

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Nathan Peitsch • Elders: John Greder-Head Elder, Steve Gust, John Thies, Bruce Mohr

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October 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At the end of this month we have three holidays all happening more or less at the same time. October 31 as we all know is Halloween, but it is also Reformation Day. And the very next day we celebrate All Saints' Day. With all these different holidays coming up, let's take a moment to look at one of them. Reformation Day in sharing the date with Halloween often gets overlooked, or perhaps just a passing mention. Perhaps you only notice it's Reformation Day because we sang "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" in church the Sunday before.

This particular hymn is often used as our way of celebrating the Reformation, perhaps because it was written by Martin Luther. But I would argue it is sung on this day more because it summarizes the main focus of the Reformation itself. The Reformation emphasized heavily the importance of God's grace and mercy shown to us in Christ Jesus, who is our mighty fortress and protector from sin, death, and hell.

We can look to the psalmist and in Psalm 46 see where Luther found some of his inspiration for the words of this hymn. There we read,

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble... The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress." Ps. 46:1, 7

This psalm is a constant reminder of God's continued love, protection, and ultimately deliverance. We know that whatever we face, whether sin, temptation, or other difficulties in our lives, God is our constant refuge, strength, and mighty fortress, where we can shelter from the troubles and hardships of life.

As this hymn continues, we sing of the valiant one who fights for us, "Jesus Christ it is!" This was the whole focus of the Reformation. We cannot fight for ourselves. Our good work's are but filthy rags. Despite what Luther was being told at the time, he realized that nothing he could do would measure up, nothing would be good enough to

earn his salvation. But thanks be to God, "for us fights the valiant one whom God himself elected!"

This hymn concludes with a reminder that the Word of God remains our sure defense. No matter what may be taken from us in this earthly life, because of the Word of God who became flesh for us, God's kingdom remains ours.

Luther worked hard to get the word into the hands of God's people. In fact, he spent some time in a fortress working to translate the scriptures into the language of the people so they could have and read God's Word in their own language. He wanted everyone to be able to read about our God, the mighty fortress, who protects us from all evil and gives us the victory over death and the grave through His Son, Jesus Christ.

With all this in mind, we continue to celebrate Reformation Day because of the good news of our salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, proclaimed to us in God's Word. We continue to gather Sunday after Sunday in God's house so that we can be reminded of His Word and the deliverance that He has given us through Jesus, our mighty fortress.

There are so many voices out there in the world that would seek to lead us astray, or as Luther puts it, "all eager to devour us" but we need not fear because we know that, "one little word can fell him." That is the Word of forgiveness that is ours in Christ Jesus. Or perhaps even that word Christ himself proclaimed from the Christ as He gave up His life for us, "it is finished." With these words we know that our salvation has been accomplished not because of our good deeds, but because of Christ perfect death and resurrection for us. May we ever rest assured that God is our mighty fortress.

In Christ,
Pastor Nathan Peitsch

QUARTERLY MEETINGS:

Tuesday, October 4th, Elders Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, October 11th, Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 16th, Voter's Meeting after church.
Here's a few items on the Voter's Agenda:

- Budget
- Nomination Committee



SPECIAL MISSIONS OFFERING

This year our special mission is Camp Okoboji. Our goal is \$3,000. As of September 30, we have \$2,445.00 in donations. Their MISSION is: We provide Sanctuary which connects guests with God and His Creation You can find more information at their website:

<http://www.campokoboji.org/>



DRIVE UP COMMUNION

On Monday, October 3rd, 17th & 31st there will be drive-up communion from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.



SUPPORT OUR CATECHISM FAMILIES

We need volunteers to provide a simple snack every Wednesday for our Catechism student from 5:30-6:00 pm. Sign-up sheet is on the back table.



OFFERING

Please put your name on the offering envelopes especially if using an envelope from another year. This will help make it easier for the treasurer to know who is making this donation so she can credit you for income tax purposes.

125th ANNIVERSARY PLANNING MEETING

Next 125th anniversary planning meeting is Monday, October 10 at 7:15 p.m.



125th celebration committee is working diligently on the celebration. We have tentatively decided on a date the weekend of August 20, 2023. Our first fundraiser is going to be November 13, 2022 a bake sale before and after church we will need volunteers to bring baked goods! We are still looking for volunteers to help on the committees if you are interested, please let us know we need your help.



ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN

In the month of October, we will be taking donations for the Orphan Grain Train. Boxes will be in the back of the sanctuary. Please put the clothes in bags. Thank you for your donations.



NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

The newsletter this month is sponsored in honor of cancer patients & their families.

Please contact the office if you'd like to sponsor the newsletter. The cost is \$37.



Mission Central – Visiting Missionaries

LCMS World Mission 40718 Highway E16 Mapleton, IA 51034 712-882-1029 Gary Thies (gary.thies@lcms.org) www.missioncentral.us

- October 1, 2022 – Rev. Wood family – Indonesia – 1:00 pm
- October 15, 2022 – Mark and Megan Mantey – East Africa – 1:00 pm

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS FOR OCTOBER

We are listing Baptismal birthdays to remember and celebrate the day we were adopted into the family of God through the washing of the Holy Spirit. Those having Baptismal birthdays in October are:

Sara Purcell	2
Don Petersen-Joyce Vinke	4
Sandy Bauman	6
Liam Gray	7
Duane Mordhorst-Ethan Jones	9
Karen McCall	10
Dylan Hanson	11
Shirley Gosch-Lynette Thies- Angela Teut	14
Aaron Folk	18
Darin Wood	21
Wyatt Hinds	23
Dennis Nelson-John Thies- Keegan Bretthauer	24
Alyse Bretthauer-George Hull- Becky Meadows-Mike Ohlmeier	26
Sally Goslar	27
Shane Sorensen	28
Nisha Hull	31



PLEASE GIVE US A CALL

- before going to the hospital
- birth of your baby
- death in the family
- making wedding plans
- address and name changes
- private communion



GOOD SHEPHERD HOUR

This program is a ½ hour worship service heard on Sioux City, KSCJ, 1360 AM, at 8:00 am.

MAIN STREET LIVING

Main Street Living is a television ministry of the Lutheran churches of Missouri-Synod and of the Iowa West District. The worship service is on Sundays at 10 am on channel 9 KCAU, the ABC Network from Sioux City.

"THY STRONG WORD"

Thy Strong Word is a 5 min. daily devotional message given by LC-MS pastors. It is aired at 6:25 a.m., Mon.-Sat. on KDSN, FM107.1

Oct. 3-8	Rev. Mark Kluzek St. John, Kiron/Faith, Deloit
Oct. 10-15	Rev. Josh Keinath Zion, Denison
Oct. 17-22	Rev. Merle Mahnken Immanuel, Schleswig
Oct. 24-29	Rev. Chad Trunkhill Our Savior/Bethlehem
Oct. 31-Nov. 5	Rev. Richard Merrill Multi-Point, Charter Oak



October 2: OMELET BRUNCH

It will be the final Omelet Brunch of 2022. 9:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. with a free will offering held in the Ginny DeWall Dining Hall. Join us and enjoy good food and good fellowship!!

October 7 - 9: VOLUNTEER WEEKEND

Fall Volunteer Weekend is just a month away. **Save the date** and make plans to come and share your time and talents to help us wrap up summer and prepare for winter!! Room and board will be provided for volunteers. Volunteer Weekend is a wonderful opportunity for a congregation retreat or youth group retreat and growing church community and relationships. For room and board accommodations, please call the office at (712) 337-3325!!

St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
VOTER'S MEETING AGENDA
Sunday, October 16, 2022, after the service

Opening Prayer	Pastor Peitsch
Corrections/Additions/Acceptance of Agenda	Officers/Members
Call to Order	Don Petersen
Previous Minutes	Audrey Gust

Reports

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| (1) Treasurers Report | Deanna Sorensen |
| (2) Pastors Report/Announcements | Pastor Peitsch |
| (3) Board of Elders
- Attendance-Worship/Communion | John Greder |
| (4) Board of Trustees
-Parsonage Landscaping | Jim Thies |
| (5) Board of Education/Youth
- Sunday School
- Christmas program | Rick Knuth |
| (6) Stewardship
- Special Mission Project | Terri Mohr |

Old Business

125th Anniversary

New Business

2022 Budget
Nomination Committee
2023 Special Mission Project

Next Meetings

- NEXT COUNCIL MEETING	November 10, 2022	EVENING MTG-7:00 PM
- NEXT VOTER'S MEETING	January 15, 2023	After worship service

Closing Prayer

Pastor Peitsch