

# RIVER OF LIFE STREAMS

Interim Pastor William Mitschke 815-725-1341  
email: wmjm920@gmail.com

24901 S Sage St., Channahon, IL 60410-5036  
riveroflifelutheran@gmail.com



## ***Thank You Lord for the Many Wonders of Creation***

Tom Skilling on channel 9 has been reporting that our rainfall in April and May has been below normal. This is important to us because farmers have planted their seeds and many of us are putting vegetables and/or flowers into our home gardens. We are hoping more rain will be coming because for things to grow they need water. Where does the water come from? It's all part of God's many wonders in creation.

***"All streams flow into the sea, yet the sea is never full. To the place the streams come from, there they return again." Ecclesiastes 1:7***

An important part of the growth is the rain cycle God made as a part of creation. The Bible talks about the water cycle. *'All the rivers run into the sea, yet the sea is not full; to the place from which the rivers come, there they return again.'* Every day the Mississippi River dumps approximately 420 billion gallons of water into the Gulf of Mexico. And when you think about all the mighty rivers, every day the same thing is happening all around the world. So, where does all that water go?

The answer lies in the hydrologic cycle, which the Bible introduced almost three thousand years ago. The wise King Solomon wrote, ***"If the clouds be full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth"*** (Ecclesiastes 11:3). Amos the prophet said, ***"He...calls the waters of the sea, and pours them out on the face of the earth"*** (Amos 9:6). And in Job: ***"Behold, God is great . . . He draws up drops of water; they distill his mist in rain,<sup>28</sup> which the skies pour down and drop on mankind abundantly.*** (Job 36:26-28).

The idea of a complete water cycle was not fully understood by science until the seventeenth century. Yet more than two thousand years prior to the discoveries by brilliant minds, the Bible spoke of the water cycle.

The Bible remains the same. Science changes as it learns about the wonders of God's creation. The truth is our Bible is inspired, reliable, and more up-to-date than tomorrow morning's newspaper. Every newspaper has a correction column acknowledging its printed errors. Not the Bible! And there is NO Fake news in the Bible either! The Bible is 100% pure and holy!

The Bible often uses water for symbolizing faith, salvation, and provision. Water is essential to our physical living just as Jesus is essential to our spiritual living.

*Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink." Jn.7:37*

***Heavenly Father, I am thankful for Your water that sustains my physical life and Your Word that brings me truth and salvation.***

*Greetings In Christ.,  
Pastor Mitschke*



**June 4 – Communion . The Holy Trinity**

*"The Best of Three Ways  
We Learn about God"*  
Matthew 28:16-20

**June 11 – Communion . . . Pentecost 2**

*"Eating with Sinners"*  
Matthew 9:9-13

**June 18 – Communion . . . Pentecost 3  
Happy Father's Day!**

*"A Commission for All of Us"*  
Matthew 9:38-10:8

**June 25 – Communion . . . Pentecost 4**

*"Worth More than Many Sparrows"*  
Matthew 10:21-33



Thanks to **Doris Anderson** and Joanne **Morris** for their service on the Altar Guild and faithfully setting up and putting away our Communion vessels and elements each week.

***Thanks to Pam Vermeulen for sending cards to our shut-ins  
and those with medical issues!***



**Judy Bremer**  
1215 Burns,  
Minooka, IL 60447

**Sandy Krause**  
North Aurora Nursing Home  
310 Banbury Rd  
Aurora, IL 60542

**Bill Richardson**  
StoryPoint, Room 318 (new room number)  
605 S. Edward Dr.  
Romeoville, IL 60446

**Vince Zitella**  
6105 E. Hilltop Dr.  
Coal City, IL 60416

**Julianne Grell**  
650 S. Broadway St. Apt. 2F  
Coal City, IL 60416

#### **Continued Prayers...**

Pastor Mark Willig  
Friends in Christ Lutheran Church  
513 E Main Street, Morris, IL 60450

Pastor David Daniel  
Zion Lutheran Church  
Ottawa, IL



Rev. William T. Chorman  
March 19, 1943  
May 16, 2023  
Christian Funeral Service  
May 22, 2023  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Marseilles, IL

Pastor Chorman served in our Circuit at Zion Lutheran Church in Ottawa for nine years. After retiring he was Vacancy Pastor at Trinity, Marseilles.

He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. In 1982 He graduated from the Seminary and was ordained as a Lutheran Pastor. He retired from the ministry in 2022 after 40 yrs. of service.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Dottie, and is survived by one daughter and one son and daughter-in-law and two grandchildren.



On Sunday, May 7, we joyfully welcomed  
as members of River of Life:

by Transfer of Membership

**Steve Roots**

From St. Peter Lutheran Church, Joliet

By Adult Confirmation

**Daniel Joseph and Reyna (Luna) Drzymkowski**

By Sacrament of Holy Baptism

**Ella Marie and Reyna (Luna) Drzymkowski**

**Francisco Leonardo and**

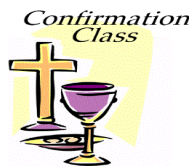
**Nicholas Anthony Bueno**

All address and phone numbers will be in the latest River of Life Church Directory.



## **Sunday School...**

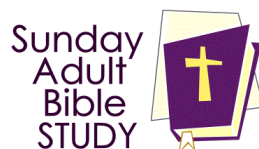
**Sunday School is out for the Summer!**



**See or call Pastor Mitschke about Confirmation class.**

## **Youth Group...**

Plan on attending all events if possible, for some fellowship and to help our youth group!



**Bible Study is out for the Summer!!**



Chairman and 1 Usher – **Vacant** (If interested in serving see Bob Grimm)

***If you need to use the LIFT, let an Elder or Usher know to assist you!***



Head Elder Dave Hall and the Elders have been in touch with Pastor Ryden and NID and are working with them in regard to looking for a pastor.



### **Churches in Circuit South 17**

River of Life, Channahon  
Our Savior, Joliet  
St. Peter, Joliet  
St. Paul's, Lockport

Trinity, Marseilles  
Zion, Ottawa  
Lord of Life, Seneca  
Hope, Shorewood

The Northern Illinois District has eighteen Circuits. A circuit must have at least seven congregations and a minimum combined membership of 1,500.

Pastor Sandman of Lord of Life in Seneca was Vacancy Pastor at Marseilles. His last Sunday was Pentecost. Circuit Visitor Pastor Bill Ryden will lead a late service beginning in June.

# **Swaddling Clothes**

*Our outreach ministry for families!*

**Open** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month.

**June 10**

9 am – 12 pm

Contact Amanda Graves for any questions.

**June 27**

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

If you're interested in helping, please contact Amanda Graves.

Contact Pam Sterle if you want to help some mornings.

The more, the merrier!

Please consider donating your time to this worthwhile ministry.

Help is always needed and appreciated.

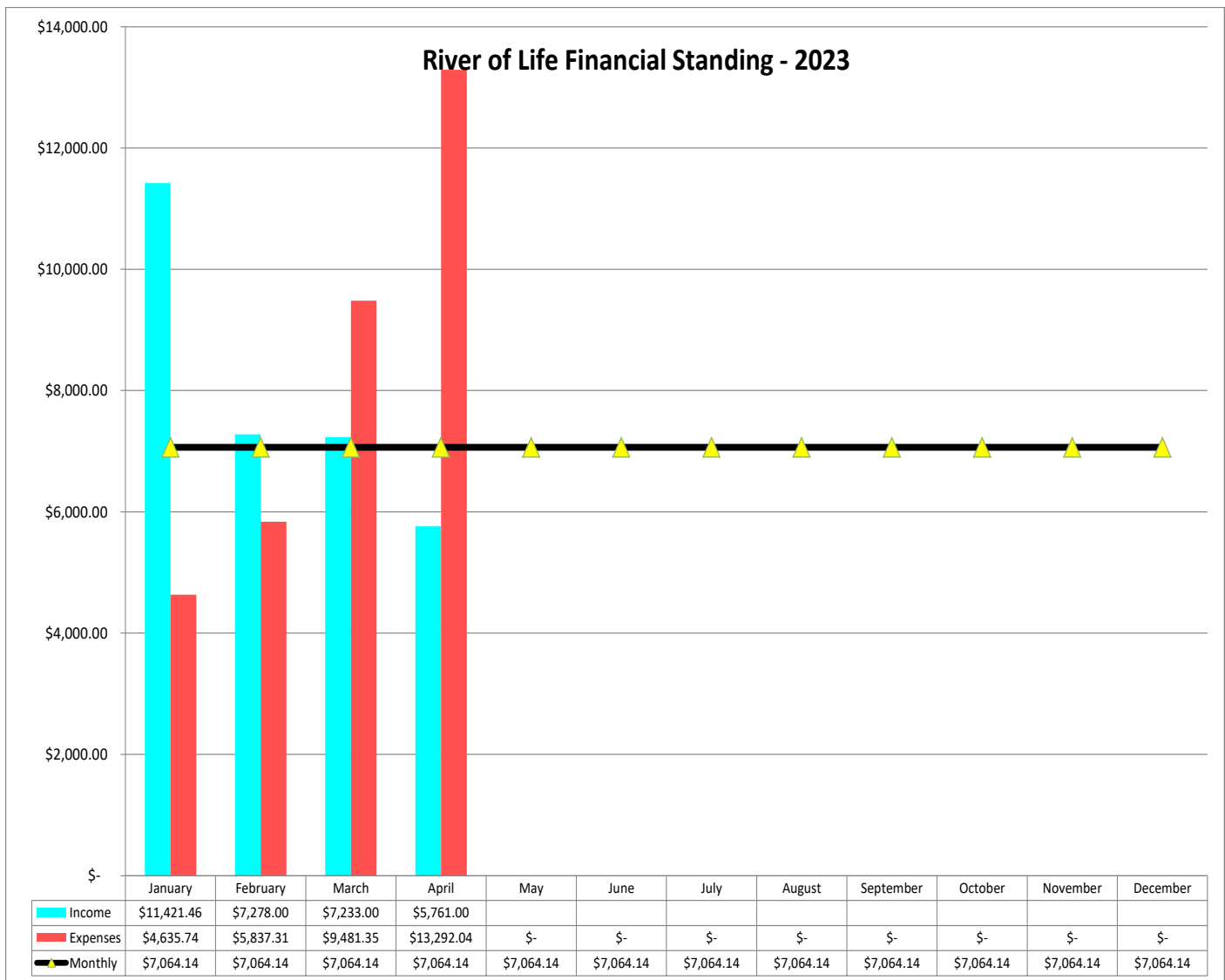
# Donating to a charity using a qualified charitable distribution (QCD).

If you are age 72 or older, IRS rules require you to take required minimum distributions (RMDs) each year from your tax-deferred retirement accounts.

Learn how by taking your RMD as a QCD and donating directly to a charity it will not be considered as taxable income. (Consider River of Life Lutheran Church)

Check the website listed below for an explanation, or you can ask Vince on how it all works.

<https://www.fidelity.com/learning-center/personal-finance/retirement/qcds-the-basics>



Giving	\$ 31,693.46
Expenses	\$ 33,246.44
	<b>\$ (1,552.98)</b>



## Holy **COMMUNION**

The Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood is received reverently among us. With COVID-19, our reception of the Sacrament is still affected.

Social distancing is practiced coming forward. Communicants come to receive the Sacrament as singles or a family. As the first family/single leaves the Communion Table, the next single or family comes forward.

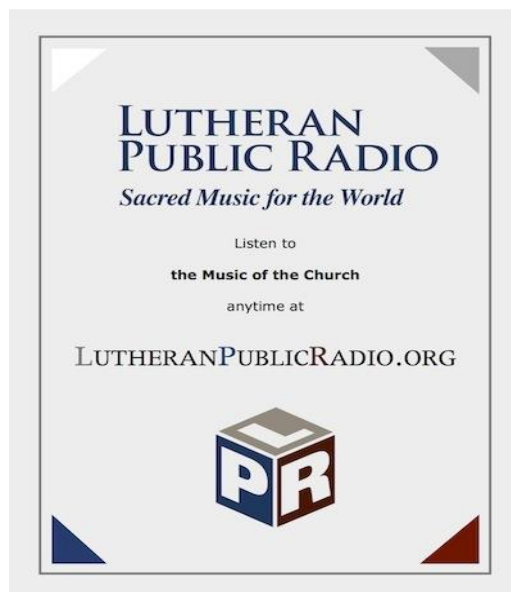
In our distribution of the wine and the bread in the Sacrament, there is now no contact between the pastor/elder and the people.

The bread and wine are in individual cups touched only by the communicant(s). As the pastor says, "*Take eat*" . . ., each communicant takes his own cup with bread, "*Take drink*" . . ., each communicant then takes his own cup with wine. The pastor then speaks the dismissal.

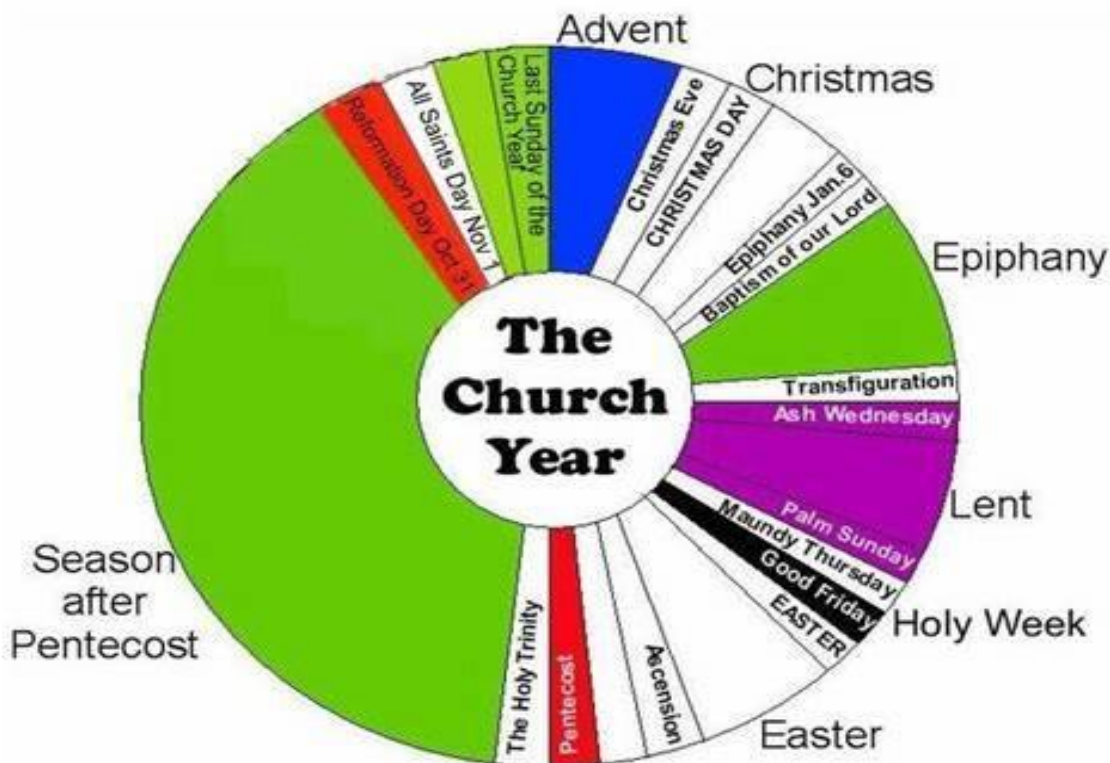
We followed suggestions and introduced these new precautions long ago. If you have comments or suggestions, please feel free to share them with an elder or pastor.

We appreciate the service of our Altar Guild for their beautiful service and add an extra thank you for their special work currently.

Dave Hall, Head Elder







## What determines the changeable dates of The Church Year?

The date of Pentecost and dates of the seasons of Lent and Easter and the Holy Days within those seasons are changeable.

In 325 A.D., the Council of Nicaea established a formula for the date of Easter as the Sunday following the paschal full moon, which is the full moon that falls on or after the spring equinox. In practice, that means that Easter is always the first Sunday after the first full moon that falls on or after March 21. Easter can occur as early as March 22 and as late as April 25.

The paschal full moon can fall on different days in different time zones, which can present a problem when calculating the date of Easter. If people in different time zones were to calculate the date of Easter depending on when they observed the paschal full moon, then that would mean that the date of Easter would be different depending on which time zone they lived in. For that reason, the church does not use the exact date of the spring equinox but an approximation, March 21. The actual vernal equinox can occur on March 20<sup>th</sup> in certain time zones. For calculation purposes, the full moon is always set on the 14th day of the lunar month. The lunar month begins with the new moon. For the same reason, the church sets the date of the spring equinox at March 21. These two approximations allow the church to set a universal date for Easter, regardless of when you observe the paschal full moon in your time zone.