



Mission Statement

Reaching out in Worship, Fellowship, Learning, and
Love - We Are God's People.



ORGAN CRAWL

The 8th Annual Organ Crawl is occurring on Sunday, October 1st! Starting at 12:00 noon with a luncheon at First Presbyterian Church, located at 321 N. 5th St! The Organ Crawl will officially start at 1:00 p.m. at Zion United Church of Christ, located at 412 N. 5th St. and will continue to St. Mary & Patrick Church at 1:45 p.m.; Messiah Lutheran at 2:30 p.m. and ending here at Bethany Lutheran at 3:15 p.m.



First Christian Church has invited us to participate in their Annual Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 29, 2023! The Trunk or Treat will be from 3:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m., you may show up to decorate your trunks anywhere from 2:00pm-2:30pm! If you would like to join in on the fun, all you need to do is contact First Christian Church and let them know you want to participate, decorate your trunk and have a ghoul of a time, passing out candy to all the little ghouls and goblins!!



CHURCH OUTREACH

Church Outreach will begin their annual hat and mitten tree program in the month of October! Those burrrr months are coming!



Email: petemdiv@gmail.com

Our Staff

Pam Crable, Custodian

October 2023, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

At LSI, we celebrate all the ways professional caregivers help children and adults achieve their goals and build meaningful connections in their communities. LSI's Host Homes program is an innovative way Direct Support Professionals serve adults with disabilities.

Through this program, an individual moves from Supported Community Living into a private family home with a carefully selected Host Homes Provider who provides 24/7 support for the client.

“Working directly with my clients to help them complete goals and work around obstacles is my favorite part of my job,” said Erica Hill Murray, a Host Homes Provider at LSI. “I enjoy showing them that there are people in their lives who care about them, are proud of them, and proud to help them.”

Erica has helped many clients in the five years she has provided care at LSI, but one client, in particular, has made great strides under her care.

“I worked with a client who wanted to find a job or volunteer position, but she had two obstacles in her way: she had trouble using a computer, and she wasn’t confident in her ability to speak in an interview,” said Erica. “I offered to look for positions on the computer with her and to call potential employers to explain what she was looking for. After working with her, we found her a volunteer position for a couple of days a week, and she was delighted.”

“She thanked me for helping her and said that she was happy that, for once, someone understood her drive to want to work,” said Erica. “I like to make a difference – even if it is small. Helping others, no matter at what level, is impactful. I love working at LSI, and I believe my position as a Host Homes Provider has been my favorite position in life.”

Stories like these are possible through our many community partners and generous donors. If you would like to learn more about how you can support crucial programming like LSI Host Homes, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI’s Senior Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and Facebook.com/LSI.Iowa.





Dear Friends in Christ,

October 31st, 1517--A "Halloween" for the ages! Perhaps you're aware that "Halloween" is short for "All Hallows' Eve", meaning that it's the night before All Saints' Day, which back then was a big day for church attendance regardless of the day of the week on which it fell. Martin Luther put his 95 Theses on the door of the Wittenberg Church on that day because he knew that a lot of people would see them the next day, in hopes that someone would want to talk with him about their content. Luther was upset by the church's selling of "indulgences", as he and any person of good character *should* have been. Imagine being told that you have more than enough merit to get into heaven, and that you can transfer some of it to someone whose salvation is in doubt! Furthermore, you're told that you can buy a piece of paper signed by the pope which reduces that other person's time in purgatory; the more you fork over, the more years in purgatory get knocked off. It was a scam, and Luther knew it--one of the Theses sums up the whole issue: *"If the pope holds the keys to purgatory, why doesn't he empty it for free?"*

The Church at the time was trying to build St. Peter's Basilica (the same one that stands as the center of the Vatican today), and was using the sale of these indulgences as a way of funding the project. Little did Luther know what he was starting by voicing his gripes--turns out that, thanks to the existence of the printing press, *a lot* of people read the theses in the days and weeks following Martin's act of protest. He wasn't trying to break away from the church *at all*; he simply wanted the church to clean up its act. Little did he know as well that his life would soon be in danger from both the church and the Holy Roman Empire. *And* little did he know that his writings and actions would prove to be at the center of a far-reaching "Reformation" of both church and state, a reformation whose effects are still felt in today's world

"Semper reformata" ("always reforming") became the more-or-less official motto of the new church tradition that came out of this important time in history. You and I belong to this tradition as a Church which is willing and able to change as we need to, and to *refuse* to change when we need to stand firm--a character trait of Luther and his colleagues, and a *resolve* that will serve *us* well in *this* day and age!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Pete

Meetings

The meetings for October, 2023 that have been scheduled as of the publishing of this newsletter are listed below. Watch your bulletins for any date and time changes, or additional meetings that may be scheduled.

Finance Committee
Thursday, October 5, 6:30 p.m.

Church Life Committee
Sunday, October 8 @ 10:15 a.m.

Property Committee
Monday, October 9, 6:30 p.m.

Church Council
Wednesday, October 11 @ 6:30 p.m.

Men's Breakfast
Saturday, October 21 @ 8:00 a.m.

Church Outreach
Tuesday, October 10 @ 5:30 p.m.

Executive Committee
Tuesday, October 10 @ 6:30 p.m.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

September ATTENDANCE

September 3	49
September 10	50
September 17	55
September 24	47

September GIVING

September 3	\$2,906.00
September 10	\$1,967.40
September 17	\$1,801.00
September 24	<u>\$1,892.40</u>
Total	\$8,566.80

August VANCO total: \$1,675.00



PLEASE NOTE

Please be sure to update your address and/or phone number with the office. A new church directory will be published soon, and we'd like to have current information.

ALSO!

Because of Federal Privacy laws, if you or a member of your family are hospitalized and would like the Pastor to visit, you must contact the church and let us know.

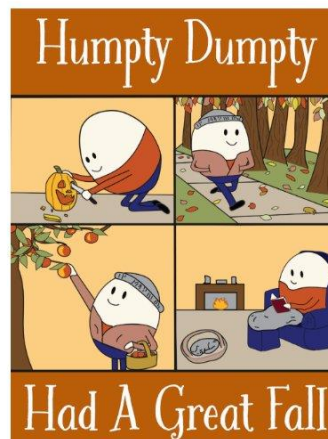
LIVING LUTHERAN

You may have read in the March issue of Living Lutheran, the magazine will cease its print publication with the November/December 2023 issue. You can still read the magazine at the online platform LivingLutheran.org, where you'll experience enhanced content through videos and audio stories. Check it out!

Congratulations to the children who are receiving their Bibles on Sunday, October 1st!



Wyatt Lineberry
Vivienne Mafra
Austyn Woodside
Evy Bonar



Notes from Office Administrator

Hello Everyone! Thank you for the warm welcome I have received from all of you the past few months I have been here at the church! It is greatly appreciated and I appreciate all of you!

I also just want to throw out a little reminder to everyone to remember to let me know of any meeting dates and/or events happening with the church and let me know by the 22nd of the month if you have anything for the newsletter for the next month. This can all be done by email or leave a note for me on my desk, it is all very appreciated!

October is my favorite month of the year with Halloween being my favorite holiday! It is just a fun time with decorating, costumes, and all the pumpkin patch adventures with my kiddos!

Wendy Bell

LAY LEADERS

October 2023

October Usher: Susan Swanson

Communion Assistants

1 - Mike Hopp; Julie Wischmeier
8 - Steve & Sue Rogers
15 - Jessica King; Dan Harken
22 - Scott & Jan Creighton
29 - Jim & Sharon Martindale

Lector

1 - Jessica King
8 - Judy Craven
15 - Dan Harken
22 - Vicki Stoller
29 - Mike Hopp



Greeters

1 - Vicki Stoller
8 - Sharon Martindale
15 - Mark & Bonnie Rosenberg
22 - Bill Mundt
29 - Carol Dodge

Flowers

1 - Open
8 - Susan Swanson
15 - Lynda Johnson
22 - Marlys & Vanette
29 - Ginny Mesecher

Missionary Support

1 - Open
8 - Open
15 - Open
22 - Open
29 - Open

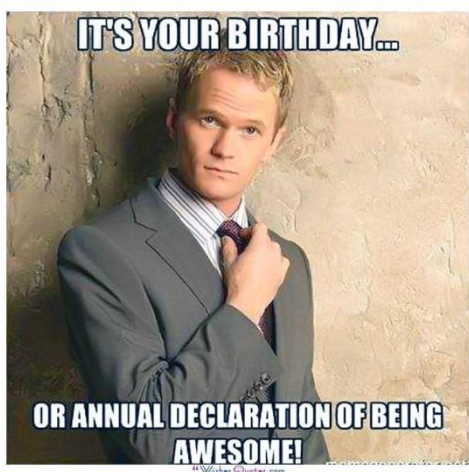
Altar Guild

Pat & Kelli Reichelt; Pam Taylor;
Julie Wischmeier



October Anniversaries

3 – Jeff & Kim Engle
 6 – Dylon & Brett Kuster; Jeff & Margie Schuler
 7 – Michael & Hilary Kastner
 8 – Thomas & Michelle Cox; Brian & Ericka Young
 9 – Robert & Michelle Le Kander
 11 – John & Sharon Eisenmayer
 12 – Gregory & Lynda Johnson
 14 – Randy & Marlys Tharp
 20 – Ted & Heather Mosley
 31 – Ronald & Janet Laue




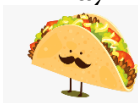


happy birthday October BIRTHDAYS

1 – Joe Gerdes
 2 – Sidney Boyer; Kim Engle
 3 – Julie Daniels; Joel Peterson; Erika Schroeder
 4 – Jesse Byrne
 5 – Graham Oetken; Brenda Perkins; Daniel Perkins; Jeffrey Schreiner
 7 – Bradley Howell; Tasha Runnells; Shelley Wallace
 8 – Curtis Lyons; Teresa Morehead
 9 – Jack Clark; Daniel Kopping
 11 – Sharon Miller
 12 – Joshua Bloomer; Ellen Shepherd; Steven Westfall
 13 – Wryker Beach
 14 – Todd Chelf; Taylor Deegan; Bev Sherbondy
 15 – Mitchell Huston; Jeffrey Woodside
 16 – Melinda Clark; Edgar Espinoza; Patricia Hand; Rachael Manes
 17 – Jamie Adam
 18 – Marlys McClurg
 20 – Rhiannon Freeman
 21 – Eleonore Benninghoven; Wendy Riherd; Teresa Staub
 22 – Kelli Reichelt
 23 – Meladee Lenz
 25 – Olivia Clark
 26 – Evynne Bonar; Gerald Janssen; Cheryl Liles
 27 – Melvin Craven; Rosemary Foster
 29 – Patrick Reichelt
 30 – John McClure; Shannon Oetken
 31 – Ashley Le Kander; Michelle Pinney



October 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 1pm Organ Crawl 	2	3	4 National Taco Day 	5 6:30 pm Finance Committee	6 9:30 a.m. Retired Nurses	7
8 9:00a.m. Worship @ Messiah Lutheran 10:15a.m. Church Life 10:55 a.m. Hope Service	9 1pm Retired Teachers Luncheon 6:30 pm Property Committee	10 7am-8pm City Primary Election 5:30 p.m. Church Outreach 6:15 pm Executive Committee	11 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Council meeting <i>Pastor Pete returns to the area</i>	12	13 Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day 	14
15 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:55 a.m. Hope Service	16	17 Wear Something Gaudy Day 	18 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	19	20	21 8:00am Men's Breakfast
22 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:55 a.m. Hope Service	23	24	25 9:30 am Bible Study <i>Pastor Pete returns to the area</i>	26	27	28 National Black Cat Day 
29 9:00 a.m. Worship Choir sings for Reformation 10:55 a.m. Hope Service 3-4:30pm Trunk or treat @ 1 st Christian Church	30	31 Happy Halloween 				

