

THE SPIRE



October 2015
Volume 3, Issue 9

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Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

The month of October brings thoughts of the harvest and bringing in the crops that have grown during the summer. And with all the rain this summer hopefully the farmers will have wonderful yields.

Yet, for many ministers, especially Lutheran ones, I suspect the month of October causes them to reflect on the Reformation which began on October 31, 1517.

The Reformation was of course, a wonderful working of the Spirit of God that caused the church to refocus on the central truths of the faith. These truths of course, would center around grace, faith, and Scripture.

The Church would be reminded that God does indeed operate by grace, whereby he offers salvation as a gift, through the death and resurrection of Jesus for our sins.

The Reformation would remind people that the gift of salvation which God offers in Jesus is received by faith, by trusting in Jesus to forgive one and be one's Savior and Lord.

The Church was also reminded that we base our faith solely on the teachings of Scripture. This truth reminds us that the Spirit of God never leads or guides one in a way that contradicts Scripture, and any teaching that violates Scripture is to be rejected.

Wonderfully, these teachings which were freshly brought to the forefront in the Reformation can still be the central truths of our lives, as we daily live in God's grace, though faith in Jesus, while we base this faith on the solid foundation of God's Word.

May the truths of the Reformation be the foundation of our lives.

God bless,

Pastor Mark

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October 2015 Special Days

Some of the special days celebrated in October are:

- World Communion Sunday – October 4
- National Children's Day – October 8
- Pastor/Clergy Appreciation Sunday – October 11
- Columbus Day observed – October 12
- United Nations Day – October 24
- Reformation Sunday – October 25
- Reformation Day – October 31



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH BUS TRIP



Join us for the annual December trip. This year we are going to the Holland Center to see the Celtic Tenors on Wednesday, **December 2nd**. Before the show we will enjoy a meal at Jack and Mary's Restaurant. The bus will leave around 3:45 p.m. The cost of the show ticket is \$31.25 + bus ticket@\$13 + meal = \$60. You may reserve your ticket (50 available) by contacting Candace Johnson at [402-685-5718](tel:402-685-5718).

Be sure to check out our bulletin board updates in the coming weeks for volunteering opportunities.

FRIDAY NIGHT PUB. We started "the Pub" again and will be after home games. We are looking for volunteers to help us chaperone. Please contact Connie Larson (402)380-5101 or Tess Johnson (402)380-5660.

A Spaghetti Feed Benefit for Mitch Smith will be held on Sat Oct 3rd from 5:00-9:00 at the Oakland Fire Hall. Mitch was seriously injured when a truck tire exploded leaving him with both legs and feet broken, a broken arm and pelvis, cracked ribs and a concussion.

Please join us in welcoming back our Choir! If you would like to be part of this musical ministry, choir practice is every Wednesday at 8:00 pm.

NEXT MONTH'S ARTIST OF THE MONTH AT THE SWEDISH HERITAGE CENTER IS JUDY SHINKLE. They will be having a luncheon on Sunday October 4th to celebrate. The luncheon will be an Italian meal and from 11am-1pm and is free will donation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

We had a really nice turn out for our first day of Sunday School, so thank you! I wanted to give you some dates so you can mark your calendar for the month of October. Sunday School will sing Sunday, October 11th during church.

Our fall outing will be back out to the Harvest Moon Pumpkin Patch on October 18th (lunch and admission provided) We look forward to another blessed Sunday School year!

A special thank you to the following for their service:

- Preschool teachers: Angie Rennerfeldt, Jodi Peterson
- K & 1st: Clendon Rost, Angela Bittner
- 2nd & 3rd grade: Keri Thomsen
- 4th, 5th & 6th grade: Andy Rennerfeldt,
- 6th grade class the last Sunday of the month: Bev Peterson
- Music: Jill Johnson & Cindy Blanc.
- Subs: Susan Mulder, Casey Moseman, Travis Thomsen, Alissa Bousquet, J. Eldahl, Emmy Bousquet and a special thank you to all the confirmation kids willing to help each Sunday! ~ Angela R. Rennerfeldt



BIBLE STUDY NEWS

YOUTH GROUP will be meeting every **Wednesday** of the month from 6:30-8:30 pm. A meal will be provided. It will open it to all current Junior High and Senior High school kids in the community. There is a sign-up sheet in the multipurpose room for anyone who wishes to donate for the meal.

Men's Bible Study is on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Koinoina Bible Study is the 3rd Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

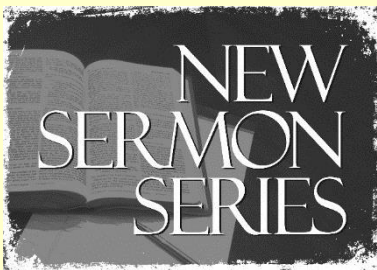
Growing Together - Small Group Dates



We are continuing our trek through the book of Mark, studying how Jesus was rejected in his own hometown, sends the 12 out on their own to minister to surrounding communities, and Herod beheads John the Baptist. Marks shares the varying responses of people to Jesus' message -- flat out rejection, welcome, indifference, or interest, as long as it doesn't impact how they live. Many of these same responses we experience today.

Our small group concentrates on taking what scripture says and learning to apply it to today. If you are interested in joining us, we meet at church for 1 hour on either Tuesday afternoons or Wednesday evenings. Our schedule for September is as follows:

NEW SERMON SERIES



We are beginning a new sermon series entitled "Lutheranism 101: Boring... NOT!"

It will be a four week series:

- Week One: The Sacraments: God makes the First Move.
- Week Two: The Ten Commandments: They Lead Us to Jesus
- Week Three: The Apostles Creed: A Foundation for Faith
- Week Four: The Lord's Prayer: Enjoying the Relationship

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

October 7th & 21st - Confirmands will meet.

October 14th the 28th - Welcome to come to Youth Group (Because there is not Sunday School for Jr. High on Sundays, please choose at least 4 Sundays during the year to assist with the younger classes in Sunday School as a service.)



NEW MEMBERS

We welcomed into membership LaVerne Kellner on September 13, 2015.

We welcomed into membership P.D. and Georgia Stibor on September 27, 2015.
Welcome P.D. and Georgia!!



We extend our **Congratulations** and ask for God's blessing on Kristin Mauch and Gerron Elsasser. They were joined in holy matrimony at First Lutheran Church on September 12, 2015. Gerron is the son of Gail and Gary Elsasser. Kristin is the daughter of Tina Mauch and Kit Wagner.

We extend our **Congratulations** and ask for God's blessing on Nicole Enstrom and Austin Parcel. They were joined in holy matrimony at First Lutheran Church on September 26, 2015. Nicole is the daughter of Lonnie and Denise Enstrom. Austin is the son of Lisa and Jeff Parcel.

PRAYERS OF CONCERN

IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE INCLUDE: Delores Carlson, Donna Larson, Kathy Pearson, Merlin Anderson, Kedron Koehler, Darlene Husen, Bill Johnson, Warren Gregg (Sandy Husar's brother) Curley Nelson, Brian Meyer Sandy Abney (Hilda Benne's sister), Tara Wallesen, Sandra Johnson, Wilma Neitzke, Don Andersen, Landon Johnson, Lillian Mueller, Donna Johnson, Gary Rosenboom, Kaylee Fujan, Vernelle Nelson, Bill Dix, Allen Schrock, Charlie Ray, Rich Tomasek, Oliver Nimmo, Delwin Benne, Joseph Vandry, Grace Meints, The Family of Betty Krutilek and all of our servicemen and women, our shut-ins and our youth ministry.



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Hannah Brudigam, Elfie Nelson,
Greg Johnson
- 2 - Jared Mulder, Ian Lundquist
- 3 - Dustin Lindstrom
- 4 - Laurine Karstens, Michael Popma,
Doug Satee, Marissa Mulder
- 6 - Emory Wickstrom
- 7 - Judy Hall, Alysha Peterson,
Grant Wallace
- 9 - Trenton Elsasser, Darrold Hoffman
- 10 - Alan Schinck, Heather Trout
- 12 - Ethan Johnson, Arla Ogden,
Laurie Schold
P.D. Stibor
- 13 - Andrew Brudigam,
Janelle Seagren
- 14 - Pamela Linder, Lois Messerschmidt,
Jacob Deemer, Colton Thomsen
- 15 - Margaret Benne, JoAnn Brudigam
Celeste Rost
- 16 - Joseph Stucky
- 18 - Jeffrey Baldwin,
Billye Pearson
- 21 - Kyler Case, Tyler Jorgensen
- 22 - Joshua Dixon
- 23 - Hannah Hyslop
- 24 - Mitchell Case, Tracy Denton,
Jeffrey Troupe, Paula Denton,
Jonathan Dixon
- 26 - Cal Anderson, Ewald Dahlquist,
Roger Peterson,
Angela Rennerfeldt,
Cory Schold
- 27 - Karen Blanc, Aiden Jorgensen
- 28 - Kyle Blumenkamp
- 31 - Stephanie Rokusek

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 - Jeremy and Kalie Holtz
- 3 - Richard & Susan Mulder
- 4 - Tim & Rosa Schmidt
- 5 - Jeff & Jean Richards
- 8 - Larry & Earlene Paulson
- 9 - Ashley & Christopher Biskup
- 10 - Gary & Gail Elsasser
- 13 - Roger & Dona Nelson,
Phillip & Judy Hall
- 14 - Cal and Sara Anderson
- 16 - Christina & Jonathon Larson
- 20 - Lyle & Arla Landholm
- 21 - Calvin & Marian Moseman
- 23 - Dean & Jo Ann Brudigam
- 29 - Gary & Tammy Case





**First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Oakland, Nebraska**

The church council met September 8, 2015 with Cheryl Denker calling the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Also in attendance were Rachel Wise, Jan Wiltse, Jon Seagren, Sam Schmidt, Jim Pelan, Greg Johnson, Roger Moderow, Sandy Husar and Mona Tanksley. Absent were Carl Magnusson and Kylie Penke.

Pastor presented his report of August activities.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and a motion was made by Jon, to accept them. Motion seconded by Sam and carried. Sandy Husar read the devotions. The Profit and Loss statement for August and for the year to date were reviewed noting a loss of \$2800.00 year to date.

The Evangelism committee met prior to the council meeting and Rachel summarized their activities. The sign in book that will be used for attendees to sign at each service was shown and plans are to start using them this fall. The ushers will be instructed in what their responsibility will be regarding these sign in sheets. It was reported that a book mark will be printed giving information on our church and placed in the Chamber of Commerce welcome packets that are given to new residents of Oakland. A calendar will be available on the north bulletin board in the multipurpose room where members can sign up to volunteer with activities in the church. These activities include providing a meal for the confirmation and high school youth during their Wednesday night meetings, helping with the pub after high school games, assisting with the monthly pizza lunch, etc. Pastor discussed plans for the confirmation class regarding meetings and service projects noting he will be meeting with the confirmands' parents to share information.

Cheryl reported for the **Music Committee** noting that choir resumes this week and Cindy Blanc has agreed to be the accompanist.

The Property Committee reported on the maintenance items that have been done recently. A bid has been sought for painting the steps and some other areas where paint has chipped. It was reported that the television for the multipurpose room should be arriving soon. All are asked to please put any leftover food items away so as not to invite rodents. The lawn will be leveled and grass planted where the new sprinkler system has been installed. Discussion ensued regarding getting some new lighter weight tables for the multipurpose room. A decision was made to purchase 7 lifetime tables for the multipurpose room.

Old Business: Some applications have been received for the media aide position and interviews will soon take place. There was more discussion about having a second contemporary service in the months where there is a fifth Sunday and having the youth assist with this service.

New Business: After discussing options, it was agreed to go ahead and expand the phone service at church. This system will especially help in making sure messages get to the intended recipient efficiently. Cheryl presented information about a "shoebox" project where items can be collected and sent overseas to students. We will look into this further.

The meeting adjourned with Pastor leading the group in the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be October 5 at 7:30 p.m. with devotions - Mona Tanksley.


Communion helpers - October 3 - Arla Ogden
October 4 - Cheryl Denker

Mona Tanksley, Secretary

September Attendance	
4 & 5	120
13 & 14.....	142
20 & 21	173
27 & 28.....	

September Finances	
Commitments	\$10,539.00
Designated:	
Sunday School	\$ 20.00
Memorial	\$ 0.00
Misc	\$ 361.00
TOTAL	\$10,920.00

October 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	2	3 5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE
4 9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE 10:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL & FELLOWSHIP	5 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING	6 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	7 9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS 6:30 - 8:30 P.M CONFIRMATION 6:30 -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP	8 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY	9	10 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
11 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL & FELLOWSHIP PASTOR APPRECIATION SUNDAY	12 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 9AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING COLUMBUS DAY	13 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 3:45PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	14 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 9AM 2 PM, 6PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS 6:30 -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP 7:00PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY	15 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	16 LUTHER'S PUB	17 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
18 9:30AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE 10:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL & FELLOWSHIP 6:00 KOINONIA MEETING	19 8:30AM SEWING GROUP	20 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	21 6:30 - 8:30 P.M CONFIRMATION 6:30 -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP	22 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	23	24 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICES UNITED NATIONS DAY
25 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL & FELLOWSHIP REFORMATION SUNDAY	26 8:30AM SEWING GROUP	27 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 3:45PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	28 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30 -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP 7:00PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY	29 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	30	31 5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE REFORMATION DAY HALLOWEEN



Phyllis Meyer and Vivian Forks



THE SEWING GROUP MEETS every Monday & Tuesday mornings at 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



October 7.....Bingo @ O.H. 9:30 a.m.....Hannah
 October 12Executive Meetings 9 a.m.
 October 14Group Meetings 9 AM, 2 PM, 6 PM
 Clean Kitchen HS Youth

REMINDER TO WOW GROUPS--- OUT PROJECT FOR THIS YEAR IS BABY CARE KITS. These will be due November 1. Great time to take advantage of Garage sales and store sales too!!

Include the following items in each Baby Care Kit: Two lightweight cotton t-shirts, Two long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet), Two receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52” square, Four cloth diapers, flat fold preferred, One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, *or include a baby cap*, Two pairs of socks, One hand towel, dark color recommended, Two or three bath-size bars of soap equaling up to 8-9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping, Two diaper pins or large safety pins.

- Please include sizes between 6 and 24 months. Varying the sizes of the clothing items included will make the Baby Care Kit useful as the baby grows.
- Sweaters may be knitted or crocheted from leftover yarn, or made from heavy double knits or fleece. Select a pattern that suits your skill level. Preferred styles have buttons or ties down the front.
- If knitting or crocheting receiving blankets, including one knitted/crocheted blanket and one flannel blanket will provide maximum versatility.
- Onesies can be cut and hemmed or serged to make a simple t-shirt.
- Gowns, rompers or top/pants sets can be substituted for sleepers.



Dorcas Society October 28 @ 2:00 p.m.@ Oakland Heights

THIS MONTH USHERS

October 2015 Ushers

- Oct 4th - Roger Moderow, Garrett Seagren and Sam Schmidt
- Oct 11th - Jim Nelson, Norm Case, Karl Lundquist and Ian Lundquist
- Oct 18th - Norm Case, Dr. C. Seagren, Loren Ehlers and Nathan Anderson
- Oct 25th - Clare Wiltse, Norm Case, Lance Blanc and Garrison Dodge
- Nov 1st - Roger Moderow and Sam Schmidt

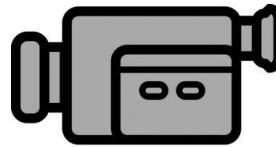


October 2015 Greeters

- Oct 4th - Bonnie Goodrich and Janice Case
- Oct 11th - Roxanne Lundquist and Cindy Blanc
- Oct 18th - Julie, Lillian, Landon and Logan Ehlers
and Jennifer, Noah and Ivy Anderson
- Oct 25th - Carla Corwine and Jeannette Blanc



- Oct 4 - Jacob Deemer
- 11 - Ashley Denton
- 18 - Garrison Dodge
- 25 - Katie Miller
- Nov 1 - Josh Deemer



Video

- 4 - Brady Jorgensen
- 11 - Jacob Deemer
- 18 - Ashley Denton
- 25 - Garrison Dodge
- 1 - Katie Miller

(New Group of Kids Start)



- Oct 4 - Bryan Bohn
- 11 - Billye Pearson
- 18 - Cindy Blanc
or Ruth Wallerstedt
- 25 - Bryan Bohn
- Nov 1 - Bryan Bohn



- Oct 4 - Dan Tanksley
- 11 - Tess Johnson
- 18 - Jim/Dan
- 25 - Jim Pelan
- Nov 1 - Dan Tanksley



<u>SERVERS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>COORDINATOR</u>
Deanna Ray, Teresa Rogers	October 04, 2015	Tess Johnson
Tammy Schinck, Laurie Schold	October 11, 2015	Connie Anderson
Jill Johnson, Roberta Sieck	October 18, 2015	Jan Wiltse
Sandra Mallette, Sheri Slatt	October 25, 2015	Patty Miller
Paula Stevenson, Amy Rost	November 01, 2015	Tess Johnson

Thank you for your help in these important areas. If you can't be here, please find someone to take your place.

CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



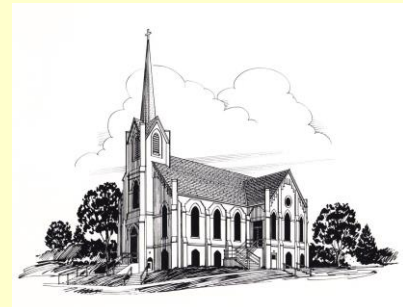
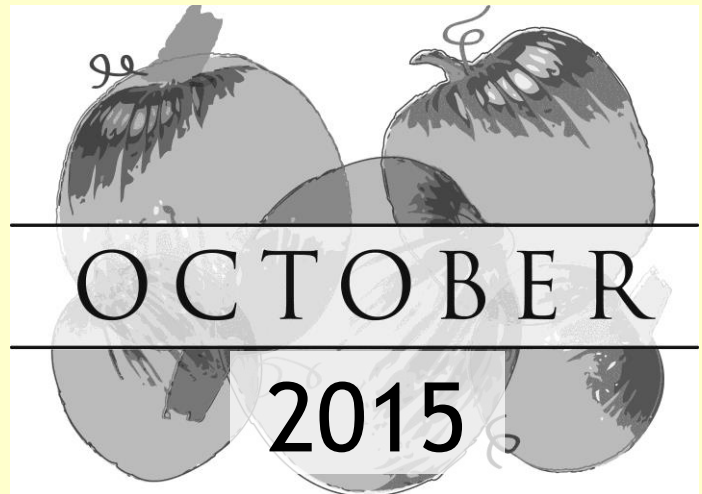
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We are committed to providing
spiritual enrichment to ALL who
seek the Lord.



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.firstlutheran-oakland.com