9 AM Centering Prayer via zoom	6 PM Pax	12pm Luncheon Lectio via zoom	7 PM AA		 9AM OSLC Council Meeting @ OSLC 3:30PM Purdue vs. Notre Dame @ @ Ross-Ade Stadium 		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
9:00 AM Worship in-person & Zoom 10:15AM Ministry Team Fair 5 PM Breaking Bread Meal 5:45 PM Breaking Bread Worship	9 AM Centering Prayer via zoom	6 PM Pax	12pm Luncheon Lectio via zoom	7 PM AA		9AM-3PM Women's Retreat @ Ross Hills Park		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
9 AM Worship in-person & Zoom 5 PM Breaking Bread Meal 5:45 PM Breaking Bread Worship	9 AM Centering Prayer via zoom	6 PM Pax	12pm Luncheon Lectio via zoom	7 PM AA		12:00PM Purdue vs. Nebraska @ Ross-Ade		
29	30							
9 AM Worship in-person & Zoom 5 PM Breaking Bread Meal 5:45 PM Breaking Bread Worship	9 AM Centering Prayer via zoom							
Dates OSLC Closed in 2024								
 September 2: Labor Day November 28 and 29: Thanksgiving December 24 and 25: Christmas 								

• December 24 and 25: Christmas

*	Worship Assistant Schedule for September								
Date	Cantor	Assisting Minister	Lector	Usher	Assistant to Mike Williams				
September 1	Russ Hillberry	Mike Dana	Reuben Peterson	Marcia Daehler	Matt Ohland				
September 8	Scott Vana	Mike Dana	Pam Miller	Marcia Daehler					
September 15	Kathy Heise	Dick Rahdert	Kathy Grogan	Jesse Grogan	Ted Heise				
September 22	Russ Hillberry	Bob Nielsen	Dick Rahdert		Matt Ohland				
September 29	Mark Hermodson	Kathy Grogan	Dick Rahdert		Jesse Grogan				

Preparation for Worship

"Lord ... whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe: be there at our labors, and give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts." ("Lord of All Hopefulness," Jan Struther) * * *

Isaiah declares: "Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God'" (35:4, NRSV). May we sense your nearness, Lord, so our anxieties may be stilled.

God, some of my friends think I'm foolish to spend time at church. Remind me I'm not alone — it has always been so for Christians — but in Christ's cross is your saving power. Amen. (See 1 Corinthians 1:18.) * * *

"Hear my prayer, O God; listen to the words of my mouth. ... I will praise your name, Lord, for it is good" (Psalm 54:2, 6, NIV).

Lord, the psalmist says your law revives the soul and rejoices the heart (Psalm 19:7-8). Feed and water my heart with your good law today, that I may flourish with love for you and all people. Amen.

Words of Welcome

Welcome to worship this Labor Day weekend. May God be in our work and our leisure, our fellowship and our praise. * * *

What a glorious day as we return to [*or* share in] a full program schedule! Welcome [back] to worship, Christian education and fellowship today!

* * *

God told Moses to raise a bronze serpent on a pole so people who were sick could look at it and be healed (Numbers 21:4-9). Likewise, we look to Christ, raised up on a cross, and our souls are healed. Welcome to worship.

Welcome to worship in the name of God — Father, Son and Holy Spirit — who created you, saved you and makes you holy. Amen. * * *

God has gathered us here out of all different circumstances. Whether you carry joy or heaviness in your heart, I encourage

you to lay it at the feet of Jesus. Give your whole self to God in worship. Welcome.





Rite of Installation



Your prayers and presence are requested on Saturday, October 12, 2024 at 2:00 pm

for the

Holy Eucharist

with the

Rite of Installation

of the fourth bishop of the Indiana Kentucky Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Reverend Timothy Mark Graham

Christ the Savior Lutheran Church 10500 126th Street, Fishers, Indiana

A reception will follow the service.

ELCA pastors and deacons and clergy of other traditions are invited to vest and should arrive at 1:00 pm. The color of the day is red.

RSVP by September 15 to wendy@thepianos.com



Service Opportunities & Community Activities

Purdue Football Game Parking

It is that time of year again, Football season! That means we need parking attendant volunteers. Volunteers arrive three hours before the game, collect funds for the parking, and park the cars. (There are detailed instructions for the attendants.) The parking proceeds go to our youth gathering event fund and PLM. The next youth gathering is in July 2027. PLM is taking the October 18th game. OSLC must fill the slots for the rest of the home games. Please click on the link or scan the QR code to the Sign Up Genius to find a date for when you can help. I will have a paper copy on the table near the office door. The first three games listed have times; the November game's time is TBD. I will update the Sign Up Genius as soon as I know the time. Thank



Hearts and Crafts



You! Purdue Football Parking Sign-Up

Hearts and Crafts will begin again on Tuesday, September 10th, at 1:30 in Fellowship Hall. We will start with easy card making, and you can bring a craft to work on. We plan to meet monthly- we will have a small make-and-take project and then time to work on our own crafts. (May alternate between Tuesdays and Thursdays.) For more information, contact Holly Black at <u>hmwb26@aol.com</u>



Service Opportunities & Community Activities Continued

Lafayette Urban Ministry is gearing up for a special event on Monday, September 9 — an Open House to celebrate the expansion of the LUM Protein Food Pantry hours. We need volunteers to help with setup, serving food, and cleanup. Here are the details:

- Location: St. John's Episcopal Church, 350 N 6th Street (between North & Ferry Streets), Lafayette, IN
- Volunteer Opportunities:
 - ♦ Set-up Time: 10:00 a.m. Noon
 - ♦ Serve Food Time: 11:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m.
 - ♦ Clean-up & Breakdown Time: 12:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m.
 - ◊ Pick up Pizza from Arni's & bring to Open House Time: 11:00 a.m.

If you can help with any of these tasks, please sign up online - click <u>HERE</u>. Volunteers like you are an important part of making this event a success, and we appreciate any time you can give. Don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions! Thanks for being such an important part of our LUM community!

Working Mom's Group

You are invited to join us for OSLC's Working Mom's Group on the first Saturday of the month at The Lobby by Grey House from 9:30 -11:00. Our next meeting is on **Saturday**, **October 5**, at Java House located at 4729 Meijer Ct., Lafayette, IN 47905. This casual group meets to support one another as moms and women working outside the home. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Missy Schroeder at missy@osluth.org or 260-402-4477.

Centering Prayer Group

Join us every Monday morning for Centering Prayer at OSLC online via zoom from 9:00 - 9:30 am. The zoom link will be sent out on Fridays with the worship zoom link.

Luncheon Lectio Divina- Praying with Scripture

Join us every Wednesday at noon via zoom for Lectio Divina. The zoom link will be sent on Fridays with the worship zoom link.

Book Club

Holly Black and Sandra Vana will host a virtual Book Club this fall. The Book Club will read three books and will meet via Zoom. The first meeting is September 19th at 7:00 p.m. At our September meeting, we will set the October and November dates. The September book is "Winter Garden" by Kristin Hannah. To get the Zoom link, email Sandra Vana at <u>donklady3@gmail.com</u>.

2024 Annual Environment and Spirituality Summit (formerly known as the Green Team Summit) is scheduled for September 22nd-24th. If you are interested and want more information please use this link <u>https://aes-summit.org/</u> or contact Shelley Lowenburg-DeBoer <u>shelleyldb@hotmail.com</u>

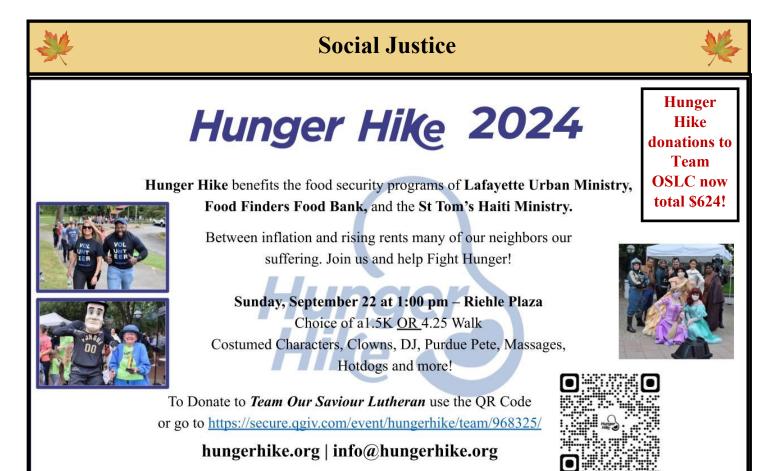


Hosts Invited for Fellowship Hour

We all love to gather after church for coffee and fellowship! We are looking for volunteers to make coffee for the fellowship hour. If you would like to bring a snack that would be much appreciated but not necessary. The sign up sheet is in the fellowship hall.

Times and Locations of Ministry Meetings

Property normally meets on the first Sunday of the month, shortly after the 9:00 service ends. The meeting is moved to other Sundays as needed to accommodate the schedules of its members. If you are interested in attending the meetings or joining the property ministry team, please contact Matt Ohland at <u>ohland@purdue.edu</u> to be notified of changes in the regular meeting time **Congregational Life** meets in the Fellowship Hall on Servant Sundays. All are welcome! **Faith Formation** meets via zoom to accommodate the schedules of its members. New members are welcome! Contact Missy Schroeder (missy@osluth.org) for more info. **Operations** meets only when there is a need or crisis. If you would like to attend one of the meetings, please email Dick Rahdert and he will notify you of the time and place. **Finance** normally meets on Servant Sunday afternoon via zoom. Meetings are usually suspended during the months of June, July, and August. **Social Justice** meets in the Fellowship Hall on Servant Sunday. All are welcome! **Evangelism** meets on Servant Sundays, usually via zoom. Scott Vana would be happy to send you a zoom invite.



Items Still Needed for each LWR School Kit

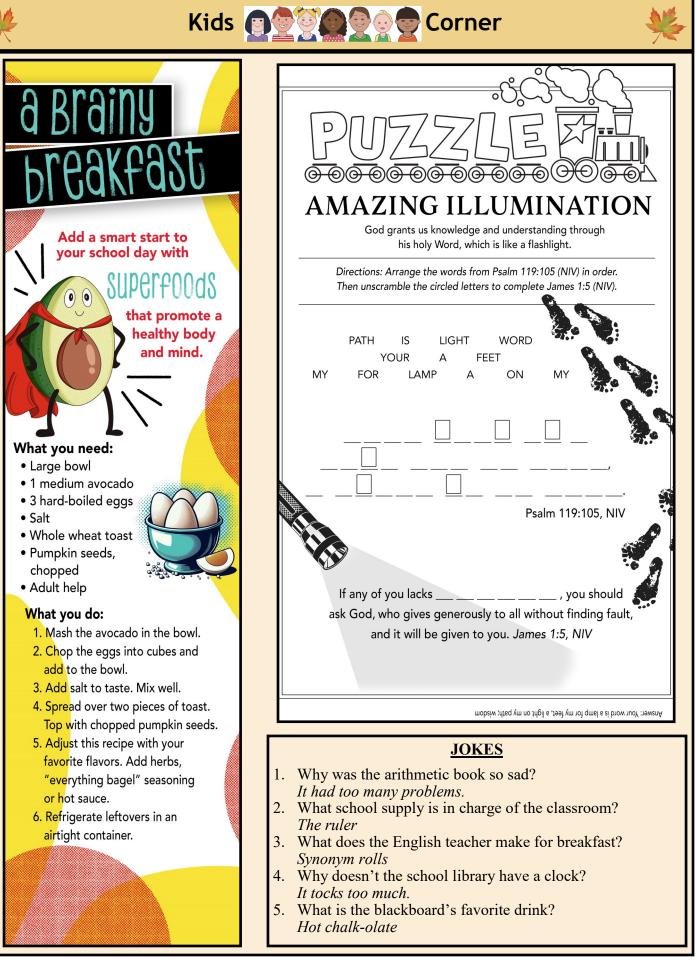
- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide– or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x $10^{1/2}$ "; no loose leaf Paper (Need 100 notebooks)
- •One 30-centemeter ruler, or ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other (Need 12 rulers)
- One pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well) (Need 30 scissors)
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band (Need 70 pens)



Volunteer Opportunities

- We need folks to fill the bags on October 6 after the morning service.
- The blessing of quilts and kits will be on October 13.
- We need boxes.
- We need folks to box quilts and kits.
- We need folks to load the truck, van, or whatever vehicle is used.
- We need someone to take the kits and quilts to Fort Wayne (8am to noon) or Valparaiso (2-5pm) on Saturday, October 19.

You can contact Sandra Vana (<u>donklady3@gmail.com</u>) with questions or to volunteer for the above activities.







WELCOME, BOILERMAKERS!

We've been busy through August welcoming back returning students and meeting new and incoming students. Whether handing out free cups of water on the PLM patio or finding new friends at worship, the Holy Spirit has been at work making many new connections.

Worship Opportunities

Sunday morning: worship with local congregations Our Saviour or Holy Trinity

Sunday Evening: "Breaking Bread" dinner-church & Evening Prayer

Wednesday Dinners

at the PLM House 6pm

Rainbow CallOUT 9/10, 6-8pm Co-Rec Black & Gold Gyms

Spring Break 2025

Mission Guatemala

Deadline for application:

October 9, 2024

*application will require passport

number. passport much be current through October 2025

MARCH 15-22, 2025

Join us for a Spring Break trip to remember!

This trip is open to Purdue students, PLM alum, and community members. Please email plm@plm.org for an application or...

Come to one of the following events to learn more: Breaking Bread on 9/8, 5pm or

Wednesday Dinner 9/18, 6pm info meeting at 7pm

www.plm.org

Follow us on social media to stay up-to-date!



Want to support PLM this year? Here are a few ideas:

*Scan the QR code at the bottom of the page for all the links that make these ideas possible.

One of the best ways you can support PLM is to let people know about us! If you know of any student attending Purdue, encourage them to get in touch.

Visit our website where you can **refer** students to us and students can join our email list.

We've got an **Amazon Wish List**!

The PLM House could always use a few extra things to help the students feel more at home





www.plm.org

Follow us on social media to stay up-to-date!



Sign up to sponsor Wednesday Dinner by providing your favorite home-cooked meal.

Unable to bring food? **Fund** a Wednesday dinner. It usually costs \$75-\$100 to provide food for 12-15 young adults

Consider **sponsoring** a student's trip to Guatemala for Spring Break. The cost per participant is estimated at ~\$2500, most of which is airfare.

PLM is committed to ensuring every student's participation regardless of financial need. News items for the October *Evangel* are due to the office (info@osluth.org) by **9/18/2023**. Please type "Evangel" in the subject line.

OSLC Staff

(765) 743-2931 www.osluth.org Randy Schroeder, Pastor Erin Thompson, Office Administrator Missy Schroeder, Director of Faith Formation Beth Dana, Julie Huetteman & Sandra Vana, Musicians Mike Williams, AV Specialist Najib Wardag, Cleaning Staff

PLM Purdue Lutheran Ministry (765) 743-2398 www.plm.org Pastor Kristin Rice Amy Brown, Office Manager 330 West Fowler Ave West Lafayette, IN 47906

Congregational Officers

President: Bob Nielsen Vice President: Ainsley Hargus Treasurer: John Mills Financial Secretary: Ted Heise Secretary: Sandra Vana

Congregational Council

Ron Bahr Jesse Grogan Ainsley Hargus Bob Nielsen Dick Rahdert Sandra Vana Mary McGrath Andrew Meyer Eric Munson

Ministry Team Contacts

Altar: Vicki Mills Care: Sherri Guido, Diane Gray & Sue Aufderheide Evangelism: Scott Vana Faith Formation: Missy Schroeder Fellowship Events: TBD Finance: Steve Belter & Carl Behnke Foundation: Vince Guido Mutual Ministry: Aaron Johnson Operations: Dick Rahdert Property: Matt Ohland Social Justice: Sandra Vana Stewardship: Pastor Randy Schroeder Worship & Music: Mark Hermodson

Outreach

Family Promise: Julie Huetteman LUM Liaison: Pastor Randy Schroeder PLM Liaison: Ainsley Hargus





Our Saviour Lutheran Church 300 West Fowler Avenue West Lafayette, IN 47906