



*'I tell you, then,
that the kingdom
of God will be
taken from you
and given to a
people who will
produce its fruit.'*

October 4, 2026

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
14531 Old Olga Road
Fort Myers, FL**

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

14531 Old Olga Road S.E.

Ft Myers, FL 33905

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM

Sunday School & Bible Class: 11:30 AM

Church Office: **(239) 694-3878**

bethlehemlutheranfortmyers.org

E-Mail: bethlehemlc@gmail.com

Rev. Karl P. Glander, Pastor

Pastor's Cell Phone: **(239) 293-1489**

Pastor's E-Mail Address:

pastorkarlglander@gmail.com

Linda Kirsch, Church Secretary

Faith in Christ gives us confidence.

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love.

Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you be a good friend to someone by caring for their needs?

In Philippians 3, Paul talks about pressing towards the goal to reach the prize of knowing Christ Jesus. Think about a time you tried to reach a

goal. What happened? Whether we reach the goal or not, God is always with us. *Pray: Lord, help us to keep our eye on the goal, the prize of the “heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.” Amen*



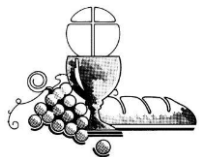
**IT IS GREAT TO HAVE YOU IN WORSHIP
WITH US TODAY!**

Here at Bethlehem Lutheran, we believe in the teachings of the Bible as taught by Jesus and the apostles and strive to live our lives in accord with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are all fellow sinners who live together in the mercy and grace of Jesus. Jesus is the heart and center of all that we say and do as we serve Him and live in Christian love with one another.

If you would like to learn more about this church, or are looking for a church family, please talk to our pastor or one of the elders. They would be happy to talk with you! Regardless of whether you join or not, we welcome you and your family to worship with us any time! We want to know who you are, so please provide your contact information in the Friendship Book as it is passed during the Offertory. If you are visiting, honor us by signing the Guest Register in the Narthex.

If you have a prayer request, please fill out a Blue Prayer Card from the pew rack and usher will be collecting them.

Thank you. Come visit us again sometime soon and may the Lord richly bless you!



ATTENDING COMMUNION AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of Bethlehem Lutheran Church

LCMS and yet desire to receive the sacrament,
are invited to speak with Pastor Karl Glander.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 4, 2026

PRELUDE

✠ **ORDER OF WORSHIP** ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

644 THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

(Stanzas 1–5)

- 1 The Church's one foundation
 Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
 She is His new creation
 By water and the Word.
 From heav'n He came and sought her
 To be His holy bride;
 With His own blood He bought her,
 And for her life He died.

- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation,
 Yet one o'er all the earth;

Her charter of salvation:

One Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses
With ev'ry grace endued.

3 Though with a scornful wonder
The world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder,
By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping;
Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
Shall be the morn of song.

4 Through toil and tribulation
And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation
Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest.

5 Yet she on earth has union
With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won.
O blessèd heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by Your grace
That we, like saints before us,
May see You face to face.

(Please rise)

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

EXHORTATION

LSB 151

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

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is
faithful and just, will forgive our sins and
cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 151

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

LSB 151

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive

you all your sins in the name of the Father
and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

(Please be seated)

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 80:7–19

P Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved!

C You brought a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.

P You cleared the ground for it;
it took deep root and filled the land.

C The mountains were covered with its shade,
the mighty cedars with its branches.

P It sent out its branches to the sea
and its shoots to the River.

C Why then have you broken down its walls,
so that all who pass along the way pluck its
fruit?

P The boar from the forest ravages it,
and all that move in the field feed on it.

C Turn again, O God of hosts!
Look down from heaven, and see;
have regard for this vine,

P the stock that your right hand planted,
and for the son whom you made strong for
yourself.

C They have burned it with fire; they have cut
it down;
may they perish at the rebuke of your face!

P But let your hand be on the man of your right hand,
the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself!

C Then we shall not turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call upon your name!

P Restore us, O LORD God of hosts!
Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

(Please rise)

KYRIE

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

♪ THIS IS THE FEAST ♪

LSB 155

C This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of
God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and
honor, blessing, and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in
the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to
God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His
reign. Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the
hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive
us when we reject Your unfailing love, and

grant us the fullness of Your salvation;
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 5:1–7

The Vineyard of the LORD Destroyed

¹Let me sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

²He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
and he looked for it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard,
that I have not done in it?

When I looked for it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;

I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

⁶I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and briers and thorns shall grow up;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the men of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
and he looked for justice,
but behold, bloodshed;
for righteousness,
but behold, an outcry!

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Philippians 3:4b–14

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Straining Toward the Goal

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,

¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Please rise)

♪ ALLELUIA AND VERSE ♪

LSB 156

C Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33–46

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew,
the twenty-first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

The Parable of the Tenants

³³[Jesus said:] “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. ³⁴When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ ³⁹And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. ⁴⁴And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

537 BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

- 1** Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

- 2** Fair are the meadows,
Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

- 3** Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.

- 4** Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,

Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine!

SERMON

"Strange Love"

. . . Pastor Karl

(Please rise)

NICENE CREED

**☐ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all
worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,**

**by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of
the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under
Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to
judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the
Son,
who with the Father and the Son
together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.**

And I believe in one holy Christian and
apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the
remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the
dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Lord, in Your mercy

C Hear our prayer.

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

♪OFFERTORY♪

805 PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL **BLESSINGS FLOW**

(Please rise)

△ 1 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;

**Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus

fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

♪SANCTUS♪

LSB 161

**☐ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

☐ Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He

gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach 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.

PAX DOMINI

LSB 163

[P] The peace of the Lord be with you always.

[C] Amen.

♪AGNUS DEI♪

LSB 163

[C] Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

618 I COME, O SAVIOR, TO THY TABLE

1 I come, O Savior, to Thy table,
For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able
To satisfy and make me whole: **Refrain**

ref Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!

2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning
That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;
So I, a sinner, come to Thee. **Refrain**

3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior,
Because I have a sinful heart,

Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never,
For Thou my faithful shepherd art: **Refrain**

**ref Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!**

4 Weary am I and heavy laden;
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously and gladden
My heart, for I am now Thy guest. **Refrain**

5 What higher gift can we inherit?
It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit,
The covenant of hope and grace. **Refrain**

633 AT THE LAMB'S HIGH FEAST WE SING

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His pierced side.
Alleluia!

2 Praise we Him, whose love divine
Gives His sacred blood for wine,

Gives His body for the feast—
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
Alleluia!

3 Where the paschal blood is poured,
Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
Through the wave that drowns the foe.
Alleluia!

4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love
Eat we manna from above.
Alleluia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,

And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

(Please rise)

♪ **THANK THE LORD** ♪

LSB 164

**☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell
ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and
proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His
people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia,
alleluia.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that
You have refreshed us through this salutary
gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy
You would strengthen us through the same in
faith toward You and in fervent love toward
one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son,
our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

(Please be seated)

HYMN TO DEPART

426 WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.
- 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God;

All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

BENEDICTION

LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be
gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give
you peace.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE



SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE TODAY

Preacher: Rev. Karl P. Glander

Organist: Holly Bell

Flutist: Nancy Rybak

Bells: Debbie Jackow

The Sound System: Jeff Kirsch

Elder: Tim Tobeck

Altar Guild: Emmy Larson, Betty Willis

Ushers: Steve Hempel, Greg Murray

Reader: Steve Hempel

**Signup Sheets in the Fellowship Hall. This is
your chance to get involved in worship.**

Introducing "**GIFTS OF THANKSGIVING**"

For many years, our congregation has beautifully adorned the sanctuary with flowers to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and the lives of loved ones. As our traditions evolve, we are introducing a new way to honor these special milestones: **The Gifts of Thanksgiving Program.**

Instead of altar flowers, you are invited to make a commemorative financial gift on your special day. These gifts directly sustain our church home and care for our church family. When you give, you can choose to direct your offering to one of four traditional areas of need:

Where would you like your gift used?

The Church Home: Supporting our mortgage and debt reduction.

The Church Grounds: Maintaining our lawn, trees, and outdoor spaces.

The Church Structure: Funding building maintenance, roofing, and structural repairs.

The Church Family: Providing direct benevolence to members in financial need.

Just like our traditional flower calendar, your milestone and dedication will be printed right here in the Sunday bulletin so the congregation can celebrate and pray with you.

Our Response to God's Love

Worship Service – 43

Adult Bible Class – 17

Celebrating birthdays this week: 10/8: Jack Young

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Join us in the Fellowship Hall after the 10:30 service for coffee and goodies. The refreshments this week are from Steve Hempel. Thank you!

ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY and SUNDAY SCHOOL

Pastor Glander leads a Bible study in the Fellowship Hall after the 10:30 service and Sunday school for the children is in the classroom.

MONDAY MORNING GATHERINGS!

Join us on Monday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a time of health, fun, and fellowship. We will start each gathering with a gentle session of **Chair Exercises** to stretch and relax. Afterward, we will transition ourselves into other group activities. Everyone is invited to attend! **Bring a Friend:** Neighbors, family, and friends are always welcome! Please bring your own ideas of what activities, crafts, or games we might do together at these future gatherings. We hope to see you there!

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

10:30 A.M. This gathering offers an opportunity to Study God's Word together in the Fellowship Hall.

LWML FALL RALLY

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Southwest Zone Fall Rally will be hosted by Faith Lutheran Church — Naples, Florida on October 17, 2026 at 11:15 A.M. Let Mickie know today, Sunday, October 4th if you'll be attending. Registration fee will be paid by LWML. There will be carpooling from the church parking lot for those interested. Time determined when the date is closer.

Youth Night & Sleepover!

All youth are invited to join us for our next Youth Night on **Friday, October 23rd**, starting at **6:00 PM**. Families are welcome to arrive anytime between 6:00 PM and 7:00 PM, and kids can stay as long as parents allow.

We are also opening up the night for an optional sleepover! Staying overnight is not required to attend, so come for the evening or stay for the whole night. If you know any youth who would love

to join the fun, please contact Mickie or Holly to sign up or to get more details.

Halloween Trunk or Treat Donation Request

This year, our church will be participating in the community **Halloween Trunk or Treat** at the **Franklin Locks in Alva** on **Saturday, October 24th from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

To help make this a sweet and fun event for the local children, donations of Halloween candy would be greatly appreciated! If you would like to contribute, please drop off your candy donations in the designated collection bins located in the Narthex or Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your continued generosity and support for our community outreach!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday – October 25, 2026 Voter's meeting will be held after the service. Please plan on staying. No Bible study or Sunday school on the 25th because of the voter's meeting.

The election for Council Officers and Board Positions will be held on October 25 Voters'

Meeting. The Nominating committee recommended the following slate of individuals for election:

Council Officers

President - Richard Gerlach

Vice President - Doug Grage

Secretary - Holly Bell

Treasurer – Yvonne Murray

Member at Large – Kerry Ferguson

Board Positions

Board of Education - Mickie Naumann, Lori Jensen

Board of Elders - Doug Johnson, Chris Jackow, Greg Murray, Tim Tobeck

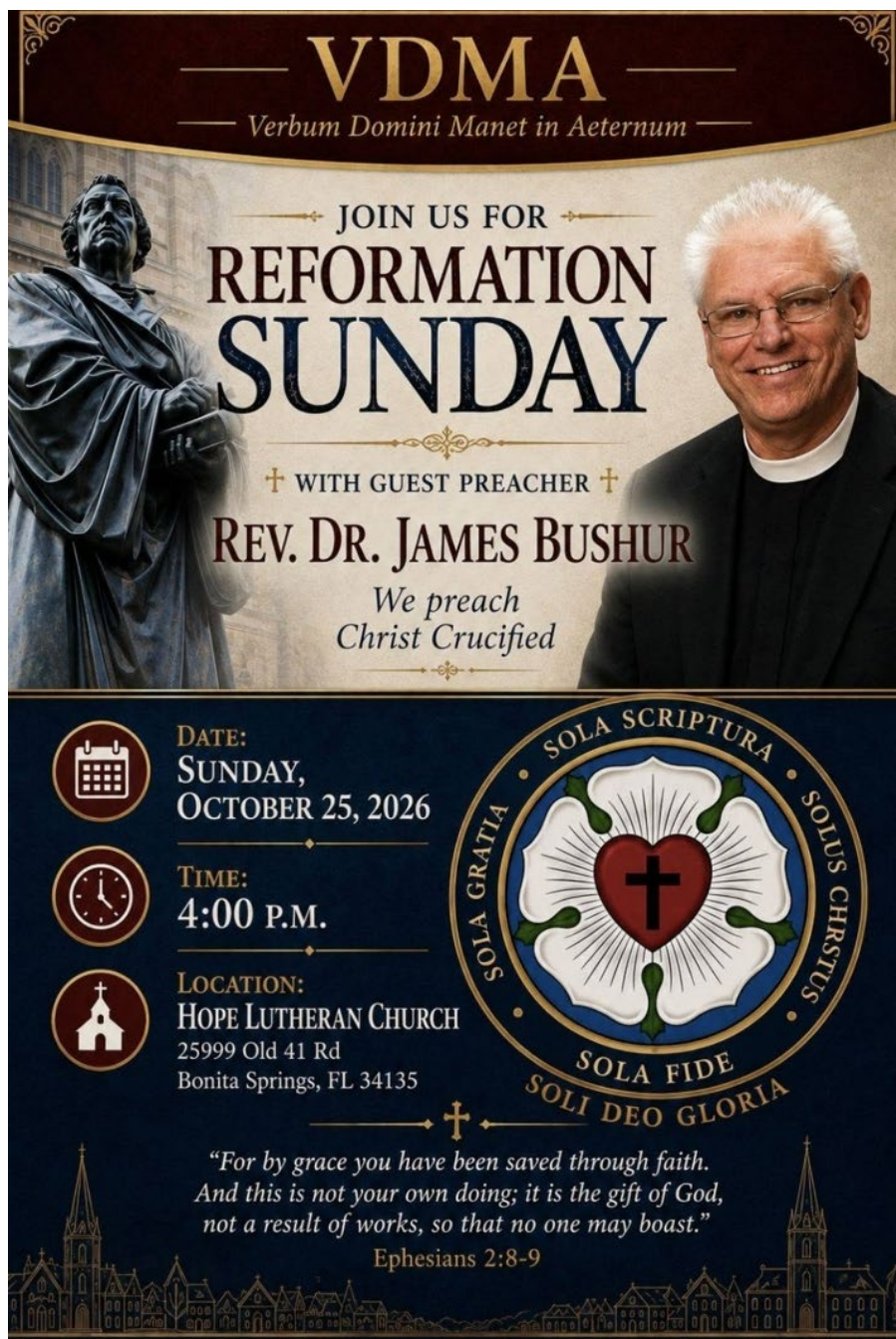
Board of Evangelism –

Board of Stewardship – Tim and Mary Tobeck, Rollin and Pat Duckwitz

Board of Trustees - Jeff Kirsch

NOTE: *If you would like to be considered for one of these positions please contact any council member before October 11th.*

No Bible study or Sunday school on the 25th due to the voter's meeting.



VDMA
— Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum —

JOIN US FOR
**REFORMATION
SUNDAY**

✠ WITH GUEST PREACHER ✠
REV. DR. JAMES BUSHUR
*We preach
Christ Crucified*

DATE:
SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 25, 2026

TIME:
4:00 P.M.

LOCATION:
HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
25999 Old 41 Rd
Bonita Springs, FL 34135

SOLA SCRIPTURA • SOLUS CHRSTUS
SOLA GRATIA • SOLA FIDE
SOLI DEO GLORIA

“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.”
Ephesians 2:8-9



COMPELLED

Mission Advancement Initiative

MISSION ADVANCEMENT INITIATIVE SUPPORT BANQUET

Hosted by

Grace Lutheran Church & Preschool, Naples, FL

November 17 at 5pm – 7:30pm

Join us for an evening of **reception, dinner, and program**, filled with fellowship and a look ahead at what God is doing across our District. Hear exciting plans for **planting new churches, launching outreach ministries, and raising up new workers** for the mission field.

Please register at
FLGADistrict.org/mission-advancement
or by phone at **407-258-5052**

To learn more about the Florida-Georgia District's
Mission Advancement Initiative,
visit flgadistrict.org/mission-advancement/

florida **georgia**
district



LWM

LWM will resume their monthly meetings on Monday November 2nd at 1 p.m. All ladies are welcome and we would love to have everyone's ideas for the upcoming season. Come join us!



Operation Christmas Child: Sharing Joy and Hope!

Last year, our church family sent a remarkable 142 shoeboxes to children around the world! It is time once again to share Jesus' love through Operation Christmas Child. There are four wonderful ways you can participate this year:

- .Pack a box:** Grab a shoebox and fill it with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items for a boy or girl.
- .Donate supplies:** Bring individual gift items to the collection tables located in the Narthex and the Fellowship Hall.
- .Sponsor shipping:** Donate \$10 per box to cover shipping and ministry costs. (Tip: Give online through Samaritan's Purse to "Follow Your Box" and see which country it reaches!)

.Write a letter: Write a heartfelt note of encouragement and prayer to be tucked inside a child's box.

Important Reminder: Please do not include toothpaste, candy, food, liquids, lotions, or toy weapons, as these cannot be shipped.

For gift ideas and packing lists, please visit the information tables in the Narthex or Fellowship Hall. Let's work together to bless even more children this year!

For any questions see Betty Willis, Mary Tobeck or Mickie Naumann. Thank you all for your generosity.

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

For good test results, treatment, positive thinking, healing, and comfort during cancer treatments, for those suffering from addiction, mental illness and for healing, strength, comfort, and peace for family we pray for:

Candice, Lexi, Andy, Rose, Maggie, Denny, Bill, Chip, Christine, Johanna, Sandi, Nancy, McGee family, Sonia, Chelsie, Kyle and family, Jack,

Melinda, Pam, Paul, Debbie, Amy, Jennifer,
Guatemala, David, Holly, Matt, Maggie, Doug,
Kerry, Addison, Dustin, Peggy, Andrea, Jackson,
Sue, Pat, Tim, Phil S., Tina, Thomas, Nick, Felix,
Cindy, Klaus, Linda, Gail, Johnny, Wendy, Les
Dreischerf, Sharon, Will, Melissa Johnson, Barb,
Kayla, Katie, John, Jim Rode, Becky, Johnny,
Catherine, Kim, Kayla, Rose, Helen, Tasha,
Yvonne, Cody, Dan, Carl, Rose, Ken Zanto, Gary,
Chris Tobeck, Keith Tobeck, James and his family,
And those in our hearts

For Those Who have recently lost loved ones:
The family and friends of John Wittenberg, The
family and friends of Meme

**PRAYERS for Homebound, Assisted Living,
Nursing Home**

**Those who can't attend common worship that
they would find comfort knowing that the Lord
is with them.**

Pam, Edison and Karen Johnson, Chester and
Linda Rust

PRAYERS FOR PROTECTION

For our full-time troops and public servants, for travel, missionaries, and for peace and protection for families.

missionaries in Guatemala, Son-in-law (being deployed for a year in the Coast Guard), Smiths (missionaries)

Dear Lord, we come to You today with heavy hearts, as we lift up those who are in need of prayer. We ask that You would bring healing and restoration to their body, mind, and spirit Amen.