

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



Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS 1847 - 2022

FAITH CONTENTMENT THANKSGIVING



What is the secret of happiness? Is it having everything we want? Or, is it appreciating what we have and thanking God for what we do have?

In Philippians 4:11-13, Paul writes, ***‘For I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.’*** You might be thinking these are good words, but it’s also true that it’s easy to worry. Unfortunately, our faith isn’t as strong as it should be. That’s why we need help.

Contentment isn’t something we find at a particular destination, it’s something that is a part of our life every day. And if we miss the right path from time to time, we still enjoy the scenery on the detour. Contentment doesn’t mean we can’t have ambition. No, it means delaying gratification and enjoying where you are, on your way to where you are going.

2 Corinthians 5:7 has these profound words for Christians, ***“We live by faith, not by sight.”*** *Living by sight* is living our life based on how things look to the natural eye. It’s deciding and acting in accord with our perceptions and circumstances rather than God’s Word. It’s being dictated by our feelings and thoughts. Our thoughts and feelings are – ours! Examine them. Don’t let them hijack you. Too often we are sandwiched between faith and doubt, caught between what we see and what God wants us to know and believe.

One day a distraught father brought his son to Jesus for healing. Jesus told him, ***‘...All things are possible for one who believes.’*** (Mark 9:23). At that point the boy’s father said, ***“I believe; help my unbelief!”*** (Mark 9:24). This man was honest about his doubts, yet Jesus still worked a miracle for him. If he had needed correcting, Jesus would have corrected him. If his faith was not genuine, the Lord would have known it. But Jesus accepted his declaration of faith, despite his doubts.

The problem with doubt and living by sight is we see only our problems, our worries, what we think we need for happiness, instead of contentment in life. This father wasn’t the only one who comes to Jesus with a faith that is weak. At times we experience both faith and doubt. Like this father we too need to be honest with Jesus, and ourselves, and pray this father’s prayer.

If God also gives us food and clothing, home, family and friends, how blessed we are if we have any of these. These are the things we usually remember at Thanksgiving. True, we should thank God for these. But there is so much more. There is God's grace of forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. As Christians we come to **thank God for all His blessings** and this makes **Thanksgiving a very joyful time**.

Joan joins me in wishing you all a very Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!
With Christian Love, *Pastor Mitschke*



Fall Back

Daylight Saving Time Ends Nov. 6, @ 2am.

Nov. 6 – Communion All Saints Sunday

“Who Are These?”

(What it takes to be a Saint)

Rev. 7:9-17

Nov. 13 – Communion Pentecost 23

“Not a Call to Fear, but a Call to Faith”

Luke 21:5-28

Nov. 20 -- Communion

“What Fills Your Heart?”

Philippians 4:6-20

ADVENT BEGINS

Nov. 27 – Communion -1st Sunday of Advent.

“You Must Be Ready”

Matthew 24:36-51



We resume this year with our potluck meal beginning at 5:30pm followed by the Midweek Service at 6:30pm. The evening services will be approximately 45 minutes so our children will not be out late on a weekday evening.

Midweek Advent Services:

Wednesday, Nov. 30 Abraham, - Potluck @ 5:30pm, Service @ 6:30pm
Wednesday, Dec. 7 Moses, - Potluck @ 5:30pm, Service @ 6:30pm
Wednesday, Dec. 14 David, - Potluck @ 5:30pm, Service @ 6:30pm

Our theme and weekly subjects for our midweek Wednesday Advent services:
“While Shepherds Watched”

It's not in our hymnal but you may know the Advent/Christmas hymn *“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night”*. What surprising tidings of great joy these New Testament shepherds received! Our series is not about these shepherds.

In fact, our Advent shepherds this year are from the Old Testament, and, you might not even think of them as shepherds, but they were. You know them for their big and important lives and their important stories cover many, many chapters in the Bible.

What connection might they have with the most important promise in the Old Testament and one of the best known and most important accounts in the Bible?



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!

welcome
to our church family

Roger Schmidt
27 Birch St., Minooka, IL 60447
708-674-2962
rogerspersonal@gmail.com

Roger was received as a communicant member on Sunday, Oct. 30.
Please add Roger's name, address and phone number to your River of Life Church Directory



Judy Bremer
1215 Burns,
Minooka, IL 60447

Sandra Krause
North Aurora Nursing Home
310 Banbury Rd
Aurora, IL 60542

Bill Richardson
StoryPoint, Room 355
605 S. Edward Dr.
Romeoville, IL 60446

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

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

Roger Feiertag
1610 Augusta Lane
Shorewood, IL 60404



Sunday School...

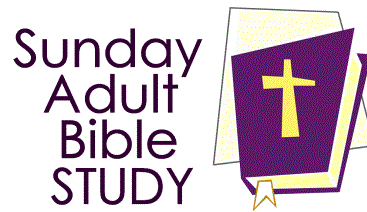
Sunday School is at 10:45am each Sunday in a Classroom.



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 at 10:45am each Sunday in Upstairs Classroom.



***Congregational meeting November 13th at 10:30 am.
Elder and Council positions open for election.
Anyone interested in running talk to Bob Grimm**

If you need to use the LIFT, let an Elder or Usher know to assist you!
(Please note that the Lift is out of service at this time until further notice. Sorry for any inconvenience!)



Head Elder Dave Hall has been in touch with Pastor Ryden and is working with him regarding looking for a pastor.

The Elders are continuing to search for a pastor!

Swaddling Clothes

Our outreach ministry for families!

Open on the 2nd Saturday, and the 4th Tuesday of each month.

November 12

9 am – 12 pm

Contact Amanda Graves for any questions.

November 22

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).

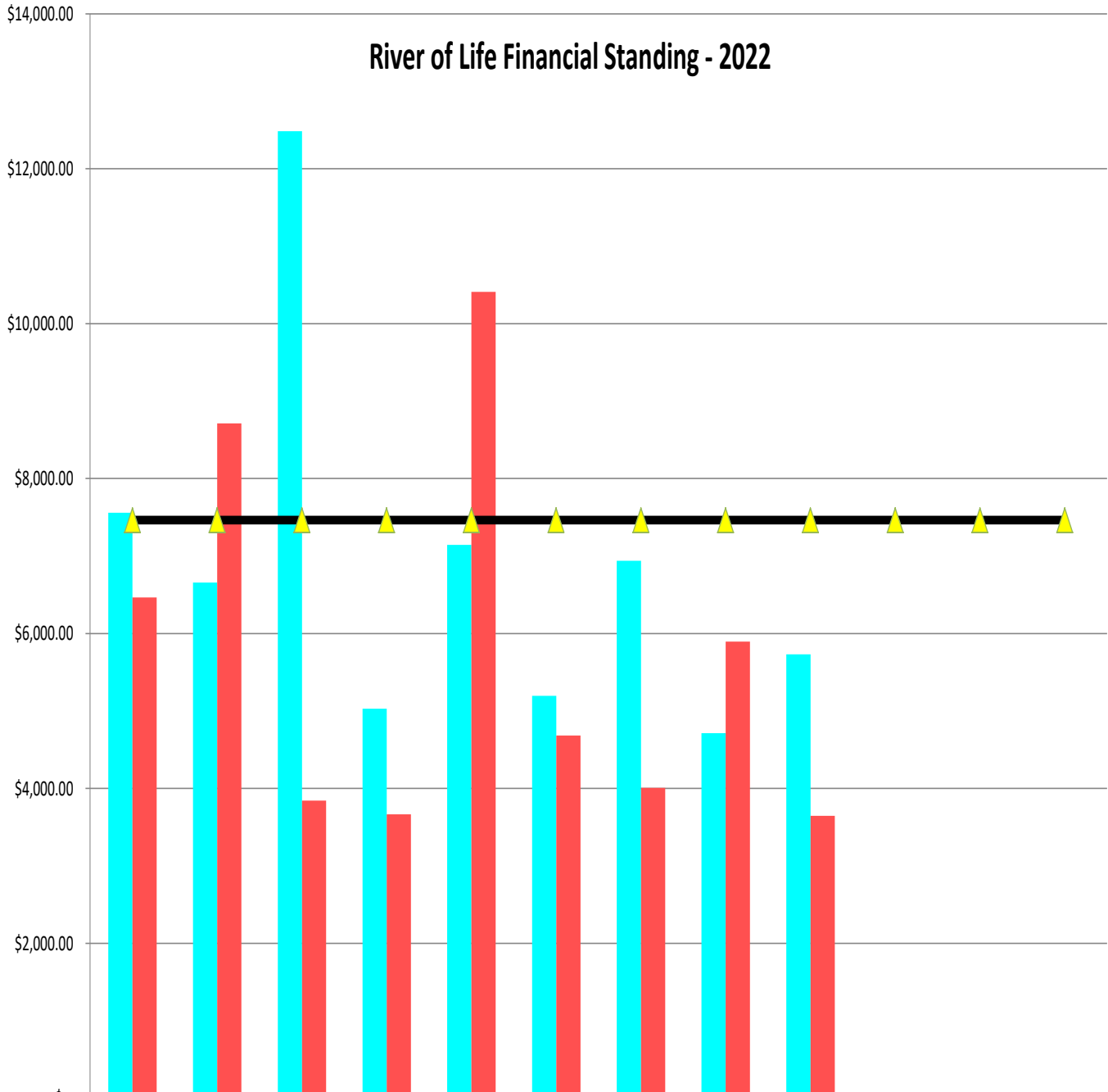
If you are age 72 or older, IRS rules require you to take required minimum distributions (RMDs) each year from your tax-deferred retirement accounts.

Learn how by taking your RMD as a QCD and donating directly to a charity it will not be considered as taxable income.

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>

River of Life Financial Standing - 2022



	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Income	\$7,559.00	\$6,660.00	\$12,486.27	\$5,028.00	\$7,145.00	\$5,195.00	\$6,940.00	\$4,715.00	\$5,733.00			
Expenses	\$6,463.64	\$8,712.62	\$3,845.03	\$3,666.02	\$10,411.64	\$4,682.70	\$4,007.26	\$5,893.38	\$3,645.77	\$-	\$-	\$-
Monthly	\$7,462.45	\$7,462.45	\$7,462.45	\$7,462.45	\$7,462.45	\$7,462.45	\$7,462.45	\$7,462.45	\$7,462.45	\$7,462.45	\$7,462.45	\$7,462.45

Giving	\$ 61,461.27
Expenses	\$ 51,328.06
	\$ 10,133.21



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