

CHAPEL OF THE CROSS

LUTHERAN



FAITH • HOPE • LOVE

Welcome to Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran!

To Our Visitors

We offer you a very warm welcome to Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran! We are happy to have you worshipping with us and hope that your worship here today and the Word of God that is shared will assist you in the week ahead. If you are looking for a church home, we hope that you would prayerfully consider making Chapel of the Cross that home. May God bless your week!

Nursery

If you need to take your infant or toddler out of the worship service, the nursery is available for your use. The worship service is broadcast to the nursery. An usher will be happy to show you where it is located.

Sunday School and Bible Study

We have an exciting Sunday School program for children age 2 and up. We also offer Bible studies for youth and adults at 9:45 a.m. Sunday School rooms are in the Lower Level. Check the Chapel Weekly handout for Bible study locations. An usher will be happy to take you to the appropriate place.

Holy Communion

Holy Communion is celebrated regularly and often here at Chapel of the Cross. If you have questions about Holy Communion and what we as a church believe about it, please speak with the Pastor before the service. Children are invited to come forward with their parents for a blessing.

Sound Enhancement Devices

If you are hearing impaired there are sound enhancement devices available. Please ask an usher for a personal receiver.

The Mission of Chapel of the Cross

Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran exists to show the love of Jesus to the people of North County and beyond so that all may have a living relationship with Christ.

First Sunday in Advent

November 28, 2021

11:00 a.m.

Please note: This worship service is live streamed and recorded.

AS WE GATHER

Happy New Year! Different cultures celebrate their new year at different times. The Church commemorates the beginning of the church year on the first Sunday in Advent. This new beginning reminds us of the newness of life that is ours through faith in Jesus. Curiously, the new church year carries hints of the same thematic emphasis of the last Sundays of the Church Year: preparation for Christ's return rooted in a call for repentance. As God works through His Word and Sacraments, we are prepared to welcome Him through His birth at Christmas and His return on Judgment Day to take us home.

PRELUDE

"Lift Up Your Heads"

setting by John A. Behnke

WELCOME

The congregation turns and faces the cross as the procession approaches the altar reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence of God.

✘ PREPARATION ✘

Please stand

ENTRANCE HYMN

334 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

- 1 O Lord, how shall I meet You,
How welcome You aright?
Your people long to greet You,
My hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy,
Your lamp within my breast
To do in spirit lowly
All that may please You best.

- 2 Your Zion strews before You
Green boughs and fairest palms;
And I too will adore You
With joyous songs and psalms.
My heart shall bloom forever
For You with praises new
And from Your name shall never
Withhold the honor due.

- 5 Sin's debt, that fearful burden,
Cannot His love erase;
Your guilt the Lord will pardon
And cover by His grace.
He comes, for you procuring
The peace of sin forgiv'n,
His children thus securing
Eternal life in heav'n.

6 He comes to judge the nations,
A terror to His foes,
A light of consolations
And blessed hope to those
Who love the Lord's appearing.
O glorious Sun, now come,
Send forth Your beams so cheering,
And guide us safely home.

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father—

People: the creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: In the name of the Son—

People: Jesus Christ the Lord, our Righteousness.

Pastor: In the name of the Holy Spirit—

People: who gives the righteousness of Christ to us by faith. All glory, honor, and praise be to You, O Lord, our God, now and forever. Amen

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: So that sin, death, and Satan would not destroy the world, God long ago sent prophets to speak of Christ's advent into our world. These prophets proclaimed the Word of God, but they also foretold that God would bring about a special servant whom God called "the Righteous Branch." At His coming He would free us from the sin that holds us captive.

People: O Lord, I confess to You that it was my iniquity that made Your Incarnation and death necessary. My ways have been rebellious, and I have sinned. I have not done what is right, nor have I always remembered Your way. O Lord, for the sake of Your Son, remember not my sin, but Your great love and mercy towards me. You are my Savior, and my hope is in You all day long.

(continued on next page)

Pastor: Listen to God's precious Word. "The days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch. In His days Judah will be saved. "The Lord Jesus is our righteousness. He is God who has come to His people to save them from their sins. In Christ our Righteousness you are now right with God. Therefore, I as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Go in the peace of your salvation.

People: **Lord Almighty, I give thanks to You for You are good; Your love endures forever.** (*Jeremiah 33:11*)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Lord, let the lighting of this candle signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

"Advent Candlelight Carol"

arr. by Anna Page and Jean Shafferman

(sung by soloist first)

*Advent candle burning bright through the night,
Shine your light of hope telling people everywhere
Soon the Savior comes, soon He will be here!
People gather and prepare in the night with the light of hope.*

Choir and Congregation

Ad - vent can - dle burn - ing bright through the night, shine your
light of (1.) hope tell - ing peo - ple ev - 'ry - where: soon the Sav - ior
(2.) peace
(3.) love
comes, soon He will be here! Peo - ple gath - er and pre -
pare in the night with the light of (1.) hope
(2.) peace
(3.) love

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 33:14–16

(The prophet Jeremiah foresees a day when God would come to bring righteousness to His people.)

¹⁴ "'The days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will fulfill the gracious promise I made to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah.

¹⁵ "'In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness.'

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 25:1-10

Pastor: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; in you I trust, O my God.

People: **Do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

Pastor: No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame, but they will be put to shame who are treacherous without excuse.

People: **Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths;**

Pastor: guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

People: **Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old.**

Pastor: Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you are good, O LORD.

People: **Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.**

Pastor: He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way.

People: **All the ways of the LORD are loving and faithful for those who keep the demands of his covenant.**

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 3:9–13

(Paul reminds us that God can cause us to abound in love for one another as we await the coming of the Lord.)

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

(continued on next page)

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

“Alleluia for Advent”

Patrick M. Liebergen

Alleluia! Prepare for the Lord!

Alleluia! Sing out in accord!

Hear the songs of the angels ring out through the night!

Alleluia! He is coming, the Lord of Light!

Alleluia! Rise up, hear this call!

Alleluia! Rejoice one and all!

For the child infant lowly will come from above!

Alleluia! He will bring you God's peace and love!

Alleluia! Prepare for the King!

Alleluia! Let voices now ring!

Hear the songs we are singing with joy and good cheer!

He shall come that holy night!

Prepare for the Lord of Light!

Please stand

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the nineteenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 19:28-40

(The crowd welcomes Jesus to Jerusalem)

²⁸ After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, ³⁰ "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' tell him, 'The Lord needs it.'"

³² Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

³⁴ They replied, "The Lord needs it."

³⁵ They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

³⁷ When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

³⁸ "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

⁴⁰ "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE WORD

350 Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

- 1 Come, Thou precious Ransom, come,
Only hope for sinful mortals!
Come, O Savior of the world!
Open are to Thee all portals.
Come, Thy beauty let us see;
Anxiously we wait for Thee.

- 2 Enter now my waiting heart,
Glorious King and Lord most holy.
Dwell in me and ne'er depart,
Though I am but poor and lowly.
Ah, what riches will be mine
When Thou art my guest divine!

- 3 My hosannas and my palms
Graciously receive, I pray Thee;
Evermore, as best I can,
Savior, I will homage pay Thee,
And in faith I will embrace,
Lord, Thy merit through Thy grace.

- 4 Hail! Hosanna, David's Son!
Jesus, hear our supplication!
Let Thy kingdom, scepter, crown,
Bring us blessing and salvation,
That forever we may sing:
Hail! Hosanna to our King.

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PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Please stand

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

“Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come”

setting by Hugo Gehrke

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

+ + + Special Intercessions + + +

Each concluding: **Pastor:** Lord, in Your mercy, **People:** hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

In the Lord's Supper we receive Christ's body and blood in and with the bread and wine. The two great blessings of the Lord's Supper are the forgiveness of sins and strength to live an improved Christian life. In response to the Lord's command we are to examine ourselves privately prior to partaking of the Sacrament. There are three basic questions on which we should examine ourselves, all of which we should be able to answer in the affirmative if we are to partake of the Sacrament worthily: 1) Am I truly sorry for my sins? 2) Do I believe Jesus Christ is my Savior? 3) Do I promise with God's help to live a Christian life? If you agree with the above statement, we invite you to the Sacrament.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

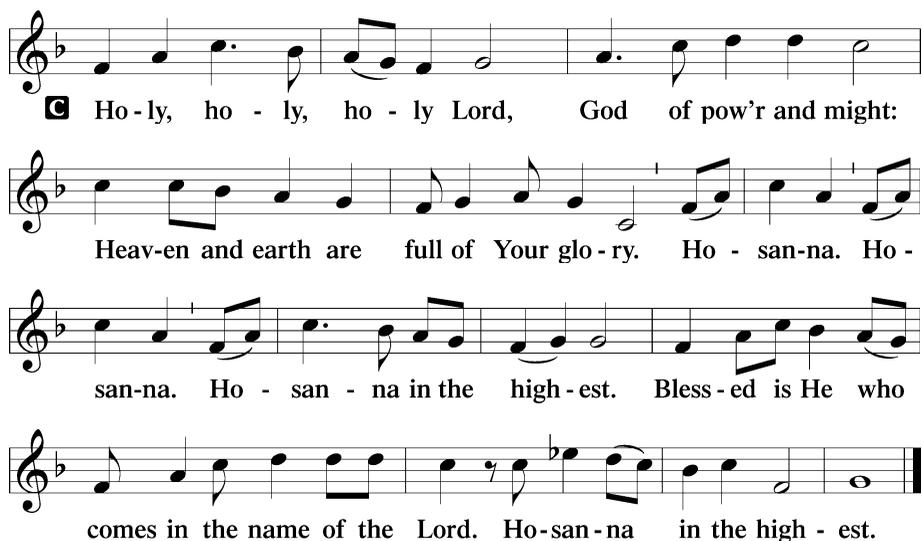
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me.

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: Drink of it, all of you; this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

AGNUS DEI

C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

A "continuous communion table" will be the method of distribution this day. Communicants will come forward down the center aisle at the direction of the usher. You will receive the wafer from the pastor at the center and then proceed to the right or left (depending on which side of the church you are sitting) to receive the wine. You will then return to your pew. As is our custom, communion will be brought to people in the pews who have difficulty walking to the chancel. If you wish to take communion in the pew, please raise your hand when the communion assistant comes down the aisle. Also young children will receive a word of blessing.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

333 Once He Came in Blessing

- 1** **Once He came in blessing,
All our sins redressing;
 Came in likeness lowly,
 Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us;
Hope and freedom gave us.**

- 2** **Now He gently leads us;
With Himself He feeds us
 Precious food from heaven,
 Pledge of peace here given,
Manna that will nourish
Souls that they may flourish.**

- 3** **Soon will come that hour
When with mighty power
 Christ will come in splendor
 And will judgment render,
With the faithful sharing
Joy beyond comparing.**

(continued on next page)

**4 Come, then, O Lord Jesus,
From our sins release us.
Keep our hearts believing,
That we, grace receiving,
Ever may confess You
Till in heav'n we bless You.**

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332 Savior of the Nations, Come

**1 Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.**

**2 Not by human flesh and blood,
By the Spirit of our God,
Was the Word of God made flesh—
Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.**

**3 Here a maid was found with child,
Yet remained a virgin mild.
In her womb this truth was shown:
God was there upon His throne.**

**4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all
From His pure and kingly hall;
God of God, yet fully man,
His heroic course began.**

**5 God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.**

**6 For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.**

**7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.**

**Δ8 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.**

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SILENT PRAYER

You may pray the following prayer as we give thanks to God for His good gifts:

Lord Jesus, we have gathered together in Your house to be guests at Your table. We thank and praise You that You have nourished us with Your body and blood and have covered our sinful hearts with the pure garment of Your perfect righteousness. As You have drawn close to us and shown us Your love and forgiveness, in the same way, help us to draw close and love one another. Keep us in the true Christian faith so that we glorify You with our lives until that time that You call us to be guests at Your heavenly table. In Your name we pray, Amen.

Please stand

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

Thank You, Lord, for this gift of Christ's body and blood. Grant that His presence with us in the Meal fill our hearts with Your peace, that our hope for that great coming day of restoration may abound; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

Please turn towards the cross as it is carried out of the church, and remain facing it until the hymn is completed. This symbolizes our following Christ into the world as we leave.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

339 Lift Up Your Heads, You Everlasting Doors

- Lift up your heads, you everlasting doors,
And weep no more!
O Zion's daughter, sing,
To greet your coming King;
Now wave the victor's palm
And sing the ancient psalm:
"Lift up your heads, you everlasting gates!"
Your King awaits!**

- 2 **Who is this King of great and glorious fame?
What is His name?
Lord God of Sabaoth,
Of whom the prophets wrote,
Whose chosen, humble steed
Declares Him king indeed!
Hosanna, Lord! Messiah, come and save
From sin and grave.**
- 3 **Who may ascend Mount Zion's holy hill
To do God's will?
The One whose unstained hands
Can meet the Law's demands,
Whose purity within
Reveals One free from sin.
Come, praise this King who claims the cross as throne—
Praise Him alone!**
- 4 **"Worthy is Christ!" The Lamb who once was slain
Now lives to reign.
He rules our earthly ways
As Lord of Ancient Days—
O join the endless song
Sung by the ransomed throng:
"Worthy is Christ!" The Lamb be praised again!
Amen! Amen!**

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POSTLUDE

Toccata on "Savior of the Nations, Come"

setting by Paul Manz

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading:

Malachi 3:1-7b; Philippians 1:2-11; Luke 3:1-14

Find a devotional guide on the readings at www.chapelofthecross.org/walkingtogether

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Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Theodore Laesch	
Liturgists:	5:00 p.m.	Adam Rouse
	8:30 a.m.	Theodore Laesch
	11:00 a.m.	Ellory Glenn
Lectors:	8:30 a.m.	Adrienne Burton
Acolytes:	8:30 a.m.	Aniya Cleveland
	11:00 a.m.	Audrey Runser
Choir:	11:00 a.m.	Choral Singers
Instrumentalist:	11:00 a.m.	Carolyn Rusnak, flute
Director & Organist:	Ryan Meyer	

Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran

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Worship and Christian Education

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday - 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Worship Service broadcast on KFUE 850 AM Sundays at 4:00 p.m.
Live internet streaming at www.chapelofthecross.org Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

*Holy Communion is celebrated the 1st and 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month at 8:30 a.m.,
the 2nd and 4th and 5th Sundays of the month at 11:00 a.m.,
and the 1st and 3rd and 5th Saturdays of the month at 5:00 p.m.*

Sunday school for children, Sunday Bible classes for adults and youth – 9:45 a.m.

Chapel Ministry Staff

	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Theodore Laesch, Pastor	355-0688	pastorlaesch@chapelofthecross.org
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James Marriott, Pastoral Assistant - Youth	(972) 741-5978	james.marriott@chapelofthecross.org
Ryan Meyer, Director of Music	839-0306	ryan.meyer@chapelofthecross.org
Bill Rusnak, Director of Adult Ministry	200-9797	bill.rusnak@chapelofthecross.org
Clifford Bischoff, Pastoral Assistant	921-1107	pastorbischoff@chapelofthecross.org
Mary Laesch, Children and Family Ministry Coord.	355-0688	family@chapelofthecross.org

Missions

Chapel of the Cross supports the ministry of the English District and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod as well as the Lutheran High School Association. We also assist the following ministries and organizations:

*Day 3 Seeds	*Christian Friends of New Americans	*Food for the Poor
Helping Hands Food Pantry	Concordia Seminary	Friend of Moms
Sidewalk Sunday School	Lutherans for Life	KFUE Radio
Chapel Summer Camp	Apple of His Eye	Hope Center for Families

** indicates special emphasis in 2021-2022*

*Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran is affiliated with the
English District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod*