

# Cross Connection

## Year A focuses on the Gospel of Matthew.

Epiphany 2026

The semi-continuous Old Testament readings focus on major Genesis narratives, the covenant with Moses, and the establishment of Israel in the Promised Land. The second, New Testament, readings are from Romans, Philippians and 1 Thessalonians.

### Advent

Nov. 27, 2025 through Dec. 23, 2025

### Christmas

Dec. 24, 2025 through Jan. 6, 2026

### Time after Epiphany

Jan. 7, 2026 through Feb. 17, 2026

### Lent

Feb. 18, 2026 through Apr. 1, 2026

### The Three Days

Apr. 2, 2026 through Apr. 4, 2026

### Easter

Apr. 5, 2026 through May 24, 2026

### Time after Pentecost

May 25, 2026 through Nov. 25, 2026

# Cross Connection

Epiphany 2026

Dear Family and Friends of St. Luke,  
+ Grace and Peace.

The Epiphany of Our Lord is a festival that is celebrated on January 6. The manifestation of Christ to the world and the recalling of the visit of the magi (Matthew 2:1-12) are central to this observance. The challenge, however, is that we rarely take the time to observe this festival. In a sense, it gets lost in the midst of our recovery from New Year celebration. By January 6 each year, we are getting back into a familiar rhythm that we set aside shortly before Christmas.

This year, let's take on the intention of observing this ancient church festival (it pre-dates the December 25 Christmas observance by a century!). On Tuesday evening, January 6 at 7:00 PM, I invite you to join me in Epiphany Vespers in the nave of the church. Following the service, we will take down and store away the Christmas decorations and enjoy a time of fellowship.

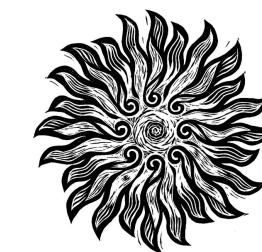
**Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.  
Isaiah 60:1**

The Epiphany Season is the final part of the Christmas Cycle of the church year, extending from the Epiphany of Our Lord on January 6 to the Transfiguration of Our Lord, the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. During the Sundays of this season, we will hear gospel accounts of various revelations of Jesus as the Christ, the Savior of the world. Core teachings for lives of discipleship will also be featured so that we too, may more faithfully be the manifestation of Christ for the world.

As I write this letter, I'm looking out of the window of my study onto the wet pavement of our memorial garden and columbarium. It is a quiet morning hour with haze in the air. The weather report highlights a Wind Advisory that is to last for the next 24 hours. One way or another, the sun will shine, the light will come, and this present dreariness will pass. In the meantime, I wait with expectation and in gratitude for this moment of reflection. I encourage you also to seize a moment of your day to reflect on your expectations and God's intention for you. Mindful that whatever hinders us in the present will give way to our ability to respond with gratitude and grace, may we look to the weeks ahead with a blessed assurance of Christ's manifestation in our life together.

During the weeks ahead look for ways to share your reflections, thoughts, and insight with at least one other person. Our spiritual growth and vitality depend on our active participation in faith practices. In this new year, resolve to be open-minded and willing to embrace God's desire for your heart. In the meantime, may God be with you and grant you grace. In Christ's love for you,

Pastor Frye



O Morning Star, how fair and bright!  
You shine with God's own truth and light,  
aglow with grace and mercy!

## Worship and Mission

For Lutherans, worship matters. In fact, worship lies at the heart of how we understand ourselves together. And, for Lutherans mission matters as mission stands at the forefront of our work and ministry. For a long period of time both worship and mission were treated as separate conversations and areas of focus. Worship has often been thought of as what happens "inside the church" and mission is what happens "outside" the church. In this separation, we have missed a foundational understanding of our life together as a church. Each week we are gathered around the means of grace and sent into the world to proclaim the good news that we have seen, heard, and tasted in that gathering.

Our worship life is meant to be a formative encounter with Jesus Christ that propels us into the world for mission. Through the means of grace, God empowers the church for the work of mission. Worship is mission and mission is worship. Our gathering does not simply end at the conclusion of the worship service. The work continues as we are sent into the world—"Go in peace, Christ is with you;" "Go in peace serve the Lord;" "Go in peace, share the good news;" "Go in peace, remember the poor." We are sent in the peace of Christ to share and enact the very things we have experienced in worship.

## Financial Stewardship Report

	November 2025	YTD 2025
Total Income	\$50,932.71	\$425,827.60
Expenditures	\$42,133.95	\$390,021.14
Net Income	+\$8,789.76	+\$35,806.46

## congregation, council, committees

### November 2025

- Whitney Waters received a scholarship in the amount of \$11,640.00
- Annual Congregational meeting – January 25, 2026
- Spending plan adjusted to include \$5,200 for AV Tech
- Family and Youth will change it's name to Faith Formation
- Outreach and Social Ministry have combined with a new name of Faith in Action

### December 2025

- Child Clearance will start in January
- Heidi Frye will be serving as interim Financial Secretary
- Tiffany Fraizer and Rowan Frye will lead the AV Department
- The gas leak at the church was repaired in 2 days

On Sunday, December 21, 2025 the congregation held a reception in honor of the Davies family following the morning's service which included the rite of Farewell and Godspeed. We are grateful to Shelly for her time as our Office Administrator and Financial Secretary and her entire family for their contribution to our life together.



## Prophets, Saints and Kings: Resisting Christian Nationalism and Building the Beloved Community with King and Bonhoeffer

On Saturday, January 17, 2026, join LAMPa, ULS Kindling Faith, and Gettysburg College Department of Public Policy for a day with internationally renowned Bonhoeffer scholars, Dr. Stephen Haynes and Dr. Reggie Williams. On MLK weekend, learn about the intersecting legacies and lessons of Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Martin Luther King, Jr., while deepening your understanding of how people of faith can confront and resist the growing forces of authoritarianism and Christian nationalism in our own time. [Register for in-person attendance here](#). [Register for the livestream here](#).

## Living Lutheran Launches New Site and Features

The new LivingLutheran.org launched on Monday, December 8. Members of congregations in our synod will be able to set up a free digital membership that offers these perks:

- A welcoming, easy-to-access format.
  - A personalized dashboard prioritizing the stories that interest them.
  - Access to members-only content, and the ability to save and "like" articles.
  - E-news delivery options to get the stories they want, both online and in their email inboxes.
- Please visit [livinglutheran.org/subscribe](#) to sign up for your free digital membership. Living Lutheran tells the stories of the ELCA, bonding us as a church across congregations, synods, states, regions and countries. For more information, visit [livinglutheran.org/subscribe](#). You'll also find options for individual and group subscriptions to the print magazine. Please email questions to [livinglutheran@elca.org](mailto:livinglutheran@elca.org).

## Accompaniment: A Model for Congregational Mission Alongside Individuals with Disabilities

United Lutheran Seminary invites you to join them on January 12, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. in the Brossman Learning Center or online for a special lecture by the Rev. Twila Schock. In "Accompaniment: A Model for Congregational Mission Alongside Individuals with Disabilities," Pastor Twila will explore how faith communities can accompany people with disabilities in ways that honor dignity, foster belonging, and strengthen congregational life. Drawing on her extensive experience in church relations, global service, and disability inclusion through Mosaic, she will offer both theological grounding and practical insights for communities seeking to build more welcoming and supportive relationships. This event is free of charge. [Register](#).

## Save the Date: Congregation Leaders Workshop

Saturday, March 14 | 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

An event to resource and train congregation council members, officers, and leaders.

Look for registration information and final details in early January.

## Official Notice

Annual Congregational Meeting  
Sunday, January 25, 2026  
Following worship

# CROSS CONNECTION CALENDAR

January 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 <b>New Years Day</b> New freedom Al Anon	2	3
4 Faith Formation Holy Communion	5 AA Fellowship	6 Book Group Music Therapy	7 Midweek Service Choir	8 New freedom Al Anon	9	10 BINGO @ Manor
11 Faith Formation Holy Communion 2nd Sunday	12 AA Faith in Action Audubon Property	13 Book Group Staff Meeting Music Therapy Bible Study	14 Midweek Service Choir	15 New freedom Al Anon Faith Formation Meeting	16	17
18 Faith Formation Holy Communion	19 AA Micah 6 Finance	20 Book Group Staff Meeting Music Therapy	21 Midweek Service Choir	22 New freedom Al Anon	23	24
25 Faith Formation Holy Communion	26 AA Council	27 Book Group Music Therapy	28 Midweek Service Choir	29 New freedom Al Anon	30	31

**Special Day, Holiday = bold text**

**Worship Services = red text**

**Education Opportunities = green text**

**Outreach/Fellowship Opportunities= purple text**

*Church Meeting = italicized text*

**Support / Community Group = gray text**

# CROSS CONNECTION CALENDAR

February 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1 Faith Formation <b>Holy Communion</b>	2 AA Communications Fellowship Worship and Music	3 Book Group Music Therapy	4 <b>Midweek Service</b> Choir	5 New freedom Al Anon	6	7
8 Faith Formation <b>Holy Communion</b> 2nd Sunday	9 AA Faith in Action Audubon Property	10 Book Group Music Therapy Bible Study	11 <b>Midweek Service</b> Choir	12 New freedom Al Anon	13	14
15 Faith Formation <b>Holy Communion</b>	16 AA Finance	17 Book Group Music Therapy Micah 6:8	18 <b>Midweek Service</b> Choir	19 New freedom Al Anon	20	21
22 Faith Formation <b>Holy Communion</b>	23 AA Audubon Board meeting Council	24 Book Group Music Therapy Bible Study	25 <b>Midweek Service</b> Choir	26 New freedom Al Anon	27	28

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## Weekly Worship & Study Opportunities

### Sunday

8:45 a.m. Faith Formation classes

10 a.m. In-person and online worship

### Tuesday

1 P.M. (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday) @ Luther Ridge: Worship

6:30 P.M. Choir

### Wednesday

11 a.m. In-person worship

### Thursday

1 P.M. (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday) @Menno Haven: Worship