

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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October 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I can't believe it's October already. As we approach the end of this month, we look forward to celebrating several different holidays. I'm sure many of our young ones are looking forward to celebrating Halloween, but on that same day, the church celebrates Reformation Day. And then the very next day we have All Saints' Day.

Today, let's take some time to focus on Reformation Day. Luther chose October 31 as the day he nailed his 95 Theses to the church door. The next day being All Saints' Day, he was likely hoping to have some discussion on these topics as part of the All Saints' observances, but whatever the case, this act sparked a huge turning point within the church as a whole.

Luther's goal in all of this though was to center all theology, all church practice, and really everything that was being done in the church back on the Word of God. Throughout the time of the reformation, Martin Luther sought valid Scripture based reasons for the practices in the church that he was questioning.

It came down to a matter of salvation. Luther spent a fair bit of time in Paul's epistles. Ephesians gave him great comfort as there he read,

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." - Eph. 2:8-9

Salvation isn't based on our works. Christ has won it for us through His death and resurrection. We receive it not because we've done all the right things, but because God in His grace has given it to us.

Throughout this time of Reformation within the church, Luther developed what are now known as the three sola's: Sola Fide, Sola Gratia, and Sola Scriptura. These three

translate to, "faith alone, grace alone, Scripture alone." That is just as St Paul said in

Ephesians 2, we are saved by grace alone through faith alone. And in order for us to understand this, God has given us Scripture alone.

One of the fundamental principles of our faith and the LCMS in general is that what we believe comes from Scripture alone. We don't learn it from human tradition, if a church leader tries to put forward a position it must be backed by Scripture and nothing else. And if Scripture is found to be at odds even with reason itself we hold to Scripture as the truth.

There's so much more from this that we could get into as far as things that came out of the Reformation. Luther wasn't afraid of paradoxes, two seemingly exclusive things being true at the same time. For example, he taught that we are at the same time, Saint and Sinner. Or the now and the not yet, which states that we have all of God's promises now, though they are not yet fully ours.

As we approach the celebration of Reformation Day, I encourage you to do as Luther did. Spend time in God's Word. Study and learn what God has to teach. There is always more to learn, maybe start by opening the Small Catechism you got so many years ago at your confirmation and see how much you remember. And through it all, know that it all comes to us straight from God's Word. Soli Deo gloria! (To God alone be the glory)

Pastor Nathan Peitsch

Quarterly MEETING



Wed., October 2th, Elders Mtg at 7:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, Oct. 8th, Budget Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, Oct. 8th, Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
 Sunday, Oct. 13th, Voter's Meeting after church.

Here's a few items on the Voter's Agenda:

- Budget
- Nomination Committee



THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone that watered the flowers around the church this summer.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the group that worked on the flower bed next to the front steps.



LCW

The LCW invites you to a salad and sandwich event/meeting on Thursday, October 3rd at 5:30 pm in the church overflow room.



LWML SUNDAY

We will celebrate LWML Sunday on October 6th. You are invited to wear something purple for that Sunday to support the LWML. A noisy collection will be taken for a mite offering which supports the mission of the church throughout the world.



SUPPORT OUR CATECHISM FAMILIES

We need volunteers to provide a simple meal every Wednesday for our 14 Catechism students from 5:30-6:00 pm. Sign-up sheet is on the back table.

LYF BIBLE STUDY

LYF Bible Study is Sunday, October 20th from 6:30-8:00 pm in the LYF room. We'll be diving deep into God's Word, so make sure to bring a Bible if you have one. If you don't or forget, we have some on hand for you to use. Bring a snack to share! We'll also provide some if you forget or run out of time. Inviting friends is encouraged, even if they can only come once.



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 Kroll	14
Joanna Newsom	15
Aaron Folk	18
Darin Wood	21
Wyatt Hinds	23
Dennis Nelson-John Thies-	24
Keegan Bretthauer	
Alyse Bretthauer-George Hull-	26
Becky Meadows-Mike Ohlmeier	
Sally Goslar	27
Shane Sorensen	28
Ivy Christophersen	30
Nisha Hull	31



SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES

October 57 – Gary & Sally Goslar (57 yrs)

SPECIAL MISSIONS OFFERING

This year our special mission is Lutheran Braille Workers. For this year, we have an anonymous donor that is willing to match \$1 to \$1 for the first \$1500. Our goal is \$3,000, help us raise this for the Lutheran Braille Workers

Here is the website to find more information

<https://www.lbwloveworks.org>



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.

STEWARDSHIP

AUTOMATIC DEBIT - An automatic debit from your checking account to St. Paul's account may be an option if you would like to give to the church on a regular basis or you just want to simplify our giving without writing a check each week or month. You can specify an amount and how often this amount should be transferred from your checking account to St. Paul's account at Community Bank, and it will automatically be done for you. Your bank can help you fill out a short form. This debit can be stopped or changed at any time by contacting your bank. You will want to let the Treasurer know who is making this donation so she can credit you for income tax purposes.

GRAIN - As the harvest approaches, St. Paul's Stewardship committee would like to remind the farmers that one option for giving is the gift of grain. You can ask Deanna for a form if you want to do this. This gift is not tax deductible, but you will not declare the amount of the grain as income.

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 \$40 to sponsor a newsletter.



Mission Central – Visiting Missionaries 2023

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

- November 1, 2024 – Shara Osiro and Michael – East/South Africa – 1:00 pm



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

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| Oct. 1-5 | Rev. Merle Mahnken
Immanuel, Schleswig |
| Oct. 7-12 | Rev. Chad Trunkhill
Our Savior/Bethlehem |
| Oct. 14-19 | Rev. Richard Merrill
Multi-Point, Charter Oak |
| Oct. 21-26 | Rev. Nathan Peitsch
St. Paul's, Ute |
| Oct. 28- Nov. 2 | Rev. Ted Torreson
Christ, Denison |

GOOD SHEPHERD HOUR

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



Update

With the summer season now fully in the rearview mirror, we give thanks for generally a good summer. It was not without its challenges, but through it all, God is good!

During the off-season is a great time for Adam to visit congregations. Let him know if he can visit to give updates on Camp Okoboji. He'd love to come and share a little about Camp. Please contact Adam if a visit would be of interest to your congregation or youth.

Also, the Fall season is a great time for servant events, perhaps your congregation would be interested in coming. It is also a great activity for a youth group. Contact Kellie or Adam.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

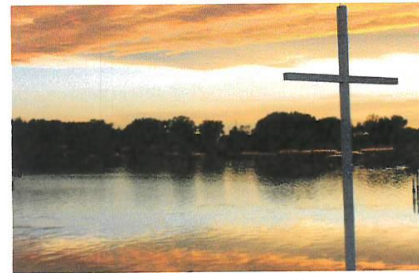
October 4-6: IDW Senior High Youth Gathering

October 6: 9:30 AM TO 1:00 PM Omelet Brunch.

October 11-12: Camp Okoboji Fall Volunteer Weekend

Volunteer Weekend is a great way to share your time and talents while you enjoy God's Creation at Camp Okoboji. Help prepare Camp Okoboji for the upcoming winter. Room and board will be provided for volunteers. Please save the date and make plans to come and help! For room and board accommodations, please call the office at (712) 337-3325!

October 11-13: IDW Pastors Wives Retreat



Personnel Updates

Summer Staff: It's never too early to begin recruitment for next summer. Please encourage youth (at least 16 years of age) and college students to consider serving with us in 2025.

Cleaning Staff: We are also looking for part-time cleaning assistants to help us through the off-season. Please contact Kellie at (712) 337-3325!

Thank You!

THANKS to volunteers and groups who give so generously of their time and talents in serving Camp Okoboji.

- As I think back over the last several months, it is very obvious that Camp Okoboji relies heavily on volunteers of all types, from kitchen to cleaning, to mowing and maintenance. THERE'S SO MUCH! I'm absolutely in awe of the dedication of so many people who love Camp.

NEEDS/WANTS:

- 3 office chair mats
- Gas grills
- Outdoor Rocking Chairs
- Laundry soap, bleach and hand soap
- Queen size mattress pads
- New commercial grade vacuums, coffee pots, toasters, crock pots
- Thrivent Action Team Cards (contact Kellie Jones for potential projects; 712-337-3325)
- Also, see our Amazon Wish List at:
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2U3MCM8Z6HGPY?ref_=wl_share