



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
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Pastor Rob Williamson
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News & Views

Pastoral Perspective

"For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost." – Luke 19:10

Grace and peace to you all! I hope this day finds you warm, healthy, and content.

I'm not sure why it is, but our parking lot is extremely welcoming to dogs. We had another two wander in on the 7th of January, a pair of stray shepherds looking as though they had been out in the elements for a few days but otherwise no worse for wear. No collars on them, laying down on the blacktop, they seemed lost and alone, a little afraid but willing to eat when food was offered. Eventually one of them was even eager for attention, coming over and nudging my hand for pets and pressing herself against my legs.

I wish I had a better ending for St. Luke's part in their tale: despite my efforts to keep them safe, they managed to get out during the night and are now I know not where. At this point I can only pray that someone else finds them and manages to give them the care they need.

I feel a sense of rightness knowing that they were here, though. I do not begrudge the time I spent feeding them, petting them, and giving them affection they clearly needed. Like them, we are a collection of the lost. We are all a part of the fallen mass of humanity, a kaleidoscope of sinners seeking safety and security. We are each of us part of the narrative of a broken world.

In our brokenness, we each came searching for something: community, reassurance, love. We came to this place recognizing that it holds something we need, finding something that gives us life. And once we realized our belonging, we became followers of Christ.

As followers of Christ, we are called to tend to the lost. We are called to care for strays that come into our midst, offering them something that gives them life: community, reassurance, love, and the chance to find belonging among us.

Sometimes they may wander away, and we will have to pray that they find the care they need elsewhere. But while they are among us, we should recognize the rightness of their presence, knowing that Christ came to seek out and save the lost. May we feel that call every day of our lives.

Blessings,
Pastor Rob

The Soul Sisters have been busy again . We have made 100 Christmas gift bags for the Union Gospel Mission that will be delivered on December 17, Just in time for their Christmas party and they were so grateful. They wanted to thank each and every Soul Sister and church member that was involved time for their Christmas party. Thanks to each and everyone of the soul sisters that donated their time to make the handmaid scarfs and hats. Also a big thank you for the monetary donations to buy items to fill the bags.



BAPTISM



Pastor Rob and Baby Mila,
who was baptized on
Sunday, December 7th.



BIBLE STUDY

Colossians & Philemon

You're invited to participate in a Bible study on Colossians & Philemon, beginning January 13th, 2026, via Zoom. The group will meet for eight weeks, with sessions starting **Tuesday, January 13th at 10:30 am**. We'll use N.T. Wright's "For Everyone Bible Study Guides" for our discussion. If you'd like to join and haven't attended before, please email marlenek8626@outlook.com so I can add you to the class mailing list and send you the weekly Zoom link, starting in January 2026.

Marlene Kiser
Bible Study Leader

January 2026

Altar Care
Scripture Readers & Prayers Leaders
Communion Servers

Sunday, January 4

Kelly Boyer	Altar Care
Karen Linfor	Reader
Bob Behr	Prayer Leader
Faith Thomas, Bob Behr & Scott Kelly	Communion Servers

Sunday, January 11

Faith Thomas	Altar Care
Sarah Madison	Reader
Karen Linfor	Prayer Leader
Peggy Moser & Linda Duffek	Communion Servers

Sunday, January 18

Carol Carney	Altar Care
Shirley Prouty	Reader
Laura Tice	Prayer Leader
Karen Linfor, Kirsten Ireton, & Connie Reule	Communion Servers

Sunday, January 25

Peggy Moser	Altar Care
Faith Thomas	Reader
Peggy Moser	Prayer Leader
Shirley Prouty & Laura Tice	Communion Servers



January 2026

Refreshments Provided by:

January 4

Kelly Boyer & Lois Sherrets

January 11

Laura Weaver & Laura Tice

January 18

Jacob and Christiana Wilson

January 25

Cathy Davis & Gaylen Everett

Jacob Kiser	January 03
Craig Eckles	January 03
Nick Moser	January 05
Pat Hamilton	January 06
Sandra Mansfield	January 09
Karen Linfor	January 10
Deanna Dockter Jr.	January 13
Andrew Weber	January 16
Jeremiah Rowland	January 26
Jarrold Rowland	January 27
Amy Franklin	January 29
Bernie Johansen	January 30
Kirsten Ireton	January 31



ALTAR FLOWERS

Jan. 4 *Lilia & Phillip Karlstad*

Jan. 11 *Currently available*

Jan. 18 *Currently available*

Jan. 25 *Currently available*

WOULD YOU LIKE TO COMMEMORATE A SPECIAL DAY

Sign up to provide flowers for our worship services. There is a sign up chart available on the wall in the narthex if you would like to bring an arrangement of flowers for worship. Place them on the stand by the lectern before worship and then take them with you after worship. Thanks!



FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

November 2025

General Fund Contributions (only):

Data	This Month	Year to Date
Total Contributions	\$18,126	\$177,139
Compared to Budget	\$1,941	-\$896
	12.1%	-0.5%

Note: Plus, values are above Budget; minus values are below.

Other Contributions:

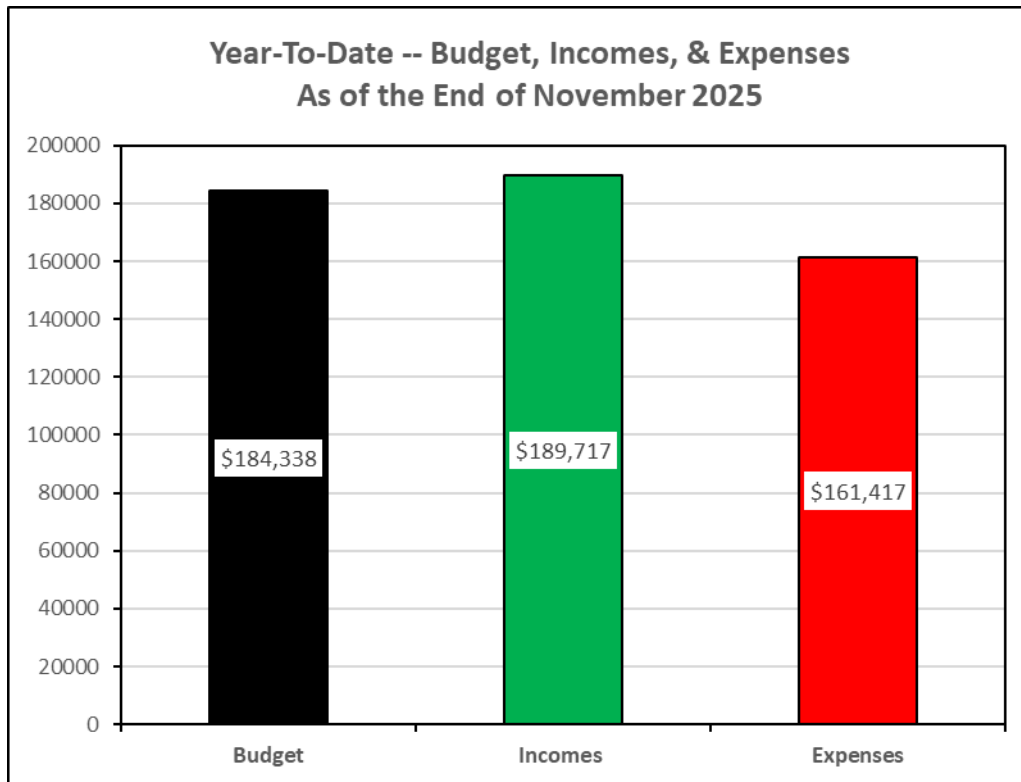
None.

Comments:

- a. The November offerings for five Sundays **exceeded** the budget for the month.
- b. As of the end of November the year-to-date offerings are about 0.5 percent **below** the adopted Budget.

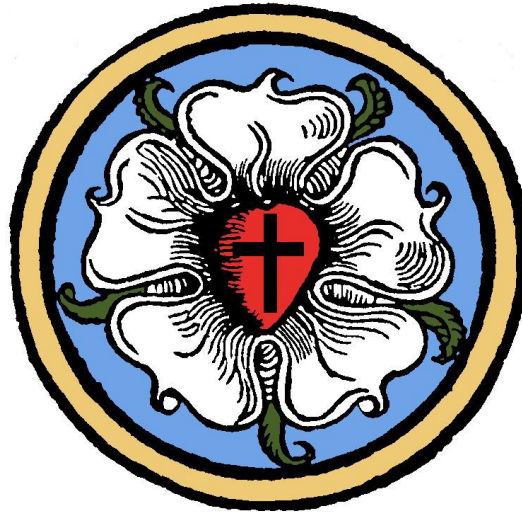
Bob Behr 916-730-0768, bkbahr@comcast.net
Chair, St. Luke's Finance Board

FINANCES TO DATE



The Finance Board provides the graph above that compares the year-to-date figures for the **Budget**, **Incomes** (Offerings and Facility Usage Fees), and **Expenses**, as of the end of November 2025. As shown, through November, the Incomes (\$189,717) continue to exceed the Expenses (\$161,417) by about \$28,000. The year-to-date Expenses continue to be below the Budget (\$184,338) by approximately \$23,000. Your continued support and commitment through weekly/monthly offerings help us to continue to meet our commitments through 2025.

FINANCE BOARD



Through the power of the Holy
Spirit, we accept God's call to
spread the Good News, serve
those in need,
and share the Victory of
Jesus Christ
throughout the world.

-St. Luke's Mission Statement