

# LAMP

Monthly publication of the American Lutheran Church  
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## Approaching God Through Prayer

Spiritual Practices Centered on Listening to God  
Spiritual practices offer a way to step back from daily busyness and focus on connecting with God. Jesus modeled these practices by praying, reading scripture, and finding solitude in nature. We can follow His example by creating quiet moments at home or with others to listen for God's guidance. Whether through prayer, reflection, or service, spiritual practices help nurture a deeper relationship with God.

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## Message from the Pastor

WRITTEN BY PASTOR PAT MOHR-KELLY

### FALLOW FIELDS

I've been watching the harvest. The beans seem to be almost done and many fields of corn have been started. The fields that have yielded their crop lie flat and empty. It wasn't that long ago that they were green and lush with growing stalks and stems. I want to look back and remember those green fields.

But there is a certain beauty in the manicured bean fields. They are empty and it pulls at my heartstrings. These fields both lush and green, flat and manicured are a reflection of our lives. Our life of faith sometimes feels energetic and hopeful. Other times our faith life seems like the manicured bean fields -lonely and fallow. God in God's wisdom shows us these things to remind us that after the fallow fields, after the dormant winter, Spring will come with green shoots and broad leaves. I don't know where you are on your spiritual journey, but no matter. Remember God will bring the refreshment of Spring.

It seems as though we've been treading water with the transition. The MSP's need updating and the strategic plan needs to be employed. I'm not rushing or worried about the pace because I know that ultimately God is in charge. God will guide us – if we allow guidance. God will provide a future with hope, if we believe that God will be our past, present and future.

October is Suicide prevention month. Let's pray for those who feel hopeless and discouraged. Let's tell at least one person this week how very needed and loved they are. Just like the fallow fields, we all need encouragement.

Blessings,

*Pastor Pat*

*My dearest brothers and sisters in Christ, let us be steadfast  
in our faith even in trying times.*



# Council Minutes

September 9, 2024



Meeting was called to order by President Christy Phillips at 6:30 p.m. Present: Cindy Gosse, Barb Hayek, Maureen Even, Shirley Bergman and Pastor Pat Mohr-Kelly. Absent, Mitch Hayek.

Devotions by Pastor Pat.

Motion by Cindy Gosse second by Maureen Even to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report:

Motion by Maureen Even second by Shirley Bergman to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Motion by Maureen Even second by Shirley Bergman to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality – No report

Parish Ed – The first Worship Wednesday was held September 4th with eight kids attending. The evening went very well.

Property/Technology – David Becker finished the lighting in the Fireside Room in August. Shirley Bergman will send a thank you note to David for the discount he gave the church. The TV on the lectern side of the church does not work. After discussion, motion by Cindy Gosse second by Maureen Even to authorize the property committee to purchase and replace the TV. Motion carried.

Scholarship – No report

Worship & Music - A meeting was held August 21st to plan hymns through November and some Advent planning was done. The Christ candle will be removed November 24th, Christ the King Sunday, and will return in the procession on Christmas Eve. Families will light the Advent candles, read the meditation. We will sing Light One Candle and use ELW Setting 4. Sunday, September 29th immediately after the service we will have our first Service of Prayer and Healing. This will be prayer, laying on the hands and anointing with oil. We will have the blessing of the animals on Saturday, October 5th.

Youth – The Youth service was September 8th and was wonderful with lots of planning. They used the music from the Youth Gathering in New Orleans and the overhead TV. Thank you for the leaders and the youth that participated.

Call committee – Pastor has met with both Call committees and they are working on updating the MSP.

Pastor's report – Pastor reported 13 students attended confirmation on Sunday, September 8th. Parents have signed up for two classes to assist the Pastor. The meeting with the youth went well and planned the September 8th service.

Pastor has started to call on members. The Daily Meditations are well received. She's been getting feedback from people who have not been in church lately. It was agreed to purchase color coded bells for the children to play and perhaps play for worship. Pastor met with the Worship Committee to discuss future services. She would like the youth/confirmation students to read more often during worship. The youth and their leaders desire to have more contemporary services, possibly once a month on the same Sunday. Discussion was held on hiring a musician to play for the contemporary service. Shirley will contact musicians to see if they are interested and available. Also, discussed adding either a Saturday evening or Sunday evening service. This will not take the place of Sunday morning worship.

New Business:

Discussion was held regarding the holiday offerings. Motion by Cindy Gosse second by Maureen Even to designate the Thanksgiving offering to the Food Pantry and the Christmas Eve offering to EWALU. Motion carried.

The 2024-25 snow removal contract was presented. After discussion, motion by Pastor Pat Mohr-Kelly second by Shirley Bergman to approve the contract with JDR Snow Removal and Lawn Care for the 2024-25 snow removal at the church. Motion carried.

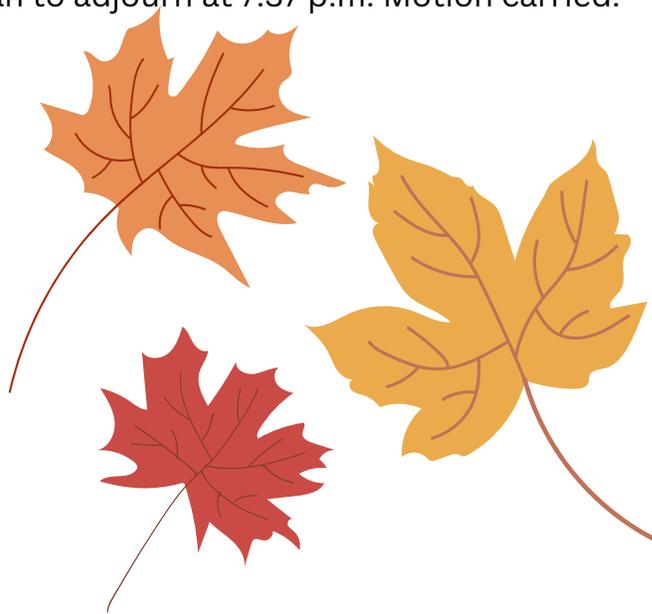
President Christy Phillips read correspondence received.

Deacon assignments for the month of October were made.

Motion by Maureen Even second by Shirley Bergman to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Gosse  
Acting Secretary  
Your paragraph text





LSI is one of Iowa's largest nonprofit human services agencies.

Our heart beats for the people we serve.

We empower families and communities by recognizing and honoring the strengths and gifts of every individual.



### November 2024: National Adoption Month

November is National Adoption Month! Lutheran Services in Iowa has served adoptive and foster families for decades, helping to ensure every child has a safe and loving home. For over a year, we joined with Four Oaks Foster and Adoption Services to better serve the families of Iowa. As a subcontractor, we continue to train and support foster, adoptive, and kin families in the western side of the state. Our team has served over 700 families through assistance during the licensing process and by providing on-going support and development in the past fiscal year.

To learn more about our Foster Care and Adoption services, please visit [www.lsiowa.org/foster-care-adoption](http://www.lsiowa.org/foster-care-adoption).

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org) or 563-676-2065.

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](http://LSIowa.org) and [facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://facebook.com/LSI.iowa).



### WORSHIP WEDNESDAY OCTOBER--NOVEMBER--DECEMBER SCHEDULE

Wednesday, October 23	6:15-7pm
Sunday, November 3	6-7pm Christmas and Bell Practice
Sunday, November 17	6-7pm Christmas and Bell Practice
Wednesday, December 4	1:30-2:30pm Christmas and Bell Practice (early out at school)
Sunday, December 8	6-7pm Christmas and Bell Practice
Sunday, December 15	10am Children's Christmas Program

*After Christmas program no Wednesday Worship until January*



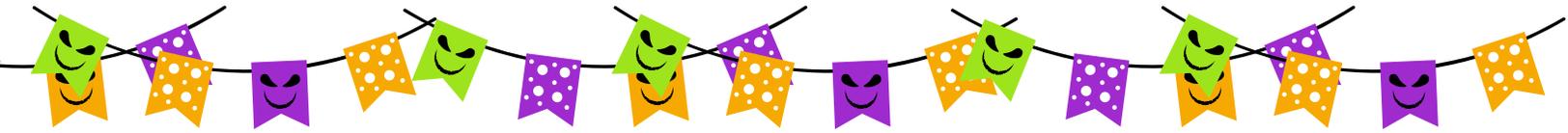


**On Saturday, October 12th our congregation got crafty and festive as we came together to make beautiful Chrismons for our Christmas trees! With laughter, creativity, and a sprinkle of holiday spirit, everyone had a blast bringing these meaningful decorations to life! We can't wait to see them shine this Christmas season!**



The Youth Group (+friends) met for outdoor fun at the Borlands! It was a perfect evening for glow in the dark Capture the Flag, s'mores, music and games around the fire! Please reach out to Beth Stanek ([bethannefl@hotmail.com](mailto:bethannefl@hotmail.com)) or Sara Borland ([sborland74@gmail.com](mailto:sborland74@gmail.com)) to be added to the Team Reach app and Facebook group if you aren't already there.

# October Celebrations



## Birthdays

Harper Westpfahl	4-Oct	Kash Niichel	19-Oct
Marci Dahl	6-Oct	Owen Riggs	19-Oct
Hunter Weber	8-Oct	Grace Thompson	21-Oct
Sue Rigdon	9-Oct	Jason Thompson	23-Oct
Owen Thompson	11-Oct	Marcy Ruckdaschel	24-Oct
Joellen Yeager	14-Oct	Gabriella Zabloudil	24-Oct
Joe Kopplin	14-Oct	Rich Mohr-Kelly	25-Oct
Neva Winkelpleck	16-Oct	Amber Rueter	26-Oct
Kristi Clayton	17-Oct	Jaymn Loyd	26-Oct
Danni Kopplin	17-Oct	Michelle Krivanek	28-Oct
		Randy Frush	29-Oct

## Anniversaries

Steffen and Jade Hoey	10/8/2022
David and Marcy Ruckdaschel	10/11/1997

## Baptism Anniversaries

Mike Mostek	1-Oct	Brady Hemmer	17-Oct
Kyle Thompson	2-Oct	Maxwell Kopplin	17-Oct
Tom Hoey	3-Oct	Joyce Becker	19-Oct
Teresa Merkel	11-Oct	Nikki Hemmer	19-Oct
Ethan Wyant	11-Oct	Joe Kopplin	19-Oct
Dave Wyant	12-Oct	Carmen McAtee	24-Oct
Payton Westpfahl	13-Oct	Missy Weber	29-Oct

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2024

NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					01	
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
<b>All Saints Sunday</b> 8:30am Worship & Communion 6-7pm WW Christmas & Bell Practice			<b>Confirmation Class</b> 6pm ALC	<b>Womens Bible Study</b> 9am		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>25th Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:30am Worship & Communion	6:30pm Council Meeting		<b>Confirmation Class</b> 6pm ZION			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<b>26th Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:30am Praise Worship & Communion 6-7pm WW Christmas & Bell Practice		<b>Prayer Shawl</b> 10am	<b>Confirmation Class</b> 6pm ALC			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<b>Christ the King Sunday</b> 8:30am Worship & Communion			<b>No Confirmation</b> <b>Thanksgiving Break</b>			



Remember to turn your clock back an hour November 3rd @ 12 am

## Prayers & CONCERNS

If you wish to be added to the prayer chain either as someone needing prayers or want to join the Prayer Warriors as ALC, please: Contact Kaye kayejns@gmail.com or the office secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org with any prayer concerns.

Continue your prayers for Stephany Winkelpleck, Marie Bushkofsky and Emilia Dahl.

### Deacon Assignments for November

- 3rd Maureen Even
- 10th Christy Phillips
- 17th Maureen Even
- 24th Cindy Gosse

