

October Calendar 2022

	<u>Events</u>	<u>Anniversary & Birthdays</u>
Sunday	2-Oct (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School	2-Oct (B) Madison Lotz
	(E) 10am Worship Service	(B) Ruth Summann
	3-Oct (E) 7pm Ladies' Aid Meeting	
	5-Oct (E) 4pm Bulletin Deadline	
Sunday	9-Oct (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School	
	(E) 10am Worship Service	
	(E) 11am Ladies Aid Soup Luncheon	
	(E) 7pm Voters Meeting (Elections)	
	10-Oct Columbus Day	
	12-Oct (E) 4pm Bulletin Deadline	12-Oct (B) Denise Wolf
	(E) 7pm Council Meeting	
	13-Oct	13-Oct (B) Pam Parrish
	14-Oct	14-Oct (A) Eric & Cathy Dothager 2000
Sunday	16-Oct (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School	16-Oct (B) Linda Rhodes
	(E) 10am Worship Service	
	(E) 7pm Voters Meeting	
	17-Oct	17-Oct (A) Mathew & Sarah Sasse 2010
		(B) Amy Schaal
		(B) Teresa Barnick
		18-Oct (A) Lee & Fran Schaal 1958
	19-Oct (E) 4pm Bulletin Deadline	
	22-Oct	22-Oct (B) Abigail Rogers
Sunday	23-Oct (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School	23-Oct (A) Joe & Rachel Schaal 2004
	(E) 10am Worship Service	(A) John & Ruth Ann Moyer 1971
		(B) Grace Kruenegel
		(B) Rachel Koonce
	24-Oct	24-Oct (B) Garrett Austin
	25-Oct	25-Oct (B) Danny McCaslin
	26-Oct	26-Oct (B) Dennis Schukar
		(B) Kenny Dothager
	29-Oct	29-Oct (B) Abigail Wolf
Sunday	30-Oct (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School	30-Oct (B) Dennis Lange
	(E) 10am Worship Service	
	31-Oct (E) Reformation Day	

Immanuel Lutheran Church Augsburg

1297 E 900 Ave

Shobonier, IL 62885

618-846-8383

website: augsburgchurch.com email: augsburg@augsburgchurch.com

Pastor Timothy J. Landskroener

Cell: 330-204-4180 Email: lawandgospel@hotmail.com

October, 2022

Dearly Beloved of Christ,

“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” (Collect for Reformation Day)

On Sunday, October 30, we will commemorate Reformation Day. This annual commemoration always includes the singing of Luther’s hymn “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” (LSB 656), his paraphrase of Psalm 46. But a much-forgotten hymn of Luther’s based on Psalm 124 carries the theme of the Reformation: salvation of helpless sinners who have no power or worthiness in them solely accomplished by divine action. Luther’s hymn “If God Had Not Been on Our Side” (TLH 267) paraphrases the psalm which speaks about divine deliverance given to the Lord God’s people.

King David’s psalm was used by those who were on pilgrimage to Jerusalem’s Temple, especially for the Passover Festival. This Song of Ascents begins as a remembrance of what the Lord God had done for Israel, especially their liberation from Egypt: “If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,” let Israel now say—“If it had not been the LORD who was on our side, when men rose up against us, then they would have swallowed us alive, when their wrath was kindled against us; then the waters would have overwhelmed us, the stream would have gone over our soul; then the swollen waters would have gone over our soul.” (Ps. 124:1-5). Those who remember the Exodus story see it recalled in the words of the psalm.

As the Lord God’s faithful people remembered their deliverance—whether from Egypt, Philistia, Assyria, or any of their ancient enemies—the significance of having Him on their side would not be forgotten. The same can be said of Luther and the Reformers. Their work and effort would have been for naught, “if it had not been the LORD who was on [their] side.” As the wrath of Church and Empire rose against them, anger kindled in hatred of hard truth, the German theologians and princes awaited the floods and torrents of Ecclesiastical councils and Imperial armies. But even as they came, the confession of faith remained and the Lord God’s people were delivered.

This coincides with the second portion of Psalm 124: “Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth. Our soul has escaped as a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.”(Ps. 124:6-7). These words reflect the exultant cries of the Israelites in safety on the opposite side of the Red Sea. The same words could be uttered by Luther and the Reformers, even in spite of earthly losses by many of them and their followers.

As centuries of time have passed, we know that the Lutheran Confession of the Christian faith has remained. Statements of doctrine made in the 16th Century are held by us today. Despite the efforts of Ecclesiastical councils and Imperial armies, those who hold to the Lutheran confession of faith still exist. They were not “swallowed alive” or “overwhelmed.” That would have happened, “if it had not been the LORD who was on our side.” But as we have been divinely aided, “[their] snare is broken, and we have escaped.”

However, this psalm and even Luther’s work are not ultimately concerned with earthly existence and success. The deliverance that the Lord God gives is from enemies greater than an Egyptian Pharaoh and his court conjurers or a Spanish emperor and the Roman curia. What the Reformers were concerned with was salvation: deliverance from sin, from death, and from the power of Satan. “If it had not been the LORD who was on [their] side,” such deliverance is impossible.

Deliverance of this sort requires divine action, something first given at Holy Baptism. For at the font, “[our enemies’] wrath was kindled against us,” as the Lord God brought His people out of slavery into salvation through the waters. Like Pharaoh and the Emperor, Satan’s hordes ride out to recapture us, to keep us from reaching the promise of everlasting life. But as the Lord God is on our side—present among us with His free gift of forgiveness given in the aural and visible Word—we remain free. We are still redeemed, kept secure in our covenant relationship with the Lord God.

That is what Luther, the man between God and the devil, came to understand: it is the truth that he confessed, even in his hymn based on Psalm 124. The same truth is what we cling to in our day, as our enemies rise up against us. Each time we go in pilgrimage to the Lord God’s sanctuary, we remember this deliverance that He has accomplished for us. As we gather to commemorate Reformation Day, we also remember that Luther and the Reformers have a special place for the sole reason that they faithfully believed, taught, and confessed that truth about divine deliverance for helpless sinners. We recognize that they have handed down that truth to us.

Such commemoration is appropriate and right, for the focus is not on our efforts or any other human works, not even the acts done by Luther. Rather, the focus of our commemorations, the focus of the Divine Service, the focus of our Christian lives is on “the LORD who was [and is] on our side.” That is the truth which Luther and the Reformers confessed, which the faithful Israelites confessed, which we confess. It is the truth that King David made clear for all divinely-delivered people in the last verse of Psalm 124: “Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.” (Ps. 124:8). The burden of our salvation is not placed on us, but is carried by Him who sustains all creation and bore the sins of the world on His crucified shoulders.

Thanks be to Jesus Christ, our Deliverer who is still on our side, the Word of God who remains forever!

In the love of Christ,

Pastor Landskroener

If God Had Not Been on Our Side (TLH 267)

1 If God had not been on our side
And had not come to aid us,
The foes with all their pow'r and pride
Would surely have dismayed us;
For we, His flock, would have to fear
The threat of men both far and near,
Who rise in might against us.

2 Their furious wrath, did God permit,
Would surely have consumed us
And as a deep and yawning pit
With life and limb entombed us.
Like men o'er whom dark waters roll
Their wrath would have engulfed our soul
And, like a flood, o'erwhelmed us.

3 Blest be the Lord, who foiled their threat
That they could not devour us;
Our souls, like birds, escaped their net,
They could not overpower us.
The snare is broken— we are free!
Our help is ever, Lord, in Thee,
Who madest earth and heaven.

Council Meeting is Oct. 12th at 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall

Voters Meeting is Oct. 16th at 7:00 pm in Sanctuary

Sunday Oct 9 is the day of the Soup Luncheon. It is after the church service in the Parrish Hall. If you are making the chicken and meat for it, Please cook and shred it before bringing it to the church. We will be cooking the soups and making the chicken salad on Saturday morning Oct 8. Please have all of your items there by 10:00 am. We will be getting almost everything ready for Sunday. If you are unable to bring them on Sat morning, please let me know and we can make other arrangements. Also if you would like to donate a dessert, we will gladly accept it. This is our big fund raiser for the year. Also we will need lots of workers on Sunday. Even if it is for only a short time, please help. Any questions, please contact me.
Thanks, Judy Wasmuth 618-267-7637 jwasmuth5th@gmail.com

1 THESSALONIANS BIBLE STUDY... The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a daily 15-minute verse-by-verse Bible study produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon. Pastor Weedon recently started a study on The Book of 1 Thessalonians. You can listen on-demand at thewordendures.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

For a Pastoral visit, please contact Pastor Landskroener

GOOD NEWS – We have quite a collection of the “Good News” magazine available in the Fellowship Hall. You are welcome to take and share as many issues as you would like. Many different topics are covered in the articles, and they are accompanied by marvelous artwork. This magazine was founded and edited by the former Lutheran Hour Speaker Rev. Dr. Wallace Schulz and is well regarded for its Lutheran teachings. You are encouraged to take a look.

Come Ye Thankful Come! The Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School Sterling Evening is almost here. The Dinner and Auction will take place on Saturday, October 22. Silent auction begins at 4:30 p.m. with dinner served at 5:45 p.m. and the live auction at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available for \$40 a person, contact the school office at (618) 226-3315. A preview night will take place on Friday, October 21, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Trimming Stamps for Mites -- Trim each stamp leaving paper measuring 1/8 of an inch or less around the stamp. Be careful not to trim too close to the stamp. No corners or edges should be cut. The stamps must be 100% complete. If there is a group of stamps trim around the whole group.

Please Sign attendance books in the pew, so Pastor is better able to serve you.

Augsburg is collecting Christian materials, Bibles, Portals of Prayer, Sunday School and VBS materials, Lutheran Witness, books, etc., to be given to the mission in Butler to distribute worldwide. Please put them on the table in the middle of the basement.

The Church will be sending some of their unused materials as well to this mission. There will be a table in the Parish Hall to view the materials that will be sent. If you would like to take any materials for home use, feel free to do so. We will be collecting materials till the end of October, at that time they will be taken to Butler.

79. A Time for Everything

To everything there is a season,
 And time to every purpose under the heaven:
 A time to be born,
 And a time to die;
 A time to plant,
 And a time to pluck up that which is planted;
 A time to kill,
 And a time to heal;
 A time to break down,
 And a time to build up;
 A time to weep,
 And a time to laugh;
 A time to mourn,
 And a time to dance;
 A time to cast away stones,
 And a time to gather stones together;
 A time to embrace,
 And a time to refrain from embracing;
 A time to get,
 And a time to lose;
 A time to keep,
 And a time to cast away;
 A time to rend,
 And a time to sew;
 A time to keep silence,
 And a time to speak;
 A time to love,
 And a time to hate;
 A time of war,
 And a time of peace.
 (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 KJV)

W	F	D	E	H	P	X	X	G	A	E	S	W	Z	N
R	E	S	E	L	H	B	M	T	M	I	A	A	B	A
O	O	A	A	G	R	P	O	B	L	D	G	R	K	B
L	L	N	U	E	Y	G	R	E	E	D	N	G	P	T
I	T	A	A	G	E	A	N	T	S	P	E	A	K	T
N	L	K	R	T	C	C	M	P	T	S	K	Q	W	P
Z	S	C	H	E	E	Y	Q	O	L	L	P	J	E	E
B	C	E	A	B	J	M	U	Y	U	U	H	E	S	E
U	R	L	Z	S	U	N	F	N	F	R	C	L	E	W
B	E	A	I	T	I	I	R	D	E	N	K	J	K	
J	R	H	B	O	P	A	L	A	E	J	C	E	D	T
O	F	A	O	N	K	F	W	D	R	H	Y	N	H	Y
P	E	T	R	E	E	I	D	A	U	F	T	Q	A	M
B	E	E	N	S	E	M	I	T	Y	P	E	A	Q	D
R	E	N	D	E	Z	Y	F	R	T	E	G	R	G	O

Copyright © GIL Publications 2004

79. A Time for Everything

BORN	HATE	REND
BREAK	HEAL	SEW
BUILDUP	KEEP	SILENCE
CASTAWAY	LAUGH	SPEAK
DANCE	LOSE	STONES
DIE	MOURN	TIME
EMBRACE	PLANT	TOGETHER
GATHER	PLUCK	WAR
GET	REFRAIN	WEEP