



RISEN SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Basehor, Kansas - Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

DECEMBER

Newsletter 2025

Events

Dec. 3,10,17

Midweek Advents

Dec. 5

Sunday School
Game Night/Parent
Night Out

Dec. 12,19

Adventide Socials

Dec. 14

Caroling to
homebound
members

Dec. 21

Children's Service
Cookie Walk

Dec. 24

Services
5:00 & 7:00 pm

Dec. 25

Divine Service
10:30 am

Dec. 31

Divine Service
10:00 pm
then gather until
midnight

Church

913.724.2900
rslcms.church

Pastor Weinkauff
weinkauff@rslcms.church
913.369.5942

Pastor Burgdorf
burgdorf@rslcms.church
636.328.2610

Make Advent Penitential Again Pastor Burgdorf

We are weak men. Compare the average Christian today to the Saints of old, and this is clear. Christians have forgotten what it means to stand firm; to fight like our mothers and fathers did; to contend for the faith in a world that is against us. Christians are content in a neutered faith that blows in the wind of any fad and modern teaching. We have lost what it means to be men and women of God. We have become weak through the modern luxuries of the world, and apathetic through our lack of discipline.

It is time to make Advent penitential again. This is what our Fathers knew, and it is what we have lost. Advent is not merely a time of preparation for Christmas, but it is a period of spiritual struggle and fasting. It is a time to prepare for the second coming of Christ. It is, like Lent, a time of penitence—a time to examine our lives, to curb our sin, and to mortify our flesh. A time to open our homes to those around us and invite them into the great mysteries of the faith which Christ has so richly poured out upon us.

The Church has always understood this. From the earliest Christians who fasted and prayed together, to faithful fathers who ordered their households by Scripture and worship, to generations who passed on the catechism to their children — God's people have always known that faith is not formed in moments of comfort, but through patterns of prayer, sacrifice, and hospitality. These practices are not ways of earning God's favor — Christ has already secured that for us on the cross. Rather, they are the gifts God gives to strengthen us in Him. They train us to resist temptation, to crucify our sinful desires, and to live with joy, courage, and hope.

So let us live this way. Let us reclaim Advent, and Lent for that matter, to be what it once was. Let us embrace difficulty and discipline and be molded by it. Let us keep the fast, extend hospitality, and live as Christians.

For the men in our congregation, I encourage you to scan the QR Code on this page, or www.memento70.com and explore the new resource, Memento. Several very confessional and faithful men (including a Seminary Professor, Synod VP, District Presidents, even a previous vicar of Risen Savior) are putting together a tool specifically designed for men to aid us in remembering what the Church has forgotten; to encourage and keep us accountable to ourselves and one another as we engage in spiritual disciplines.



Advent (& Lent) Disciplines Pastor Weinkauff

Our Lord says, "when you fast..., when you pray..., when you give..." Not "if" but "when." Of course neither Lutherans nor Scripture teach that we earn rewards, special favors, or atone for sins by doing so - as Roman Catholics teach. Our Lord encourages our behavior and fasting and praying as to benefit our mind and bodies to be discipline and trained in positive ways as we receive His Word, His Sacramental gifts, and creational gifts. This can strengthen spiritual life, thus drawing closer to God, growing in virtue, practicing self-control, and reprioritizing our life. Scripture has rhythm of Fasting before Feasting. This happens throughout the year but takes special focus during the penitential seasons (Advent/Lent) before the great feasts of Christmas and Easter. Here are some practical measures:

Behavior

- Advent Wreath/Calendar. The ancient practice of lighting the wreath each night with a devotional.
- Utilize daily devotions or add another one.
- Add daily Matins, Vespers, Compline, and/or Evening Prayer Service from the hymnal to your routine.
- During your work lunch hour, add Bible reading.
- Add a time (or additional time) in the day for Bible reading.
- Add a physical workout in home or gym (and select a Lutheran podcast to listen during the activity.)
- Take stairs instead of elevators.
- Invite someone from church or a neighbor to come over to eat.
- Volunteer!
- No screens after dinner; no TV during the day; cutback screentime
- Set morning alarm 1 hour earlier for reading, workout.
- Making special gifts, save money from abstaining from things
- Avoid eating out, or cut out certain times you eat out.
- Avoid snacking or certain type of snacks at certain times of day.

Fasting Ideas

- Eliminate 1 meal a day.
- No alcohol or caffeine.
- No hot water, take cold showers.
- No food during daylight.
- No desserts or treats.
- No meat on Mon., Wed., Fri.
- No soft drinks.
- No food during certain hours.



RISEN SAVIOR
TE DEUM LAUDAMUS
MUSIC

Cathy Manis, Music Director cmusicgal@gmail.com 913-416-0007

Vocal Choir Practices Sundays, 11:45 am

Bell Choir Practices Wednesday, 7:00 pm after Evening Prayer

Youth Chorale (2nd-8th Grade) Practices Thursdays, 6:30-7:30.

(Sunday School will still be singing 4 times a year)

Musicians. If you play an instrument, please contact Cathy as we would love to have you play for Services. We have several and desire for more!

Piano & Organ Lessons? Several lessons take place throughout the week.



Sunday School

3 yr. old - 8th grade

Amanda Harbord, Board of Education
913.544.4133 mdy2404@gmail.com

Gamenight

Dec. 5, Friday, 6-8

-Great for shopping

Children practicing songs now during Sunday School.

Christmas Program:

Sunday, Dec. 21, 6 pm

Program practice:

Sat., Dec. 20, 10 am-Noon



higherthings.org

Youth Group

High School
Pastor Burgdorf

Dec. 7

6:00-8:00 pm

Invite any friends.

Sunday Class 9:15!



Table Talk

1st Fridays

19-39 year old

Pastor Burgdorf

Dec. 5

7:00 pm

Invite any friends.

Bring any snacks or beverages if you wish.

Advent & Christmas Schedule

Advent Midweek December 3, 10, 17

Service 8:30 am; Bible Class 9:00 am

Supper 6:00-6:50 pm; meals hosted by LWML or Youth Group

Service 7:00-7:45 pm; Confirmation, Bell Choir 7:45-8:25



Children's Christmas Program

Dec. 21, 6:00 pm, followed by reception

Christmas Eve Service

5:00 & 7:00 pm

Christmas Day Divine Service

10:30 am



New Year's Eve Divine Service

10:00 pm

Then ring in 2026 as we gather for the world famous Risen Savior ball drop at midnight. The ONLY place in the world with a Martin Luther face ball dropped! Some beverages & snacks provided.

You may bring additional snacks to share. You are welcome to bring games to play and play in the gym.



Adventide Socials

All invited to gathering at a home from 7-8 pm on 2 Fridays in Advent. Bring a snack or beverage to share if you wish. There will be social visiting and then wrap-up with a hymn sing and liturgy.

Dec. 12: Jerry & Lynette Pettit, 15411 Evans Rd., Basehor
(½ mile east from 158th & Evans Rd., 8 minutes south of church)

Dec. 19: Nick & Sarah Bretz, 18641 178th St., Tonganoxie
(just south off Hwy 24 on 178th St., 6 minutes southwest of church)

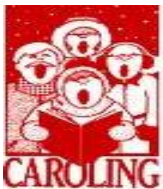


Poinsettias

Available for \$12. Deadline **Dec. 14**. They will be placed in the church for the Christmas Services. Forms in the Narthex. Bulletins will note memorial or thanksgiving. You may take yours home after any of the Services.

Caroling to Homebound Members

Sunday, Dec. 14, 3:00 pm we'll meet at the church and carpool to our stops. We should return to the church by 5:15 pm. Everyone is encouraged to join us in this special gift for others.





Bible Classes

Sundays 9:15 am Luke

Weds. 8:30 am Matins
9:00 am Romans



**Dec. 1
6:30 pm**

Book Club

meets 1st Monday of the month

All are invited to come and listen to the lively discussion! (Even if you haven't finished the book or it hasn't come yet!)

December 1: The Other Wise Man by Henry Van Dyke

January 5: Much Ado About Nothing by William Shakespeare



Katie's Sisters

Joy Mustapich, coordinator; usually meet 3rd Thurs.
Ladies Night Out, sisters of Katie Luther

No gathering in December. Next one January 22.



**Dec. 5
9:00 am**

1st Friday Trustee Work

Nick Bretz, Board of Trustees

We will meet Dec. 5, 9:00 following Matins to work on various projects inside or outside and wrap-up by 10:00.



**Through
Dec. 14**

Can Food Drive

Board of Outreach, Kevin Carder

Our annual collection for Lutheran Urban Ministry Agency food pantry runs through Dec. 14. Place cans in Wittenberg Hall. Last year 1000 cans were donated.



**Cookie
Walk
Dec. 21**

Women In Mission

Dayle Reynolds, President 913-680-5366

We will have our annual Cookie Walk on December 21, before and after and in between Services on Sunday morning. We invite all of you to purchase cookies, \$7 dozen. All money received is sent to the student food co-op at the Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN.

You are invited to bring cookies. Bring them Saturday 9:00-1:00, Dec. 20, when we are setting up. If you can't bring them on Saturday, you are welcome to bring them on Sunday before 9:00 am.

We will not have an LWML meeting in December. On January 8, 6:00 pm, we will begin 2026 mission project selection. If you have any ideas on this let one of us know.



Men's GameNight

Usually 4th Friday of the month

We will meet again on January 29.



As noted by Pastor Burgdorf on page 1, men go to: <https://memento70.com> Memento, a new Lutheran devotional movement for men built around discipline, devotion, and brotherhood. Special rate to subscribe before Christmas. Officially starts January 1. Men who participate in Memento receive:

- **Daily devotions (written and audio)**
- **Scripture readings tied to the Church Year**
- **Structured seasonal discipline packets**
- **Weekly fraternity meeting guides**
- **Family guides to support households**

Congregations will also find **resources on the website** designed to help churches integrate Memento into their own men's groups and ministry efforts.



Available Help

If you want to be added, send email to: weinkauf@rslcms.church

Babysitting Needs

Bridget Harbord, 15. Safe Sitter certified (1/2024) in First Aid/CPR, child care, and safety skills. Available most weekends (day or evening), watch toddler-age and above. Will keep kids busy with activities and play. Call 913.544.4133 (Amanda, mom) or mdy2404@gmail.com.

Pick-up Truck If you need to borrow a pickup truck, please contact Pastor Weinkauf.



**RISEN SAVIOR
CLASSICAL ACADEMY**
— VERITAS AETERNA —

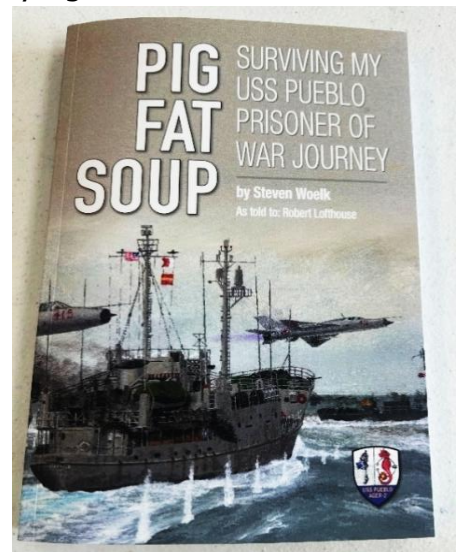
An amazing year of instruction is underway!
We utilize 6 non-member Instructors. Special thanks to our Risen Savior member Instructors: Jennifer Zarda, Mary Cardwell, Katlyn Selbe, Cathy Manis, Chelsea Harper, Emily Newman, Claire Burgdorf, Pastor Burgdorf.

The November Field Trip was a guided tour and day at the WW1 Museum for our group of 75 kids and parents.



New Book Published !

Our member Steve Woelk, Ret. US Navy, Purple Heart, POW, has published his story of surviving the USS Pueblo attack and as a Prisoner of War. We will host a book signing event next year, perhaps at the February Potluck/Voter's Assembly. Contact Steve if you wish to get a signed copy, \$20. 913-544-7538 kshmbboy@gmail.com



Reformation Day 508! Thanks to the Board of Fellowship for the German meal. Gus White for the firework set-up and other youth who helped launch. Following Vespers, children are picture burning indulgences at the firepit. Large scale fireworks, desserts, & beverages. Great crowd and many visitors.



Northern lights in early November. Many people stopped in our lot to view it.



Election Day. North Basehor city votes at Risen Savior, as 700 people voted. Numerous comments throughout the day for appreciation for our kindness in community service.



Christmas Market. 35 vendors packed our facility and a constant crowd all day! Thanks to the Board of Fellowship for the German lunch meal & Jodi Weinkauff for the vendor coordination. Food sales and table rental raised \$2500. Thank you to all who came and supported this community event.



December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 1 st Sunday in Advent <i>St. Andrew, apostle</i> 8:00 Divine Service 9:15 Sun. School/Bible class 10:30 Divine Service 11:45 Vocal Choir 6:00 Book of Concord study	1 8:30 Matins 8:30-3:30 Risen Savior Classical Academy 6:30 Book Club	2 8:30 Matins	3 8:30 Divine Service 9:00 Bible Study for all 6:00 Supper 7:00 Midweek Service 7:40 Confirmation 7:40 Bell choir practice	4 8:30 Matins 6:30 Youth Chorale	5 8:30 Matins 9:00 1 st Friday Trustee 6:00-8 Sunday School gamenight/ Parent datenight 7:00 TableTalk for young adults	6 9-10 Private Confession & Absolution 6:00 Divine Service
7 2 nd Sun. in Advent 8:00 Divine Service 9:15 Sun. School/Bible class 10:30 Divine Service 11:45 Vocal Choir 6:00 Youth Group	8 8:30-3:30 Risen Savior Classical Academy 8:30 Matins 6:30 Board of Elders	9 8:30 Matins 10:00 Bible Study @ Advocacy First Noon Lunch with Pastor	10 8:30 Divine Service 9:00 Bible Study for all 11:00 Bible Study @ Faith Cottages 6:00 Supper 7:00 Midweek Service 7:40 Confirmation 7:40 Bell choir practice	11 8:30 Matins 6:00 LWML 6:30 Youth Chorale	12 8:30 Matins 7:00 Adventide Social	13 6:00 Divine Service
14 3 rd Sun. in Advent 8:00 Divine Service 9:15 Sun. School/Bible class 10:30 Divine Service 11:45 Vocal Choir 11:45 Church Council 3:00 Caroling to Homebound	15 8:30-3:30 Risen Savior Classical Academy 8:30 Matins	16 8:30 Matins 10:00 Newsletter due	17 8:30 Divine Service 9:00 Bible Study for all 6:00 Supper 7:00 Midweek Service 7:40 Confirmation 7:40 Bell choir practice	18 8:30 Matins 6:30 Katie & Sister 6:30 Youth Chorale	19 8:30 Matins 7:00 Adventide Social	20 9-10 Private Confession & Absolution 10:00-Noon Christmas Program Practice 6:00 Divine Service
21 4 th Sun. in Advent 8:00 Divine Service 9:15 Sun. School/Bible class 10:30 Divine Service 11:45 Vocal Choir 6:00 Children's Program <i>St. Thomas, apostle</i>	22 8:30 Matins	23 8:30 Matins	24 Christmas Eve 5:00 Service 7:00 Service	25 Christmas Day 10:30 Divine Service.	26 <i>St. Stephen</i> 8:30 Divine Service	27 <i>St. John, apostle</i> 6:00 Divine Service
28 1 st Sun. after Christmas 8:00 Divine Service 9:15 Sun. School/Bible class 10:30 Divine Service	29 8:30 Matins	30 8:30 Matins	31 Eve of Jesus Name 8:30 am Divine Service 10:00 pm Divine Service then activities til 12:15 am	1 New Years' 8:30 Matins 6:30 Youth Chorale	2 8:30 Matins 9:00 1 st Friday Trustee 7:00 TableTalk for young adults	3 6:00 Divine Service

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

3 Kirk Sullivan
 3 Kyler Payne
 3 Lynette Ford
 3 Rae Ann Evans
 5 David Benzel
 6 Bronson Durlinger
 6 Lawrence Burgdorf

6 Oscar Peters
 7 Georgia Heath
 9 Annabelle Hillyer
 10 Klein Selbe
 12 Andy Dedek
 13 Easton Oswald
 13 Mary Ellen Ballard
 14 Cole Knoernschild
 15 Ashlynn Kasunic

16 Sheridan Hartenbower
 17 Lynette Pettit
 18 Jon Goodsmith
 20 Ron Swartz
 21 Alto Arano
 21 Leah Muntzel
 23 Owen Johnson
 27 Christopher Knoernschild
 28 Neil Wiehe

Wedding Anniversaries

5 Matt & Jean Dedek
 9 Forrest & Karen Erickson
 9 Jim & Billie Brush

19 Erick & Sarah Bohndorf
 30 Doug & Kelli Lassman
 30 Gary & Nancy Hobelmann
 31 Lanis & Anita Yarbrough
 31 John & Linda Scheer

Thank You!

- ☒ Sarah Bohndorf for her Church Library work.
 - ☒ Randy Luebke for wood for the firepits.
 - ☒ For all who came out to the Christmas Market.
 - ☒ Gene Davidson for his trustee work.
 - ☒ From Marsh Albright to the watering teams: Faith Kerr, Jodi Weinkauff, Chelsea Harper, Jeanette Curtis, Bruce & Sandra Knoernschild, Phyllis & Gary Brooks.
- So many comments throughout summer on the beauty of the flowers and our outdoors!

2025 Financial

Full report posted in Church Office.

Through end of October:

Offerings \$389,690

Expenses \$384,174

Not included: Dedicated gifts & expenses

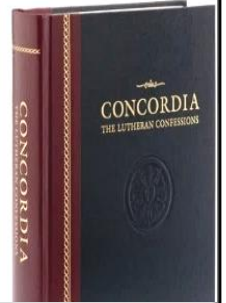
Book of Concord Study

January 25 6:00 pm

Join us any time for this continuous study.

All welcome to come for an evening of enrichment in our Lutheran doctrine and Scriptural engagements, food, & refreshments.

Last Sunday evening of the month.



**LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE**

LutheransForLife.org

"Every life matters to God. It is impossible to live—even for a few moments on this earth—and not influence somebody in one way or another. We are all always influencing somebody—either for good or for bad. Life matters. Your life matters. Lives of kings and lives of shepherds all matter. We all matter and are important to God. As we celebrate the birth of our Lord, let us pray for all mothers who find themselves pregnant and afraid. Abortion is never the answer. We pray daily the Lord will strengthen all expectant mothers who find themselves alone, seemingly without hope, that He will help them choose life. Every human being's life is a precious, beautiful miracle."



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24/7 internet radio

Website:

rslecms.church



**Risen Savior Lutheran Church
14700 Leavenworth Rd.
Basehor, KS 66007**