



12145 W. EDGERTON AVE. | HALES CORNERS, WI 53130 | 414-427-9337
<http://www.MessiahHC.org> ✝ Email: LBerthal@MessiahHC.org

Luke Bernthal, Pastor

Phone: 402-389-2147

Paul Tiefel, Principal

Phone: 715-869-3733

Levi Schaller, Teacher

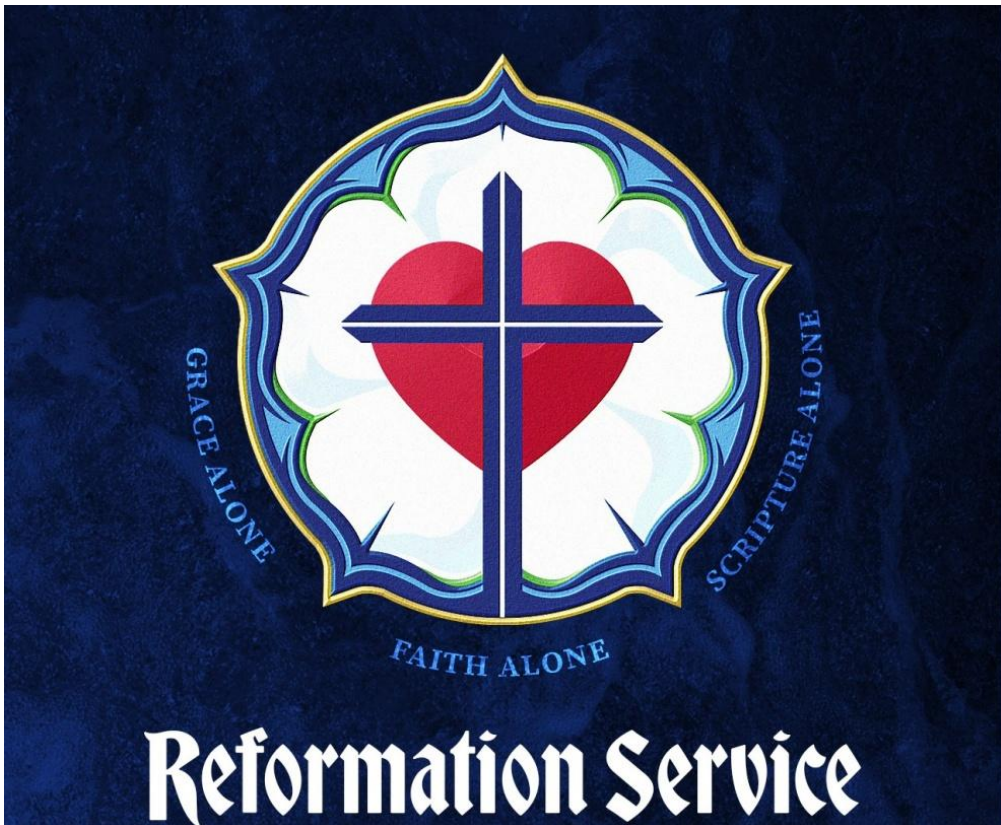
Phone: 715-529-4368

Carrie Reim, Teacher

Phone: 715-529-4030

October 26, 2025

Reformation Sunday



We Welcome Our Visitors who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.

We invite you to join us every Sunday. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.

If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor.

✠ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 46 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Opening Hymn: 566 By Grace I'm Saved

LSB 566

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P In the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1:5, 7-9)

P Let us pray...

C **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer:**

We confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

P Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the joy and peace of forgiveness let us praise the Lord...

“Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice” - v. 1

LSB 556 v. 1

1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joice, With ex - ul - ta - tion
spring-ing, And with u - nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly
rap - ture sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God has done, How
His right arm the vic - t'ry won. What price our ran - som cost Him!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The “Reformation” Psalm

*The responsive reading of **Psalm 46** and singing of “A Mighty Fortress is Our God” (Hymn 774 W.S.)*

P God is our refuge and strength,

C A very present help in trouble.

P Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed,

C And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.

P Though its waters roar and be troubled,

C Though the mountains shake with its swelling.

♪ *A mighty Fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from every need That has us now o'er taken.
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.*

P There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God,
C **The holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High.**

P God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved;
C **God shall help her, just at the break of dawn.**

P The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved;
C **He uttered His voice, the earth melted.**

P The LORD of hosts is with us;
C **The God of Jacob is our refuge.**

♪ *With might of ours can naught be done; Soon were our loss effected.
But for us fights the valiant One Whom God Himself elected.
You ask, "Who is this?" Jesus Christ it is, The Almighty Lord.
And there's no other God; He holds the field forever.*

P Come, behold the works of the LORD,
C **Who has made desolations in the earth.**

P He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
C **He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire.**

♪ *Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not over pow'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.*

P Be still, and know that I am God;
C **I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!**

- P** The LORD of hosts is with us;
C **The God of Jacob is our refuge.**

♪ *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 do what they will—Hate, steal, hurt, or kill—
Though all may be gone, Our victory is won;
The Kingdom's ours forever!*

Second Reading

Romans 3:19-28 (EHV)

- P** The second reading is from Romans 3:19-28.
C **Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!**

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says is addressed to those who are under the law, so that every mouth will be silenced and the whole world will be subject to God's judgment. ²⁰ For this reason, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by works of the law, for through the law we become aware of sin.

²¹ But now, completely apart from the law, a righteousness from God has been made known. The Law and the Prophets testify to it. ²² This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all and over all who believe.

In fact, there is no difference, ²³ because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God ²⁴ and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God publicly displayed as the atonement seat through faith in his blood. God did this to demonstrate his justice, since, in his divine restraint, he had left the sins that were committed earlier unpunished. ²⁶ He did this to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so that he would be both just and the one who justifies the person who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷ What happens to boasting then? It has been eliminated. By what principle—by the principle of works? No, but by the principle of faith. ²⁸ For we conclude that a person is justified by faith without the works of the law.

- P** Here ends our Scripture readings.

"God's Word is Our Great Heritage"

LSB 582

God's Word is our great her - i - tage And shall be ours for -
ev - er; To spread its light from age to age Shall be our
chief en - deav - or. Through life it guides our way, In death it
is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, We keep its
teach - ings pure Through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff ends with a fermata over the final note. The second staff has a repeat sign at the beginning. The third staff has a repeat sign at the beginning. The fourth staff has a repeat sign at the beginning. The fifth staff ends with a double bar line.

Text: Nikolai Fredrik Severin Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925, alt. Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924
Text and tune: Public domain

Confession of Faith - 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed *Luther's Catechism (Sydow, p. 87)*

I believe 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, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.

He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity. This is most certainly true!

Hymn of the Day: 555 v. 1, 5-10 *Salvation Unto Us Has Come* (please stand for last verse)

Sermon Text: John 8:31-36 (EHV)

³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you remain in my word, you are really my disciples. ³² You will also know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³ "We are Abraham's descendants," they answered, "and we have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say, 'You will be set free'?" ³⁴ Jesus answered, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Everyone who keeps committing sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ But a slave does not remain in the family forever. A son does remain forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you really will be free.

Sermon Theme: Your Reformation

† When did the Reformation begin? (When did it actually begin?)

† When and how did your "reformation" begin?



Application: Are there some areas in your life that need a "reformation" right now?

Pray for the Lord's help and remember to turn to His Word each day and be strengthened by its "re-forming" power!

Offertory

LSB 956



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Public domain

Sermon Hymn: "Lord, Give Us Hearts to Treasure"

tune of LSB 893

- 1. Lord, give us hearts to treasure Your Holy Word alone.
Its message of salvation by Christ; our sins atoned.
Lord, may we always cherish, Its holy truth so pure;
On guard, while still rejecting All teaching that's impure.***
- 2. Restored to us to treasure To keep God's message clear,
Within this generation; Lord, help us persevere,
To stand and not to waver. Upon God's truth alone.
No matter what the battle In Christ it's overthrown!***
- 3. To God alone all glory; With joyful lips now praise.
Exalt Him for His mercy; Your joyful songs upraise.
For grace so freely given Presented for the lost.
How can we ever measure The depth of all the cost!***

4. *For all Your saving mercy, Your love beyond compare,
The message of the Gospel: Your Son, You did not spare,
Extending grace to sinners, Sufficient for their need,
In Christ alone, all sinners From sin and death were freed.*
5. *Oh, may our faith be anchored In God's redeeming grace,
Not works or merit in us, God's truth alone the base:
That we though heavy laden, By sin so sore oppressed;
In Christ find our salvation — Gift of eternal rest!*
6. *So, may our faith give witness To all both far and near;
To sinners lost and desp'rate, The message that is clear:
"Christ crucified, the Savior, Has saved us by His grace!"
Pray all who hear the message This saving truth embrace!*

Text: Judith Snell (used by permission)

Tune: Johann Steurlein, 1546–1613; Tune: Public domain

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Reformation Prayer & Prayer for the Church (RESPONSIVE)

- P** Let us pray to the Lord for the Church on earth and for all people everywhere.
For all who gather here today and for our congregations, that through the Gospel the
Lord would give us growth in faith and increase our love:
- C** **We ask You to bless us, O Lord.**
- P** For the spreading of the Gospel throughout the world; for all pastors, missionaries,
and their families, that they may boldly proclaim Christ to the nations:
- C** **We ask You to hear us, O Lord.**
- P** For the comforting, absolute truth of the Gospel, that salvation is found in Christ
alone, in His work, and not in anything we might have to produce or provide:
- C** **We glorify Your name, O Lord.**
- P** For the people of our country; for our government and for the election of Godly
leaders and the implementation of God-pleasing policies and laws; for the Lord's
blessings on our work; for those seeking employment; for good health and strength:
- C** **We ask You to help them and us according to your will, O Lord.**

P For all who are sick in body or mind; for the hungry and the homeless; for those who are in prison; for those who are dying; we pray special prayers today for Carrie Schneider, who is hospitalized and will be undergoing continued tests and procedures this week, we pray for her husband Kent, as well as the rest of her family members and loved ones who are praying for her recovery:

C We praise and thank You for Your loving care, and ask You to help and heal, protect and comfort, and turn their hearts to You, according to your grace and mercy, O Lord.

P We praise You for revealing Yourself in Your Word to us as our Savior, Friend, and Shepherd. We ask for Your blessings upon our congregation, on our school, and on all our shared ministries. Help us to remain steadfast in unity together in Your Word, bonded by Your love, and committed to the advancement of Your Gospel and Your Kingdom and to the glory of Your saving name.

C We ask You to bless us, O Lord.

P For the indifference and shallowness that so often characterizes our faith; for all the times we have abused Your saving grace as well as every instance of neglecting Your Word and Sacraments.

C We ask You to forgive us, correct us, and renew us O Lord.

P To the praise and glory of Your name we ask all this, O Father, through your Son, Jesus Christ, who has taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Choir Hymn: "Easter Acclamation"

Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

This is the threefold truth on which our faith depends,
And with this joyful cry worship begins and ends:
Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

This is the threefold truth which, if we hold it fast,
Changes the world and us and brings us home at last:
Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

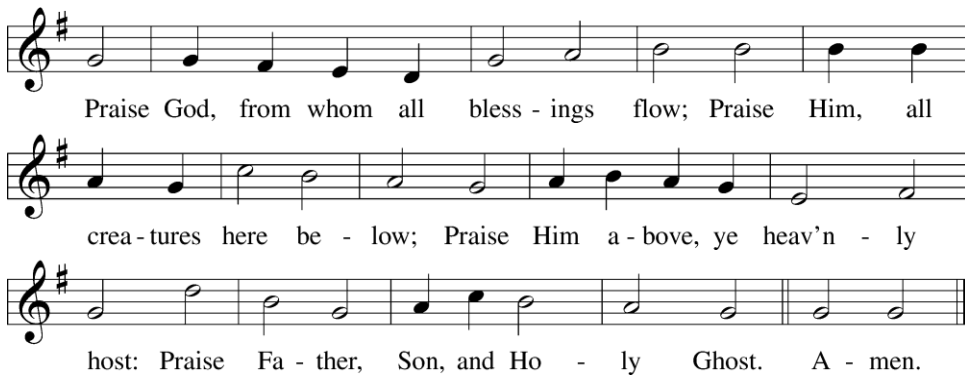
Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Benediction *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

The Doxology

LSB 805



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Public domain

Silent Prayer

Announcements



Welcome! We welcome all our visitors this morning.
Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again soon.

Today:
10/26/25



Reformation Sunday

Choir Practice – 8am

Worship – 9am

Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am

Joint Reformation Worship Service – Peace Thru Christ, Middleton – 4pm

This Week:

Wednesday – **Wednesday Bible Class – 6:30pm** (Zoom & In-Person)

Saturday – ⌚ **Daylight Saving Time Ends (“Fall Back”) – Turn Clocks Back 1hr** ⌚

Church Cleaning: Team #1 (10/25-10/31); Team #2 (11/1-11/7)

Next Sunday:

Choir Practice – 8am

11/2/25

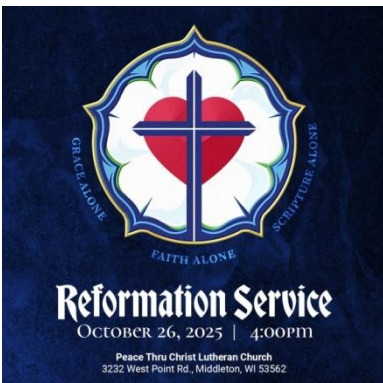
Worship w/ Communion – 9am

Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am

In Your Mailboxes – Messiah Church Calendar – *November*
CLC EduK8 Fund Informational Flier

Thank You to All Who Helped with the Fall Work Day Yesterday! - Your hard work is greatly appreciated, and the building and grounds look freshened up and beautiful!

Ushering Out Update – No Ushering out of Church Extended Until January – At our quarterly voters’ meeting last Sunday we voted to extend trial period of not ushering people out of the worship service until the next quarterly voters’ meeting on January 25th, 2026. The Board of Elders has been given the task of surveying the congregation, to be completed before the January quarterly meeting (See Voters’ Meeting Minutes Summary on next page).



Joint Reformation Service - Today

This year’s joint Reformation worship service will be held
at **Peace Thru Christ, in Middleton, WI**
Today, Sunday, October 26th at 4pm.

A fellowship meal will follow the worship service.

Quarterly Voters' Meeting Minutes Summary from Last Sunday's Meeting – 10/19/25

Membership

- a. A motion was called, seconded, and carried to accept the transfer of Austin Williams from Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire.
- b. Call for new voting members: a motion was called, seconded, and carried to accept Austin Williams as a voting member.

Reports

- c. Trustees
 - i. Caleb Gerbitz extended thanks to the Board of Property for their work responding to recent flooding at the parsonage.
 - ii. Caleb advised that the maximum expense which the council can authorize is currently undefined, and stated that the council will work to bring a recommended spending cap for approval at the January quarterly meeting.
- d. Pastor
 - i. Pastor Luke provided a written report and reviewed.
- e. Treasurer
 - i. Joel Gerbitz provided a written report and reviewed.
 - 1. Amendment made to General Fund offerings on page 1: General Fund offerings amount was \$108,055 instead of \$109,230.
 - ii. Joel noted that the total cost of parsonage repairs was around \$2,400, lower than anticipated.
 - iii. A question was asked about the positive balance shown in the Messiah Student Aid Fund. Joel clarified that the balance shown will be disbursed.
 - iv. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the treasurer's report as amended, subject to audit.
- f. Board of Elders
 - i. Ted Quade provided a written report and reviewed.
- g. Board of Education
 - i. Ben Blue provided a written report and reviewed.
 - ii. A question was asked on the cause of the false fire alarm mentioned in the report. Jim Lisak advised that it was likely triggered by plumbing soldering smoke and will probably not be an issue in the future.
- h. Board of Property
 - i. Fred Goodrie provided a written report and reviewed.
 - ii. A question was asked regarding the parsonage sump pump and how to prevent basement floods in the future. Jim noted that drainage improvements were added to the parsonage in the past and the recent

- flooding in this case was due to the excessive rainfall rather than a problem with the pump. Jim also noted that the parsonage previously had a generator which was not maintained.
- iii. Jordan Albrecht noted that the board received a quote for repair of the church furnace, which will likely exceed the cost of replacement.

Unfinished Business

- i. Post-service ushering
 - i. A motion was called and seconded to adopt the board of elders' recommendation to return to post-service ushering beginning at the November 2 service. The motion was defeated, 13 in favor and 15 opposed.
 - ii. A motion was called and seconded to extend the trial period until the next quarterly meeting, with an opinion survey of the entire congregation to be completed during that period.
 - 1. Adam Brown moved an amendment to the motion to charge the task of surveying the congregation to the board of elders, to be completed before the January quarterly meeting. The motion for the amendment was seconded and carried.
 - 2. The motion to extend the trial period was called and carried.

New Business

- j. Church calendar: a motion to approve the 2026 calendar was called, seconded, and carried.
- k. Parsonage basement repairs
 - i. A motion to ratify the council's authorization of the board of property to purchase materials for the parsonage basement repair was called, seconded, and carried.
 - ii. Caleb Gerbitz noted that the expense was paid from the Reserve for Major Projects fund.
- l. Financial audit volunteers: Caleb noted that one person has volunteered to assist with the audit, and a second volunteer is still needed.

Upcoming Dates

- a. Next quarterly meeting: January 25, 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Philip Reim
Secretary, Church Council

Immanuel Lutheran College Visitors' Day is coming up on **Friday, November 14th** on the ILC campus in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Activities will begin with chapel at 10:05 A.M. in the Field House, followed by presentations and classroom visits until 2:50 p.m. Come and learn more about your church's college, and consider continuing your education in a solidly Christian setting! Visitors will be our guests for lunch and supper in the cafeteria, and in the evening are invited to join us for ILC's fall theatrical production, *Bugsy Malone Jr.* Speak with your pastor if you're interested in attending. For questions, contact Academic Dean Paul Naumann. Office: 715-836-6636, cell: 253-228-8736, e-mail: paul.naumann@ilc.edu

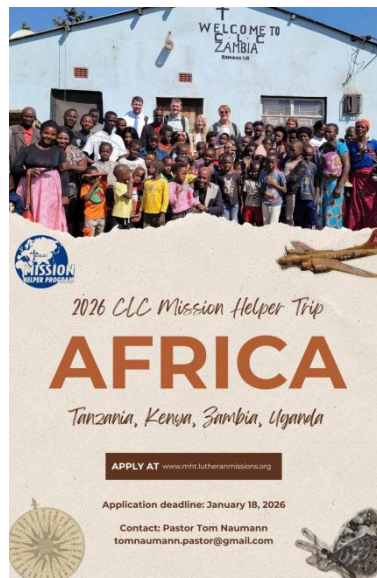
2026 CLC Mission Helper Trip: Africa –

The CLC Mission Helper Program is making preparations for another Mission Trip to Africa for the summer of 2026. The main focus of this trip will be presenting the Gospel, through a series of child evangelism lessons, to member and non-member children in village congregations. Possible areas of evangelism include the CLC–Tanzania, CLC–Kenya, CLC–Zambia, and CLC–Uganda. CLC members are welcome and encouraged to apply. For more information and to apply, visit www.mht.lutheranmissions.org.

CLC Call News - Pastor Emeritus Paul Tiefel, Jr.

has **received** the vacancy call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC, has **returned** the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. <> Pastor Stefan Sonnenfeld of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, MI, has **returned** the call to Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton, WI. <> Pastor Michael Gurath of Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ, has **received** the call to Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton, WI. <> Professor Mark Weis has **returned** the part-time call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN. <> Pastor Matthew Ude of Faith Lutheran Church, Markesan, WI, has **received** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD, has **received** the call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA.

INSTALLATION Pastor Drew Naumann will be installed at Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, on October 25-26, 2025.



Bible Readings:

10/26	Job 31:16-40 Psalm 112 Luke 18:1-14
10/27	Job 32 Psalm 113 Luke 18:15-30
10/28	Job 33 Psalm 114 Luke 18:31-43
10/29	Job 34 Psalm 115 Luke 19:1-10
10/30	Job 35 Psalm 116 Luke 19:11-27
10/31	Rev. 14:6-7 Psalm 46 Rom. 3:19-28
11/1	Rev. 7:9-17 Psalm 149 1 John 3:1-3



SCAN FOR
ONLINE
OFFERING

November Ushers	Cleaning Team 11/1-11/7
Jared Barthels Armando Hart Nick Blue	<u>Team 2</u> D/K Mueller BJ Nelson K. Nelson J/B Mueller D. Griffen J. Schaser
November Slideshow Jim Lisak	

Fruits of Faith	Last Week:	To Date:
Budgetary Offerings*:	\$10,985.91	\$126,305.07
Budgetary Needs:	\$8,642.65	\$138,282.40
Over (Under) Budget:	\$2,343.26	(\$11,997.33)
MDF:	\$30.00	\$435.00
Kinship:	\$100.00	\$596.56
MSAF:	\$25.00	\$250.00
IIF:	\$300.00	\$650.00
*Includes 10/1-10/15 E-giving: \$6,840.65		
Attendance Last Sun. (10/19): 101		

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