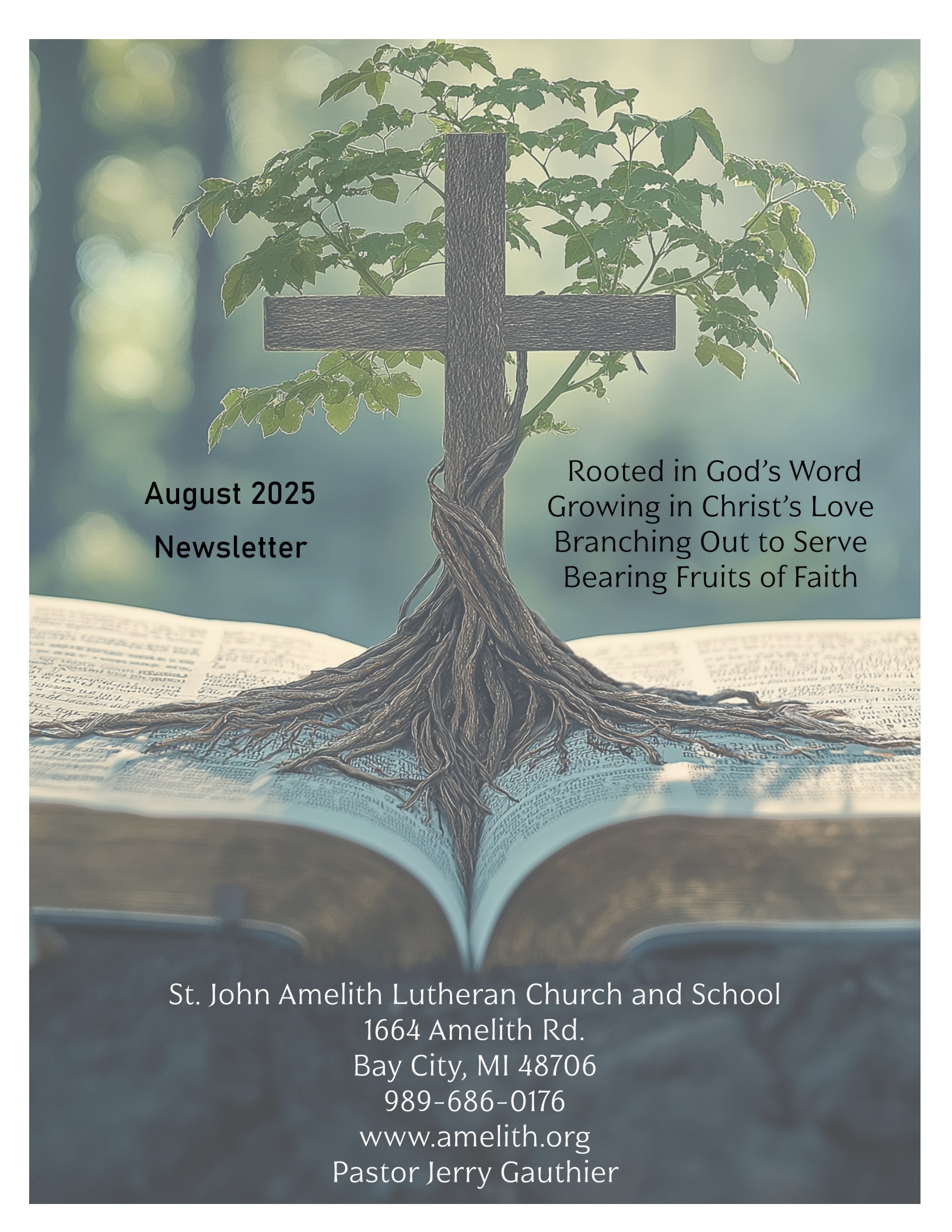




**August 2025
Newsletter**

Rooted in God's Word
Growing in Christ's Love
Branching Out to Serve
Bearing Fruits of Faith

St. John Amelith Lutheran Church and School
1664 Amelith Rd.
Bay City, MI 48706
989-686-0176
www.amelith.org
Pastor Jerry Gauthier

“God’s Grace Grows”

What is the most unpopular words to say to kids at this time of year? It would be anything about school, especially the start date. While some will begin sooner than others, children always seem a bit apprehensive. It is more than simply the end of summer. They face going into new grades, receiving new books, will likely meet new teachers, deal with new challenges, and even make some new friends. This is the reality every year and instead of running back to last year, children learn to grow up. In many ways this becomes a reminder of our own lives being made God’s children through baptism into Christ.

The Apostle Peter ends his letter of 2 Peter writing, “... *Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity Amen*” (3:18). Unfortunately, I can’t make you grow in grace. Matter a fact, you cannot make yourself do it. Apart from the work of the Holy Spirit how we even think of growing can be hostile to God, see Romans 8:7! Much like summer vacation, every person naturally is on a permanent vacation when it comes to God. Whether it is because they think they know enough or maybe just do not plain care what God speaks by His Word. The problem still lies with sinful humanity directing attention away from the work of God’s grace.

Part of our mission statement at St. John is to “Grow in Christ’s love.” His love is full of grace to give day by day! Grace means undeserved favor being the opposite of favoritism. It is for growth in discipleship with Jesus. Dietrich Bonhoeffer states, “It all depends, not on our outstretched beggar’s hand, but on what God puts in it... It’s about our doing only to the extent that our doing makes room for God’s doing, to the extent that it let’s God’s grace be grace.” This growth includes a growing in knowledge. While A.I. grows in knowledge, it does nothing with grace in mind. God’s Word alone is a refuge for His true disciples. It neither comes quickly or without being lived before the blessings, temptations, and trials of life.

Thanks be to God He does not wait on us to grow, but comes to us! Growing in grace sees how God is mindful of sinners. In the Word and Sacraments Jesus is doing His vocation of being our Savior. Those who have “ears to hear” by faith learn what they receive from the Lord is growth in Christ’s love. This grace and knowledge is the glory that Jesus keeps delivering for His disciples with forgiveness, life, and salvation. In Christ there is no vacation only vindication for any in need of Him. Like another school year there is no going back, but there is growth at work by grace good for all your days and our life together here at St. John. Amen.

The Lord be with you all,

Pastor Jerry Gauthier



Welcome to the Michigan District!

The Michigan District welcomed 6 pastoral candidates and 4 vicars to its roster this week.

On Monday, April 28 and Tuesday, April 29, two separate worship services took place at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind. (CTSFW) for assignment of vicarage and internships and for call placements, respectively. No vicars or deaconess interns from CTSFW were assigned to the Michigan District this year. The following pastoral candidates received their first placement in the Michigan District: Peter Candreva (St. Peter, Petersburg), Alexander Hinojosa (Prince of Peace, Farmington Hills), Sean McNeil (St. John, Au Gres), Alexander Ogden (Family of God, Detroit), and Michael Speckhard (St. Peter, Hemlock).

On Wednesday, April 30, Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Mo. (CSL) held two separate worship services for assignment of vicarage and internships and for call placements, respectively. Vicars assigned to the Michigan District are Karl Camp (St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth); Paul Engelhardt (Our Savior, Lansing); Robert Moore (Messiah, Clio); and Jarod Vorseth (St. Luke Haslett). Candidate receiving his first placement in Michigan from CSL is Peter Burch (Emmanuel, Britton).

Please keep these students and their families in your prayers as they transition from seminary life into vicarage and full-time ministry.

Photos courtesy of Concordia Seminary St. Louis and Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne

LCMS MICHIGAN DISTRICT

CALL DAY APRIL 28-29, 2025



PETER CANDREVA
(PASTOR ELECT)

ALEXANDER HINOJOSA
(PASTOR ELECT)

SEAN MCNEIL
(PASTOR ELECT)



MICHAEL SPECKHARD
(PASTOR ELECT)



ALEXANDER OGDEN
(PASTOR ELECT)

CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, FT. WAYNE



LCMS MICHIGAN DISTRICT

CALL DAY APRIL 30, 2025



PETER BURCH
(PASTOR ELECT)



KARL CAMP



PAUL ENGELHARDT



ROBERT MOORE



JAROD VORSETH

CONCORDIA SEMINARY, ST. LOUIS



michiganintouch.com 15

New Sunday Morning Bible Study: The Book of James

Join us starting in August as we gather around God's Word for a new Bible study on the Epistle of James. Often called the "Proverbs of the New Testament," James offers practical wisdom for living out our faith in a world of trials and temptations. This letter, written by the brother of our Lord, reminds us that true faith is never idle—it bears fruit in good works, humility, and perseverance. Rooted in the clear teaching of Scripture and viewed through the lens of our Lutheran Confession, this study will explore how James calls Christians to a life shaped by grace, active in love, and grounded in God's promises.

Come and see how God's Word equips us to endure in faith, serve with joy, and live as His redeemed people as we deal with the times given to us.

A Congregation Older Than the Nation

The 360-year-old Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Matthew in New York City has welcomed immigrants throughout the centuries.

Story by Molly Lackey | Photography by Erik M. Lunsford | Summer 2025

In Washington Heights, a neighborhood in New York City, an unassuming congregation gathers on Sunday afternoons in a rented sanctuary. This is the 11th location the congregation has occupied in its history — a history that spans back to 1664, more than a hundred years before the American Revolution. The Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Matthew had its 360th anniversary last December, making it not only the oldest congregation in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), but the oldest extant Lutheran congregation in the Americas.

St. Matthew is a microcosm of American history. When a group of colonists in New Netherland desired a confessional church that worshiped and taught in accordance with the Augsburg Confession, they banded together as the Congregation of the Unaltered Augsburg Confession of Faith and requested a pastor from their mother church in Amsterdam. A pastor came but was denied permission to conduct services and was subsequently deported. After New Netherland was conquered by the British and became New York, the Dutch Lutherans petitioned Richard Nicolls, the first British governor. He granted their request, issuing a charter on Dec. 6, 1664, the legal beginning of the congregation.



The Rev. Peter A.D. Deebrah, pastor of St. Matthew, New York City, waits to greet members and guests on Sunday, March 30, 2025.

An Immigrant Church and Pastor

The church's seventh pastor, Justus Falckner, was the first Lutheran pastor ordained in America. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, considered by his-

torians to be the father of American Lutheranism, served as pastor of a German split-off from the church that would later reunite with the original congregation. In 1821, the Rev. Frederick Schaeffer sent the homily he preached at the cornerstone laying of the church's new building to none other than James Madison, primary author of the Bill of Rights, who thanked Schaeffer for sending him the "pleasing and persuasive example of pious zeal." The next year, the church began holding English services under the name the Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Matthew.

"I think the church has always been an immigrant church," says the Rev. Peter A.D. Deebrah, pastor of St. Matthew. "In its incipient stage, it was a coming together of people — Lutherans — from different countries in Europe."

Deebrah himself is a living example of the American story as well as the story of how God calls workers to His harvest. Deebrah was born just north of Brazil in Guyana, a former British colony that gained independence in 1966. He is descended from Indian indentured laborers brought to the colony to work on sugar plantations after the British Empire outlawed slavery in 1834.

As a young boy, Deebrah remembers imagining what it would be like to be a pastor: "I would look at the pastor there who baptized me, and I would daydream that one day I will stand there in the pulpit and do what he is doing." Highly involved in congregational life as a young man, he applied for permission to attend seminary at the age of 22 but was turned down; instead, he was encouraged to return to the idea when he was older and more settled. So, Deebrah became a computer engineer and served the church as a deacon.

But his desire to be a pastor remained. When political violence erupted in Guyana in 1998, he moved with his wife and children to America. After expressing his desire to attend seminary, he was recommended for the new DELTO (Distance Education Leading to Ordination) program through Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne — a program designed for lay deacons who desired to become pastors but were unable to relocate to the seminary. Seminary pastors would

travel to regional sites for weekend intensives and would grade assignments submitted through the mail while the students served in congregations under the supervision of area pastors. Deebrah began his DELTO coursework in November 1998 and was assigned to St. Matthew, which was vacant at the time. When he completed his coursework in 2005, he was ordained and called as sole pastor.

In the Cross of Christ We Glory

St. Matthew seems very different today than it was 360 years ago; scratch beneath the surface, though, and you'll find that its foundation on Christ and its history as a church home for new Americans is fully intact.



Today, most members originally hail from the Caribbean. Upon coming to America, many sent their children to St. Matthew's former day school and became members of the church through outreach done there. This was the case for Claire Charles from Trinidad, whose grandson's catering business provided the food for their "standing room only" 360th anniversary celebration.

Lois Franklin, originally from Belize, started attending because of her daughter's experience in St. Matthew's nursery school. "I like the preaching," Franklin explains.

Louisa Noel, also from Belize, says that her favorite part of Sunday morning is "feeling refreshed to carry on for another week in these trying times."

Challenges persist, but faith and hope abound. Deebrah says St. Matthew is "a church on the move," and always has been. But the largest move the church has made was not physical: In 1885, St. Matthew left the New York Ministerium it had helped found and joined the 38-year-old LCMS, where its confessional stance was more at home. There have been plenty of changes to the church's physical location too: The congregation has met at locations ranging from Wall Street to Broadway to Harlem.

In 2006 — the year after Deebrah was ordained — the congregation was forced to sell its church building, school and parsonage, and it has been renting space from another church in Washington Heights ever since. The loss of the building did not mean the loss of the preaching, teaching and administration of the Sacraments, however.

"A lot of people thought that ... we would die. But we did not," Deebrah beams. "With every Baptism, with every person who is received through the affirmation of faith," the life of the church goes on.

One newcomer is Fordham undergraduate student Will Jing, who has been attending for the last year and a half. Jing did not grow up Christian. Curious about Christianity, he found St. Matthew after searching online. "You forget that it's a small congregation, because the people are so welcoming," Jing says. "It doesn't matter that the congregation is small as long as your religious needs are taken care of and you have a good community around you."

Roger Clinton, organist and congregational president at St. Matthew, sees the present situation as a blessing: "It feels special, being the oldest Lutheran church in the Americas. And it helps me to reflect on how far we've come, and how we've been able to still hold on, despite our small numbers."

Deebrah echoes these sentiments. He feels incredibly grateful to be serving at St. Matthew, especially in light of his family's history. "That I should be blessed by God to be serving the oldest Lutheran church in America and in the New World ... is humbling ... [as] a descendant of indentured servants."

He adds, "There is nothing better than being a servant of Christ, to meet people where they are and to listen to them and to cry with them and to pray with them and to celebrate with them. ... We cannot boast of numbers, but it is in the cross of Christ that we glory."

<https://engage.lcms.org/oldest-congregation-summer-2025/>

God-given Duty

Editor's Note: 475 years ago, Magdeburg, Germany, was under siege by her own emperor, Charles V. It was the last Lutheran city remaining in Germany only four years after the death of Martin Luther. At issue was the preaching of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments. The highest authority in the land was demanding that the city churches re-institute Roman worship practices.

The city officers faced a difficult choice. Should they abandon the scriptural doctrine and practice restored by the Lutheran Reformation? Or should they take up arms against the God-ordained temporal authority? The pastors and theologians of the city penned the Magdeburg Confession to instruct the city councilmen of their God-given duty.

The Magdeburg Confession articulated a biblical understanding of the relationship between church and state that influenced the world for centuries to come. Its principles were invoked by English reformers and influenced the founding of America. Nevertheless, the document itself was unavailable in English until 2015. Now, the Rev. Dr. Christian Preus has combined his classical education and Lutheran acumen to publish a fresh translation.

This indispensable resource is a treasure for today's churchmen who desire to consider modern questions of church and state from a thoroughly Lutheran foundation. Below are excerpts from the Historical Introduction by Dr. Ryan MacPherson. May this reprint invite you to read the book in its entirety.

"Grounded in the timeless teachings of the scriptures and the Augsburg Confession, the Magdeburg Confession both transcended the crisis of [the imperial siege of Magdeburg in 1550] and also provided prudent advice for that same emergency. It reaffirmed the historic Christian teachings confessed by Luther's followers at the Diet of Augsburg in 1530 and further articulated a theology of political resistance on the basis of Scripture, natural law, and both sacred and secular history.

Just as a Christian should gladly hear the pure preaching of the Gospel and gladly receive the pure administration of the Sacraments but avoid those congregations that teach or practice contrary to God's Word, so also a citizen is obligated to obey civil governments that punish the evildoer and protect the innocent but resist when, in the name of civil authority, a tyrant punishes the innocent and praises the evildoer.

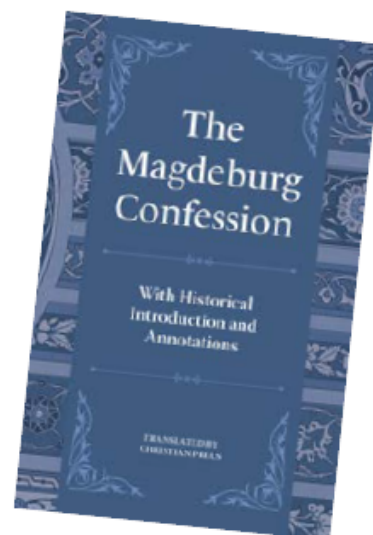
Applying a distinctively Lutheran understanding of vocation to the conflicts between the papacy and the churches of the Augsburg Confession, and between the emperor and the German princes, the Magdeburg Confession identified four levels of injustice and the appropriate remedies for each.

What is forbidden, what is permissible, what is prudent, and what is obligatory

for a person suffering the tyranny of pope or emperor must partly depend upon that person's stations across the three estates of family, church, and civil society. In the present situation, the Magdeburgers concluded that their pastors had the sacred duty to exhort the local magistrates to stand their ground, by force if necessary, against the imperial assailants, even as every head of a household should devote himself to prayer and implore his rulers to act justly. Of special importance, local magistrates had both a sacred and a civil duty to interpose between the people and to tyrant abusing a higher office...

The Magdeburg Confession reenacted Luther's stand at the Diet of Worms in a new context and for a new generation. By risking martyrdom for the theology of the Augsburg Confession Luther's successors became genuinely Lutheran, hence, "Gnesio-Lutheran." The old debate between Rome and Wittenberg soon was eclipsed by the debate that had emerged between the Gnesio-Lutherans and the Philippists, especially concerning adiaphora in the aftermath of the Smalcaldic War. Ultimately

The Magdeburg Confession articulated a biblical understanding of the relationship between church and state that influenced the world for centuries to come.



the Gnesio-Lutheran position prevailed...

[T]he Magdeburg Confession [was formally adopted] by a gathering of the Hanseatic Lutheran churches in 1557. In 1580, the publication of the Formula of Concord vindicated the Magdeburg position concerning adiaphora: "During the time of persecution, when a plain

and steadfast confession is required of us, we should not yield to the enemies in such matters of adiaphora... For in such a case it is no longer a question about adiaphora. But it concerns the truth of the Gospel" (Article X)...

While the writings of Luther and Melancthon had repeatedly treated the

three estates, it was the succinct summary and timely application in the Magdeburg Confession that established as Lutheran orthodoxy a triple vocation for each person: *status ecclesiasticus* [church], *status politicus* [state] and *status oeconomicus* [family].

Where exactly is the line between ecclesiastical and civil authority to be drawn? What is the remedy when someone crosses that line in either direction? Who is responsible for implementing that remedy? In addressing these perennial questions, the Magdeburg Confession remains a fruitful document for contemporary discussions of political resistance, church-state relations, and the doctrine of vocation."

Excerpted from the Introduction to The Magdeburg Confession: With Historical Introduction and Annotations by Ryan MacPherson © 2025 Concordia Publishing House. Used with permission. cph.org.

STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH THROUGH READING

Join Our Monthly St. John Lutheran Book Club:

Table Talks!

Are you ready to grow in your understanding of God's Word, our Lutheran identity, and how to faithfully engage today's world?

Join Table Talks starting this August!

Month	Book Title	Author
August–Sept	Embracing Your Lutheran Identity	Gene Edward Veith
October–Nov	Has American Christianity Failed?	Bryan Wolfmueller
January–Feb	Urchin at War	Uwe Siemon-Netto
April	Christ and Calamity	Harold L. Senkbeil
May–June	The Saving Truth	Robert Preus / Kurt Marquart

Join pastor to read and discuss one book over two months (half a book at a time), meeting once per month, skipping December (Advent) and March (Lent).

- Deepen your understanding of Lutheran doctrine
- Engage with timely cultural topics through a biblical lens
- Build community and grow in grace together

SIGN UP TODAY, [SEE THE INSERT IN THE NEWSLETTER!](#)

School Chapel Upgrade we are looking for volunteers to help with upgrading the school chapel. We will be cleaning, painting, moving furniture around, etc. We would like to be able to have our first school chapel service during the first week of school in the “new” chapel. If you would like to help please email me office@amelith.org Thanks in advance for helping to make this space special for our littles! Molly



How to Find a Campus Ministry

1. Go to lcms.org/lcmsu.
2. Scroll down and click on "Find a Chapter."
3. Zoom in on the map to find an LCMS U chapter near your college campus. Click on the LCMS U logo to show contact information for that chapter *or* scroll down to the listing and put in your state to see the listings near your college or university.

If there is not a chapter in your area, you can also look for campus or young adult ministries and local congregations using the LCMS locator tool. Visit lcms.org and click on "Locators" in the top right corner.

Use this to locate LCMS congregations in the area around your campus. As you search, click "Show Advanced Search" and then click on the drop-down menu under "Ministry Type." You can select College/Campus Ministry and/or Young Adults Activities to help limit your search.



November 1, 2025
8am - 4pm
St. John Amelith Lutheran
Church and School
1664 Amelith Rd.
Bay City, MI 48706
989-686-0176

Scan here to register



We are hosting a seminar with Doxology presenting "Navigating Christian Sexuality in a Post-Christian Culture. With the legal redefinition of marriage, the confusion regarding gender, and rapidly changing sexual mores in society, biblical educators, pastors, singles, couples, and parents are looking for guidance in articulating and promoting a positive view of the Christian vision for marriage and sexuality. Please visit our website to register and save your seat. The conference will be featuring speakers Rev. David Fleming and Dr. Beverly Yahnke from Doxology. To register scan the QR code, go to www.amelith.org, see the event on Facebook or call Deb Hutter 989-316-8322

Paper outlines state of LCMS, WELS, ELS talks



reporter.lcms.org/2025/paper-outlines-state-of-lcms-wels-els-talks

July 25, 2025

(LCMS/Erik M. Lunsford)

By Cheryl Magness

Since 2012, leaders from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), the Wisconsin Evangelical Synod (WELS) and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) have met annually for informal talks, periodically releasing joint statements about those talks.



The three church bodies were once in fellowship as members of the Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of North America (also known as the Synodical Conference), but that fellowship was suspended between the ELS and the LCMS in 1955 and between the WELS and the LCMS in 1961. The WELS and the ELS remain in fellowship with one another.

The current discussions are not formal meetings aimed at re-establishing fellowship among the church bodies but instead are opportunities to engage in theological dialogue, collegial conversation and mutual encouragement about some of the contemporary challenges all three synods face.

Periodically over the years, the meetings have been followed by statements and/or articles, released either jointly or individually by the three church bodies, summarizing the state of the talks. Recently, emeritus WELS pastor Rev. Thomas Nass, who has been attending the meetings since they began, wrote an article that provides an overview of the talks and where they stand now.

After outlining some of the blessings and challenges that all three synods face, Nass writes, “Most important, among the leaders of the three synods at the present time, there is a common commitment to the Bible as the inerrant Word of God and to the Lutheran Confessions as a correct presentation of the doctrines of the Bible. Though doctrinal challenges remain, a common foundation has been apparent in the meetings.”

Read the full article [here](#).

forwardinchrist.net/continued-conversations/

Support Amelith Oktoberfest-Become a Sponsor!
We are excited to host our annual Amelith Oktoberfest - a joyful community celebration filled with faith, food, fun, and fellowship. We'd love to partner with local businesses, organizations and individuals to help make it a success!

Event Date: September 13 & 14, 2025

Location: St. John Amelith Lutheran Church and School, 1664 Amelith Rd. Bay City, MI 48706

Why Sponsor Our Oktoberfest?

By becoming a sponsor, you'll:

- Support a beloved community event
- Gain exposure for your business or organization
- Help fund family-friendly activities and outreach
- Be recognized in promotional materials, signage, and announcements

See the attached flyer for Sponsorship Levels

All proceeds help support St. John Amelith fund development and community outreach.

Interested? Contact us at events@amelith.org or call Vinny Revord at 989-385-8352 to learn more about sponsorship opportunities. Let's partner together to make this year's Amelith Oktoberfest the best one yet! Deadline to take advantage of this opportunity is July 31, 2025.

Prost to community, connection, and Christ-centered celebration!

Oktoberfest Meeting Aug 14th @ 6pm Please attend our final meeting for the 2025 Oktoberfest. It is open to all members of the congregation that have questions or are looking to volunteer at this year's event. Please sign up to volunteer many hands make the job much easier. We will have a job for you and this is your invitation to help this year's Oktoberfest be a success. God is continuing to bless St. John Amelith! Vinny Revord 989-385-8352 or Events@amelith.org

Oktoberfest Bazaar

If you, or someone you know, would like to rent a booth at the Oktoberfest bazaar please see the rental agreements available in the gathering area or scan this QR code to visit the website to download a form.

Oktoberfest



Bazaar Contract

Amelith Oktoberfest Sponsorship Opportunities September 13 & 14, 2025

All sponsorship levels will be announced throughout the event, displayed at the event and also with all event advertising on our social media accounts and website

Platinum Level is \$2,000 +

Ask for details

Gold Level is \$1,000 +

- 8 meal tickets
(your choice of German meal or chicken bbq meal)
- 8 drink tickets
- 8 passes for Whiskey 6

Silver Level is \$500 +

- 4 meal tickets
(your choice of German meal or chicken bbq meal)
- 4 drink tickets
- 4 passes for Whiskey 6

Bronze Level is \$300 +

- 2 meal tickets
(your choice of German meal or chicken bbq meal)
- 2 drink tickets
- 2 passes for Whiskey 6

Fund Development
events@amelith.org



Saturday

Entertainment: Gemutlichkeit Verein Singers, The Frankentrost Band and Whiskey6

Petting Zoo

Wagon of Cheer Raffle

Arts and Craft Bazaar in the gym

Amelith Church Tour

Corn Hole Tournaments

German Meal and Full Concession Stand

Beer Tent



Sunday

Entertainment: The Grocholski Family Tradition

Quilt Raffle

Kids arts and craft event

World Famous Amelith Chicken BBQ

Full Concession Stand

Bake Sale

Beer Tent



The **nominating committee** has gathered the following list of boards and committees in our congregation that will have open positions for the beginning of 2026. Please prayerfully consider donating your time and talent if you are asked to serve on a board or committee. Thank you!

- Chairman
- Treasurer
- Financial Secretary
- Auditing Committee
- Board of Education
- Board of Elders
- Board of Stewardship
- Board of Trustees
- Endowment Fund Committee
- Budget Committee
- Finance Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Kitchen Committee

A job description for all of these positions (except Board of Education and Board of Elders) has been posted on the bulletin board. If you would like a copy of the constitutions for a full list, it is available on our website or email Molly at office@amelith.org for a copy.

Bring your student and their backpack for the "backpack blessing" August 17, 2025 during our church service at 9:30am
Open to students of all ages
member or non-member!



**St. John
Amelith**
Lutheran School

Now Enrolling for 2025/2026 School Year!

A Parochial School Helping Children Grow in Faith, Knowledge, and Service.

1664 Amelith Road, Bay City, MI 48706 • 989-686-0176 • StJohnAmelithParochialSchool.org



August Prayer Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 August Birthdays	2 August Anniversaries
3 August Altar Guild Servers	4 SJA Teachers	5 Council Members	6 Pavilion Committee	7 Endowment Committee	8 Preschool Director	9 Principal
10 Church Music	11 Stewardship Committee	12 Bookmobile	13 Auditing Committee	14 Office Volunteers	15 Treasurer	16 Fund Development
17 Youth Group	18 Coffee Hour Volunteers	19 Confirmands	20 Finance Team	21 Chairman	22 Nominating Committee	23 Trustee Members
24 Sunday School	25 Board of Ed	26 The Lunch Lady	27 Auditorium Committee	28 Budget Committee	29 Pastor	30 Church Secretary
31 School Janitors						

Every day, let us include the person/position/event mentioned in our prayers. You can pray for them, the job they do, those who receive or in whatever way you are led.