



# The Messenger

The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

October  
2024

October is an important month for Lutherans. October 31<sup>st</sup> is more than just Halloween. It is Reformation Day which we will celebrate on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at St. John's Lutheran Church with our two sister ELCA churches in Salina. Reformation Day celebrates the day Martin Luther nailed the 95 theses on the church door marking the beginning of Protestantism. We celebrate more than that single event. We celebrate the Good News that we are saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

We all know the story of the 95 theses (although we might not remember the theses themselves.) But are we as familiar with another foundational element of our faith, the Five Solas? They are a summary of the core beliefs of Lutherans and other Protestants. So, as we approach another anniversary of the Reformation, let's take this opportunity to review the *Five Solas*.

**Sola Scriptura** means that *Scripture Alone* is the foundation of our faith. Scripture comes first and is more important than traditions, creeds, and teachings. Luther says theology must be scripturally grounded. This doesn't mean that scripture is the only place where God's truth may be found, but it does mean everything else must be checked against scripture. We accept the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God and our authoritative source and norm.

"For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope." Romans 15:4

**Sola Fide** means that *Faith Alone* saves, apart from works. We are by nature, sinful. We cannot come to faith by ourselves. God, who is gracious and merciful, gives us new hearts so that we can trust in Christ and be saved through faith alone.

**Sola Gratia** means that salvation is by God's *Grace Alone*. God credits us with the righteousness of Jesus Christ and places the consequences of our sins on Him. It is only because, in God's grace, we have been covered with Christ's perfection that we are able to stand before God.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God." Ephesians 2:8

**Solus Christus** means that salvation is through *Christ Alone* and His work. Theology must be Christ focused. Because God graciously chose to reveal Himself in Jesus Christ, we are able to know the saving power of God.

"For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross." Colossians 1:19-20

**Soli Deo Gloria** means that the *Glory* for salvation goes to *God Alone*. Our teachings must be God-dominated. Glory belongs to God alone. God's glory is the main reason for salvation. Fortunately for us, our lives are better for it. But God is not a means to an end—He is the means and the end. The goal of our lives, the goal of all creation, should be to give glory to God alone.

"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31

Word Alone, Faith Alone, Grace Alone, Christ Alone, God's Glory Alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Pastor Jacque*

*Welcoming All. Growing Together in Faith. Sharing Christ & Love*



## Thank you...

... to everyone who donated items and/or helped assemble the **100** Lutheran World Relief School Kits that were created on September 15!

## Mutual Ministry Committee

One of the duties of the Committee is to formulate recommendations that are forwarded to the Executive Team for the Pastor's annual evaluation. The Finance Ministry Team makes recommendations on the Compensation and Benefits while the Mutual Ministry Team makes recommendations on the expectations of the Pastor and Congregation. For this year, it is expected that the congregation will encourage and support this pastor's ministry in the following ways:

- (a) Commit to praying for her service among us.
- (b) Actively encourage members to use their gifts for the ministry of the church.
- (c) Strive to attend church regularly.
- (d) Strive to support the church financially as able.
- (e) Support & encourage one another

As we prepare our recommendations for 2025, we will add to (c) "& volunteer to assist with worship." Please consider how you might live more fully into your responsibilities as a member of our Immanuel family. Feel free to contact any of the committee members with your comments and suggestions: Eugene Tillberg, Karla Arpin, Randy Olson, Kathy Oehmke, Shane Herron, and Connie Beisner.

### Do you have an article for the Messenger?

Please send information to [office@immanuelsalina.org](mailto:office@immanuelsalina.org)  
Deadline for the newsletter is the 15th of the month.

### CONTACT US:

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Church office.....(785) 825-4750  
Jacqueline Thornton, Pastor.....[pastorjacque@immanuelsalina.org](mailto:pastorjacque@immanuelsalina.org)  
Mindy Tillberg, Deacon.....[office@immanuelsalina.org](mailto:office@immanuelsalina.org)  
Church office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-12:30 pm.

## Financials through August 31, 2024

Year-to-Date Offerings Actual - \$105,738  
Year-to-Date Offerings Budget - \$121,814  
Average Actual Weekly Offering - \$3,110  
Average Weekly Budget - \$3,583

## Congregation Council Action from August 2024:

Approved recommendation to create a task force to handle a capital campaign for exterior repairs restoration/renovations.



## Altar Flowers

There are many Sundays available to sponsor altar flowers! Please check the flower chart in the narthex.

The '**Luther Rose**' has become a symbol of the Lutheran Church, familiar to Lutherans throughout the world. It was designed in 1516 by Martin Luther, who said that it set forth the basic elements of Christian theology.

In 1530 he described the rose to a friend. He said that the black cross on a red heart reminds us that the crucified Christ saves us. The cross humiliates us and causes us pain, but also brings us righteousness and life when, in our hearts, we believe in the crucified Saviour. The heart is in the centre of a white rose, to show that faith brings joy, comfort, blessedness and peace beyond that of the world. The background of the rose is sky blue to show that this joy in the Spirit and in faith is the beginning of the heavenly joy to come. It is surrounded by a golden ring, to signify that the bliss of heaven is endless and lasts forever, and is more precious than all other joys and treasures.



In a version of the rose carved in stone, Luther had the word 'Vivit' (He lives!) inscribed around the symbol.

The two chief things are faith and love.  
Faith receives the good; love gives the good.  
Faith offers us God as our own;  
love gives us to our neighbor as his own.  
~ Martin Luther



**Wednesday,  
October 2**  
**5:30-7:00 pm**  
**5:30 pm Dinner**  
**6:00 pm Messy activities**

All ages are invited to get messy together through games, crafts, activities, and Biblical storytelling.

### **Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Urals, Siberia and the Far East Sunday, October 6**

At the 2024 Central States Synod Assembly, October 6 was designated as the Sunday to remember, lift up and celebrate our companion church relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Urals, Siberia and Far East (ELCUSFE) with a special focus on the Far Eastern Deanery. This date was chosen because the first Sunday in October is widely observed by the churches in Russia as a harvest Sunday when they give thanks and celebrate the completion of the fall harvest.

Recently, Rev. Jon Brudvig (Salem in Lenexa, KS) and Rev. David Whetter (synod office) traveled to Serbia for a consultation with our Russian companion synod. While it is not wise for Americans to travel in Russia, it is possible for some Russians to travel outside of Russia. Therefore, Pastor Jon and Pastor David met with representatives of our companion synod in Russia even though the meetings will take place in Serbia. We look forward to hearing about their travels and continue to pray for the Lutheran church in far east Russia.



### **Bethany College Sunday October 13**

At the 2024 Central States Synod Assembly, October 13 was designated as the Bethany College Sunday. On this day we recognize and encourage our youth to consider attending a Lutheran institution of higher learning such as Bethany College which may enhance the future of the ELCA.

Established October 15, 1881, Bethany College is an institution of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Central States Synod. The mission of Bethany College is to educate, develop, and challenge individuals to reach for truth and excellence as they lead lives of faith, learning, and service.

Pastor Jacque will attend a First Call meeting and the Central States Synod Fall Theological Conference October 14-17 in Kansas City. Mindy will also be attending the Fall Theological Conference as well. Thank you to Carol Ann Sloo for covering the church office while Pastor and Mindy are gone.



### **Altar Guild**

Wednesday, October 16 at 5:15 pm.



### **Monday, October 21 at 1:30pm**

Please join us as we decide the Bible study materials for this coming year!

### **3rd Grade Bible Presentation**

On Sunday, October 20 our 3rd grade students are scheduled to receive Bibles. If you have a 3rd grader, please contact the church office so we may plan accordingly!



### **LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF**

The 2024 Lutheran World Relief Ingathering is **Thursday, October 24** from 9:00 am-Noon at St John's Lutheran Church. A volunteer is needed to help Bob take the personal care kits and school kits that we have assembled to St John's. Must be able to lift a 40 pound box. Please let Bob or the church office know if you can help.

### **Reformation Sunday Joint Worship at St. John's October 27 at 9:30 am**

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Wittenberg church, thus launching the Protestant Reformation.

On October 27 at 9:30 am we will gather with our friends from St. John's and Redeemer for a joint worship service at St. John's. Don't forget to wear **RED**!



## OCTOBER Worship Volunteers as of 09/19/2024

	October 6	October 13	October 20	October 27
<b>Greeter</b>				<div style="text-align: center;"> Joint Reformation Worship At St. John's </div>
<b>Usher</b>				
<b>iPad</b>				
<b>Acolyte</b>				
<b>Cantor</b>	Henry Diehl		Henry Diehl	
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Henry Diehl		Henry Diehl	
<b>Lector</b>	Kathy Yosai	Kathy Herron	Kathy Herron	
<b>Children's Sermon</b>		Liz Diehl		
<b>Communion Assistant</b>				
<b>Altar Guild Communion Care</b>	Carol Ann Sloo	Janet Ireton	Corlene Lange	
<b>Fellowship Hosts</b>	Yosai/Milleson			

## NOVEMBER Worship Volunteers as of 09/19/2024

	November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24
<b>Greeter</b>				
<b>Usher</b>				
<b>iPad</b>				
<b>Acolyte</b>				
<b>Cantor</b>				
<b>Assisting Minister</b>				
<b>Lector</b>				
<b>Children's Sermon</b>				
<b>Communion Assistant</b>				
<b>Altar Guild Communion Care</b>	Kathy Herron	Kathy H. & Diana L.	Monica Davis	
<b>Fellowship Hosts</b>				