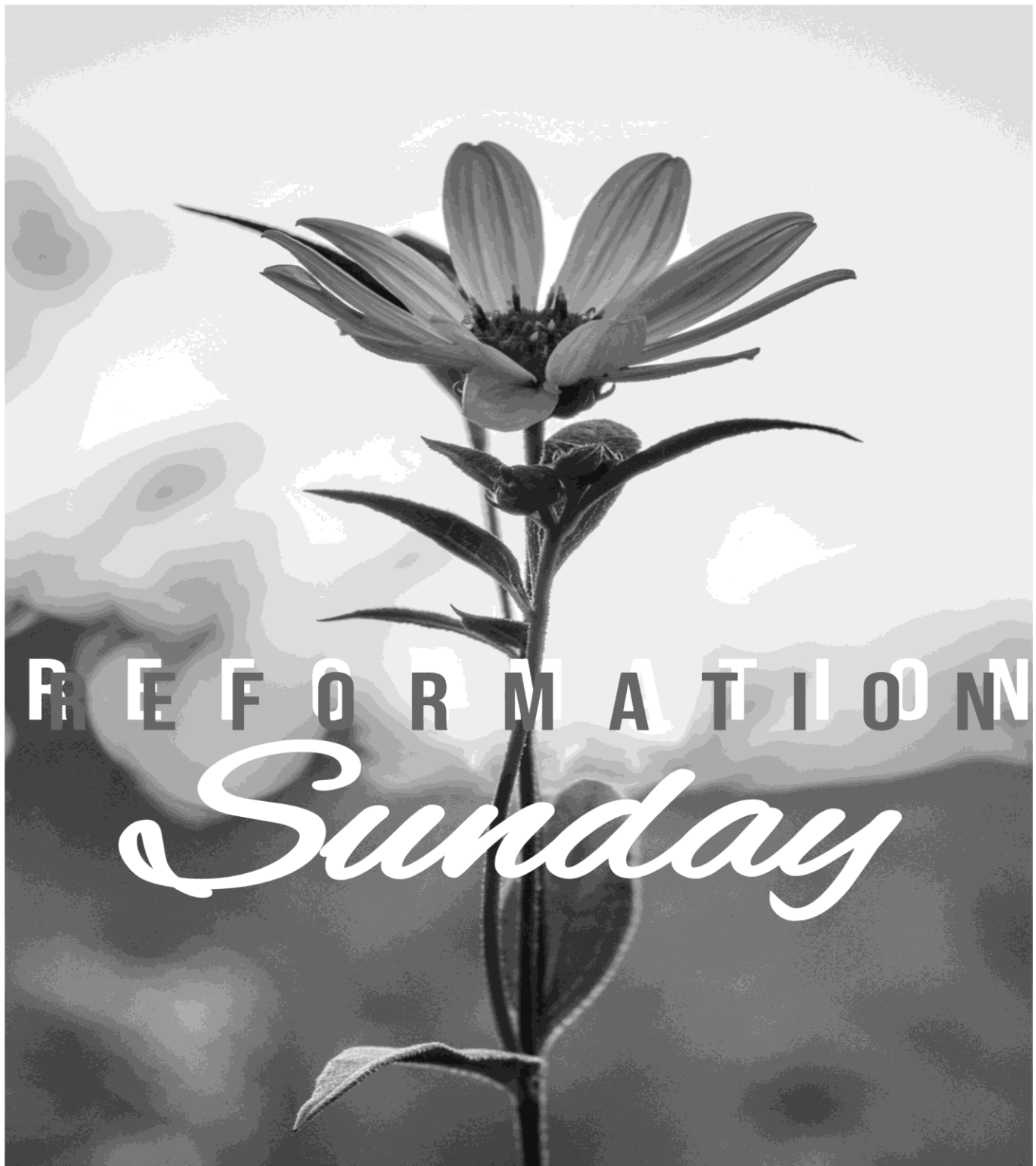




Saint Thomas Lutheran

23801 Kelly Road, Eastpointe, Michigan 48021 - 586-772-3370

www.stl-eastpointe.org

Pastor - Rev. Dietrick Gladden – 248-719-2766 pastorgladden@stl-eastpointe.org

Specific Ministry Pastor - Rev. Richard A. VanBriggle, Deacon Don Cooley

Connecting Individuals to Jesus and to One Another

Educating Minds – Growing Faith – Serving People

We are here to serve our community. As you worship with us online, the Lord Jesus is at work, uniting us as friends and family. If you want to learn more about ministry in the community, go to www.stl-eastpointe.org, or like us on FaceBook. To get your questions answered more personally, contact the church office (586-772-3370) and ask for a pastor to call you.

Reformation Sunday

Divine Service

Prelude – Handbells

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

L. Beethoven

Opening Praise

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”
(Rise on last verse)

LSB 656

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon; He helps us free from ev’ry need
That hath us now o’ertaken. The old evil foe Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight; On earth is not his equal.
- 2 With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One, Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is, Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there’s none other God; He holds the field forever.
- 3 Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not overpow’r us.
This world’s prince may still Scowl fierce as he will, He can harm us none.
He’s judged; the deed is done; One little word can fell him.
- 4 The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it;
He’s by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, and wife, Though these all be gone,
Our vict’ry has been won; The Kingdom ours remaineth.

Text: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

L: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

L: O God of Jacob, we poor sinners come before you, pleading for mercy. We confess that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, in our words, and in our deeds – by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

C: Lord, if you kept an account of our wrongdoings, who could stand. But with you there is forgiveness, so that you may be revered.

(time for personal reflection)

L: Lord God, our refuge and strength,

C: Remove our sin and renew within us your Holy Spirit. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit, that we may teach transgressors your ways, and sinners turn with us to you.

L: Be still, and know that the Lord, your God is rich in mercy. Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Introit - Kapelle

Salutation and Collect of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: O God, You have commanded us to love You above all things and our neighbors as ourselves. Grant us the Spirit to think and do what is pleasing in Your sight, that our faith in You may never waver and our love for one another may not falter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sharing of Peace

L: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

(share the peace with one another then be seated)

Anthem

"Give Me Oil in My Lamp"

A. Sevison, J.P. Williams, J. Martin

The Service of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Leviticus 19:1–2, 15–18

¹And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²"Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy. . . .¹⁵"You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. ¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD.¹⁷"You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD."

(after the reading)

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual – Kapelle

¹For you yourselves know, brothers, that our coming to you was not in vain. ²But though we had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had boldness in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the midst of much conflict. ³For our appeal does not spring from error or impurity or any attempt to deceive, ⁴but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts. ⁵For we never came with words of flattery, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God is witness. ⁶Nor did we seek glory from people, whether from you or from others, though we could have made demands as apostles of Christ. ⁷But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. ⁸So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us. ⁹For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. ¹⁰You are witnesses, and God also, how holy and righteous and blameless was our conduct toward you believers. ¹¹For you know how, like a father with his children, ¹²we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. ¹³And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

(after the reading)

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

(all rise)

Matthew 22:34–46

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 952

Cantor: Alleluia, alleluia!

All: Alleluia, alleluia!

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the 19th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. ³⁵And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” ³⁷And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.” ⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, ⁴²saying, “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³He said to them, “How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴“The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet’? ⁴⁵If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?” ⁴⁶And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

(after the reading)

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

We Profess our Faith

“Apostles Creed”

LSB inside back cover

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the

right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Children's Sermon *(Please be seated)*

Hymn of the Day

"By Faith"

K. Getty, S. Townend

By faith we see the hand of God in the light of creation's grand design;
in the lives of those who prove His faithfulness, who walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith our fathers roamed the earth, with the pow'r of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand, a place where peace and justice reign. **Chorus**

Chorus: We will stand as children of the Promise. We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward. Till the race is finished and the work is done, we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith the prophets saw a day when the longed-for Messiah would appear,
with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death and rise triumphant from the grave.

By faith the Church was called to go in the pow'r of the spirit to the lost,
to deliver captives and to preach Good News in ev'ry corner of the earth. **Chorus**

By faith this mountain shall be moved and the pow'r of the Gospel shall prevail,
for we know in Christ all things are possible for all who call upon His Name. **Chorus 2x's**

We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

Works and Music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townsend
©2009 Thankyou Music (PRS)

Sermon

"The Lord's Doing"

Matthew 22:34–46

The Prayer of the Church

L: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
(after each petition)

L: Lord in your mercy:

C: **Hear our prayer.**

L: O Lord, we give You thanks for all Your servants who have departed this life in faith. We especially bless You today for the great reformers of Your Church who call us back to the Gospel and to the righteousness we have in Christ alone. Keep us in fellowship with them, and bring us at last to our heavenly home and the joy of seeing our Redeemer face to face; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

Service of the Sacrament

"As we receive the True Body and Blood of our Lord, our faith is fed, our spirits are encouraged, and we are moved to share God's grace with the world."

[Because of the closeness of this sharing (and the concerns expressed in

1 Corinthians 11:27-29) we ask that those who have not been taught the faith at STL speak with a pastor or elder before communing.]

Preface

- L: The righteousness of God has been given, apart from the law, through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.
C: **For we have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by God's grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.**
L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
C: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Institution

Pax Domini

- L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: **Amen**

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
Have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God,
That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us,
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace,
Amen.

Distribution of the Sacrament *(Please be seated)*

*Alcohol-free wine is available in the center of each individual cup tray.
Gluten-free host is available upon request from the host server.
If you are coming for a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest.*

Anthem - Handbells

"The Church's One Foundation"

S. Wesley

Distribution Hymns

"Grace Alone"

BOTB 77

- 1 Ev'ry promise we can make Ev'ry prayer and step of faith
Ev'ry diff'rence we will make Is only by His grace
Ev'ry mountain we will climb Ev'ry ray of hope we shine
Ev'ry blessing left behind Is only by His grace
- R **The Grace alone which God supplies
Strength unknown He will provide
Christ in us our Cornerstone
We will go forth in grace alone**

- 2 Ev'ry soul we long to reach Ev'ry heart we hope to teach
 Ev'rywhere we share His peace Is only by His grace
 Ev'ry loving word we say Ev'ry tear we wipe away
 Ev'ry sorrow turned to praise Is only by His grace
 We will go forth in grace alone

“Amazing Grace”

LSB 744

- 1 Amazing grace—how sweet the sound— That saved a wretch like me!
 I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see!
- 2 The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;
 He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
 His grace has brought me safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.
- 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And mortal life shall cease,
 Amazing grace shall then prevail In heaven's joy and peace.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
 We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.

Text: Public domain

Post-Communion Canticle *(Please rise)*

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
 For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou has prepared
 before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people
 Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 Is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Post-Communion Collect

Benediction

Sending Hymn

“Splendor and Honor”

LSB 950

- 1 Splendor and honor, majesty and power Are Yours, O Lord God, fount of ev'ry blessing,
 For by Your bidding was the whole creation Called into being.
- 2 Praised be the true Lamb, slain for our redemption, By whose self-off'ring we are made God's people: A
 priestly kingdom, from all tongues and nations, Called to God's service.
- 3 To the Almighty, throned in heav'nly splendor, And to the Savior, Christ our Lamb and Shepherd, Be
 adoration, praise, and glory given, Now and forever.

Text: © 1990 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission



Today's Flowers are given to praise and honor our Lord
for blessings received.



Today is Mite Box Sunday!

Patrons are needed to help defray the cost of the professional musicians we hire for our Christmas Eve and Easter services. These musicians enhance the special services and help support the Kapelle and congregational singing. If you would like to be a patron, please place your donation in an envelope marked Patron for Kapelle and place it in the offering box in the back of the church, bring it to the church office or donate online, specifying Patron for Kapelle. Thank you so much for your genuine support of the Kapelle and its mission of edifying the church through music in song.

CAMP RESTORE - Detroit **September and October Mission Envelopes**

100% of your Mission Envelope donations (either using the envelope provided in your box or through your designation electronically or with a different envelope) to STL during the months of September & October will be given to Camp Restore.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Your personal prayer guide for the week of:
October 25, 2026

Our Primary Prayer focus for this week is upon Christ's people on earth:

- Make us bold, that we would also contend for the faith against those who would silence our voices or distract Your people from the one true Gospel of the crucified and risen Christ.
- Keep us in Your Word, free us from all errors, and make our homes and families peaceful.
- Preserve all fathers and encourage them for their godly task, that children would be brought up in the fear and instruction of the Lord.
- Bless the faithful proclamation of Christ's saving name throughout the world, that Your people's faith may be strengthened and Your kingdom extended.

And we remember all children who hear the gospel in church and from their parents, and those in hospice care especially: Dolly Houth, Estella Robbins (Mother of Roberta Gibson).



To connect to the **STL PRAYER CHAIN**, contact Karen Dolan (mdolan421@gmail.com), text "Prayer" to 1-586-800-2223, or scan this QR code, with your phone's camera, to be taken to the prayer request form.

† In Our Thoughts and Prayers †

✠**For Loved Ones Called Home:** Linda Conger was called home September 11th, Douglas Klawender was called home September 23rd, Chris Ganley was called home October 18th.

✠**God's Healing Hand on:** Clyde Armstrong, Cathy Meer, Janice Engel, Nancy Wargo, Emily Henze (Caroline's daughter-in-law), Carol Hawkins (cousin of Jan Patty), Jennifer Patterson (friend of Jan Patty), Regina (aunt of Jan Patty) Marlene Debrosse and Donna Karas and Kathy Bommarito and Matt Kaye (Debbie Kujawski's relatives and friends), Tom Habrowski (Sue Wensink's brother) Nicole Lechner (Daughter of Hope Nawrocki), Maryann Setter (niece of Caroline Henze), Uli Korell, Wilhelm Wolf (Cousins of Vera Lafrate), Michael Parkin (son-in-law of Caroline Henze), John Ustick, Alycia & Scott Baker (relatives of Diane Ustick), Penelope Perich & Frankie.

✠**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Pastor Rick VanBriggle, Marge Bittner, Steve Kruse, Harrison Ahee, Kennedy Pank (great-granddaughter of Marilyn Redmond), Andrew Brejnak, 19, (grandson of Gerry & Nola Klonowski, son of their daughter, Lisa), Robert Laroche (family of Jan Adams), Claire Armstrong (granddaughter of Clyde & Carolyn Armstrong), Sally Burk (sister of Lois Revard), Tamara Sommer (Connie's daughter-in-law), Beatrice Paden (Pastor Gladden's aunt).

Upcoming Events:



(visit the web page or see the STL publications for more information)

Trunk or Treat - October 31 – 6PM – 8PM

Our front parking lot will be filled with cars and treats!
Join us to pass our treats or come and enjoy the giveaway.
Please sign up on the sheet in the west entrance
if interested in passing out treats.

Life Line Screenings November 6 - 8AM – 5:30PM

Schedule your screening today to be done here in the gym!
Call to schedule your appointment: **800-324-9458**

Clothing Closet – November 14 – 11AM – 1PM

Your help is needed! Contact Kathy Smith for more information

Thanksgiving Holiday Baskets – November 21 – 10AM – 11AM

Contact the office for more information.

I-Can Tutoring

Free tutoring for grades K – 8

Room 210 (enter through door #2)

August 31, 2026 – June 16, 2027

Monday – Thursday, from 3 – 6 PM

Includes: Reading, Math, Spelling, Writing, Prayer

Contact Mrs. Becky Gladden for more information at (248) 821-4967

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKET DONATIONS

**This year St. Thomas will provide Thanksgiving Food Baskets to
100 families in need in our community.**

Monetary donations for turkeys are appreciated.

Donations are needed by Tuesday, November 17.

Food Baskets will be distributed on Saturday, November 21.

At this time, we need the following food items for the baskets:

Family Size Box of Instant Mashed Potatoes

Box of Stove Top Stuffing Mix,

Canned Turkey Gravy, Cranberry Sauce,

Ranch or Italian Salad Dressing

At this time, we **do not** need: Bags of Dried Beans or Rice, Cans of Beans and Vegetables

Your generosity makes a real difference.

Thank you for your understanding and continuing to support our neighbors in need.

\$125 Per Household Bonus Grant for Your Congregation

In Celebration of our 125th anniversary, CEF is launching the Ministry Partner Bonus Grant. Here's how it works: when an individual investor (that's you or others that attend your church or school!) opens a new CEF note of \$1,000 or more with a term of at least 24 months, your church earns a \$125 Bonus Grant. One grant per household.

This is a meaningful way for your congregation members to put their savings to work for the Kingdom- and to see that faithfulness come back as a direct blessing to your ministry. Every new note opened is a step toward a stronger church.

How to participate:

- 1.** Share this opportunity with your fellow congregation members and take advantage of it yourselves by opening another note.
- 2.** Invite them to open a new CEF note of \$1,000 or more at a 24-month minimum term.
- 3.** Your church receives a \$125 Bonus Grant-automatically. (Limit one per household.)

Visit churchextensionfund.com to learn more about our investment note offerings and to get started today.