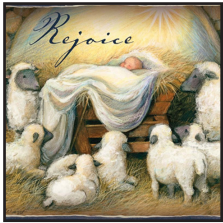


// *This Advent we have been able to reflect upon the gifts of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love that come to us through Jesus. As we look forward to celebrating His birth, may we share these gifts with the world.* //

## New & Upcoming



### December 24 & 25

#### CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

##### Christmas Eve worship times:

1:00pm in the Worship and Event Center  
3:00 - 5:00pm - 7:00pm in the sanctuary

##### Christmas Day worship:

9:30am in the sanctuary. This will be the only worship service on Christmas Day.



### January 11

#### "WELCOME TO ST. LORENZ" CLASS BEGINS SOON

Our "Welcome to St. Lorenz" class is part of the process for all who are considering making St. Lorenz their church home and being received into membership.

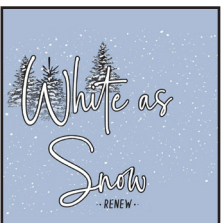
This class is designed to provide an introduction to our congregation and school through a blend of Bible study, discussion, and introduction to our values, vision and mission.

When: Saturday, **January 11**, 9am-noon

Where: Worship and Event Center Lobby.

Breakfast will be served and childcare is available for those who need it. There is no cost for this class. **Please register by January 3rd**, so that we have enough materials ready, food prepared, and childcare providers ready to assist.

Sign up on Church Center, or call Heather at 989-652-0771 to register.



### February 1

#### WHITE AS SNOW WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

St. Lorenz is delighted to invite all women to the Third Annual "White as Snow" Women's Conference, taking place February 1 here at St. Lorenz. This year's theme is REST, inspired by Matthew 28:11: "Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

The day will be led by keynote speaker, Michelles Dierks and include numerous breakout speakers. We will also gather for prayer, praise, and to fellowship together as we find promised rest in Jesus' name. Tickets are just \$45 and include a boxed lunch from the Bavarian Inn. **This price goes up after Dec. 31**, so sign up now in Church Center before the Dec. 31 deadline. We look forward to seeing you there for a day of fellowship, learning, and spiritual renewal!

## Volunteer Opportunities

### NIGHT TO SHINE

On **February 7, 2025**, St. Lorenz will host **Night to Shine**. This special evening is an unforgettable prom night experience for people with special needs and is centered on God's love. It takes a lot of volunteers to make this event a success! Please review volunteer roles in Church Center, under Sign-Ups.

### MEDIA MINISTRY TEAM

The Media Ministry team is looking for on-going and substitute volunteers to serve during worship services at the Sanctuary. The media team operates various cameras and the media control desk so that those who can't join with us in-person may experience our worship wherever they might be. No experience needed, training is provided.

If interested, visit Church Center Sign-Ups and select "register" to provide your information or contact Dan Reinert [dreinert@stlorenz.org](mailto:dreinert@stlorenz.org).

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### YEAR END GIVING

As we near our fiscal year end, we will continue to provide updates regarding the projected financial needs to carry on our ministry at St. Lorenz. As of 12/18/24, in the **Operating Fund**, we will need receipts of approximately **\$440,000** to finish this year in the black. Additionally, **Missions and Capital Improvements** will need **\$36,000** and **\$11,000**, respectively, to reach our annual goals. These amounts may appear challenging but rather than be discouraged, please continue to reflect on God's Blessings in your life and respond to His great love in kind. We thank God for the gifts we receive to conduct our ministry and show how beautiful it is to live with Jesus! For your financial gift to be recognized as a **2024** gift, one of the following must occur:

- Received with worship offerings or in the offering boxes located at the church by Dec. 31, 2024
- Postmarked Dec. 31, 2024, or earlier, if mailed
- Given online no later than Dec. 31, 2024 by electronic giving.

**Reminder:** The church office will be open 8:00am until noon on Dec. 31. **Checks must be dated Dec. 31, 2024 or earlier** and, if possible, please place them in a 2024 giving envelope.

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Bulletin submissions and other communication requests should be sent to [bulletin@stlorenz.org](mailto:bulletin@stlorenz.org) by noon, **Tuesdays**.



Church Center may be found at [stlorenz.churchcenter.com](http://stlorenz.churchcenter.com)

## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY HOURS



The church office hours on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve are 8am - noon, and closed all day for both holidays. The school office will be closed for Christmas break. Because of the holidays, bulletin items and other news to be communicated the weekend of January 5 **must be submitted by Tuesday, Dec. 31, at noon.**

## GRIEF SHARE CLASSES OFFERED

The Grief Share experience can provide you with encouragement, support, and helpful information as you work through your grief. If you, or someone you know, is dealing with grief, this group can help; your loss does not have to be a recent one and participants do not need to be St. Lorenz members. This 13 session class begins on Tuesday, **January 7**, and runs weekly through March 25. We are offering two group options this winter:

Afternoon group is 3:30-5:30p.m.

Evening group is 6:00-8:00p.m.

Registration is required, as space is limited. Register in Church Center, or call Heather at 989-652-0771. Please **register by December 31st** to ensure we have materials ready for you.

## JOB OPPORTUNITY

St. Lorenz Childcare is seeking caring and enthusiastic part-time Teacher Aides for our year-round program. For more information or to submit a resume, please contact Andrea Dykman at [adykman@stlorenz.org](mailto:adykman@stlorenz.org). A full description of the position is available on the St. Lorenz website and in Church Center.

## CAN & BOTTLE DRIVE

Lots of empty cans and bottles this holiday season? Please donate your returnables to the Camp Lu Lay Lea scholarship fund. Collection bins are at The Rock and the entrance to the School gym. For pick-up, call Dan at (989) 488-9170.

## LWML BOOKSTORE

Available in the LWML Bookstore, located in the church basement, are a beautiful selection of religious, boxed Christmas cards, and individual German Christmas cards. Also 60th, 65th, and 70th wedding anniversary cards! Stop in and browse on weekdays or weekends and use the self-serve checkout!

## MEMORIAL REPORT

**Memorials for the following individuals were received during the month of November:**

Rick Bierlein	Jacob Herzog
Steve Bierlein	Frank Kern
Dorothy Buchinger	Ralph Parlberg
Harry Burchette	Louis Weiss
Susan Rummel Dean	David Wigley
Don Finger	Elaine Zielke
Leona Guenther	Ed Haubenstricker

**Memorials were designated for the following:**

Breakthrough Bible Class, Male Choir, Media Ministry, Music Fund, Operating Fund, Social Ministry, St. Lorenz School, St. Lorenz Foundation, Stephen Ministry, Student Aid Fund

## MISSION MARKET

The Mission Market, located next to the Church offices, has new items for Christmas and gift giving! All profits from the Market go to support missions. Market hours are the same as the church reception desk, Monday through Friday, and Sundays from 9:00am-12:30pm.

## PREMARITAL WORKSHOP

This workshop is for couples who will be married at St. Lorenz or by a St. Lorenz pastor in 2025 or 2026. We will meet on Saturday, **January 11**, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Adult Ed Rooms. Check in will begin at 8:00 am with coffee, juice, and donuts. If you have any questions, please contact Heather at 989-652-0771.

## JOY-FILLED INVESTING

Your investment in Church Extension Fund helps build facilities for the spreading of the Gospel. Your investment works for you earning competitive interest rates while serving the Lord; a double joy! Start an education fund for your child or grandchild's future! For more information, contact Larry List, St. Lorenz CEF Rep., at 989-652-8162; or you may call the CEF offices directly at 800-242-3944.

## Gifts

- A donation to the Operating Fund in memory of Elmer S. Zehnder's 126<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 25, from his son Martin (and Norma) Zehnder.

## Thank You

To all who contributed either at Advent by Candlelight, or through the church office, Thank you! We've been able to purchase 75 twenty-five dollar gift cards to help youth who have AGED OUT of the foster care system. The cards will be dispensed as needed throughout the year by those who work with the youth.

Advent by Candlelight Planning Committee

## FIRST CHRISTMAS SHOP A SUCCESS

The Caring Tree's first "Christmas Shop" was visited by 42 shoppers; people were friendly and full of smiles! Over 650 items (estimated) were sold, not including gift cards. Shoppers were also able to take bonus items, such as cleaning supplies and personal care items, free of charge. Watch for a more detailed report in the St. Lorenz Newsletter, arriving in January. Thank you to all who helped to make this a success!

## In Our Thoughts & Prayers

**Births** - A son to Spencer & Elizabeth Bell

**Wedding** - Scott Smith & Mercy Baldwin

**Anniversary** - Gary & Barbara Rupprecht - 50th on Dec. 26

### Illness:

Betty Auernhamer	Dean Bickel	Brenton Hecht
Betty Kern	Valerian Nowak	Alex Palmer
Tracey Raquepaw	Carl Schneirla	Jennifer Shetlar
Eugene "Smokey" Frank		

### Military Personnel

Derek Hart-Army, Leland Hart-Army, Kerry Houck-Army, Cory Knoll-Navy

### Church Offices/Mailing Address

850 West Genesee Street  
Frankenmuth, MI 48734

### School Address

140 Churchgrove Rd  
Frankenmuth, MI 48734

### Contact

[www.stlorenz.org](http://www.stlorenz.org)  
tel: 989-652-6141

### Social Media

Facebook   
[@stlorenzfrankenmuth](https://www.facebook.com/stlorenzfrankenmuth)

Need a pastor after hours? Call (989) 652-6141. Your call will be forwarded to the on-call pastor.