

TRINITY'S LINK

Trinity Lutheran Church
Russellville, Missouri

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Luther and the Bible



Reformation Day is celebrated by many Protestant churches on October 31. It commemorates the Reformation and honors leaders such as Martin Luther, whose courage and conviction helped shape church history.

Luther's life was threatened because he spoke out against practices he believed did not reflect the true mission of the Church. Forced into hiding, he found refuge at Wartburg Castle as the guest of the ruler of Saxony.

While there, Luther took on an enormous task: translating the Bible from the original languages into German. This was no simple project. At the time, Germany was made up of many regional dialects, making communication difficult from one area to another.

Luther wanted ordinary people to clearly understand God's Word. To make sure his translation used everyday language, he is said to have listened carefully to common speech, even consulting the castle's butcher for familiar expressions and wording. Luther's translation became a tremendous gift to the German people. Not only did it place Scripture into the hands of everyday readers, but the language he used also helped unify the many German dialects. In that sense, Martin Luther is often considered one of the fathers of the modern German language.

Church Council Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2026

Members present: Ken Bishop, Sheila Thomas, Roger Jungmeyer, Jennifer Dampf, and Travis Koestner.

The meeting began at 6:20 pm.

Roger Jungmeyer called the meeting to order.

The Council reviewed the August meeting minutes. A motion was made to approve the August minutes by Ken Bishop; second by Sheila Thomas, motion carried.

The Council reviewed the August financial reports. Ken Bishop made a motion to approve the financial reports as presented, second by Sheila Thomas, motion carried.

Budget and Finance- Jennifer Dampf

- Jennifer reported on the church's finances and all bills are paid.

Parish Education Committee- Jennifer Dampf

- Sunday School has started.

Evangelism- Sheila Thomas

- God's Work Our Hands is September 27th.

Music and Worship- Ken Bishop

- Song sheets were handed out to the council, songs have been selected for October and November.

Property- Jerome Rockelman

- A list for work day items is being compiled.

Vitality Committee- Travis Koesnter

- Discussion on getting members back to Trinity.

Old Business:

- Discussion on the light at the pavilion as its not a dusk to dawn light but it's a motion light.

New Business:

- Discussion about getting candles for Christmas Eve service, Ken Bishop made a motion to purchase 250 flameless candles, Jennifer Dampf seconded, motion carried
- Request from Daisy Scouts to use the parish hall on the 3rd Monday starting September 23rd . Jennifer Dampf made a motion to allow the Daisy Scouts to use the hall and Sheila Thomas seconded the motion, motion carried.
- Roger Jungmeyer will check with Pastor Caroline about having a Stewardship Sunday.
- Council discussed several options for the church office..... Sheila Thomas made a motion to complete the parsonage/garage cleanout October 11, and finalize the office location by October 13th, seconded by Ken Bishop. Motion carried
- Council discussed extending a covenant to Pastor Caroline, after discussion Ken Bishop made a motion to extend a covenant, Jennifer Dampf seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Zach Haslag family requested that their membership be transferred to St. Martins Catholic Church, Ken Bishop made a motion to approve the transfer request, Jennifer Dampf seconded. Motion carried.

The next Council Meeting will be October 13 ,2026 at 6:00pm. A motion was made by Jennifer Dampf to adjourn the meeting; second by Sheila Thomas, motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:45 pm.

Respectively submitted: Ken Bishop

Secretary _____ President _____

Food Bank

For the second month in a row, the Food Bank visit to Trinity's parking lot scheduled for September 8 was again cancelled because of the extreme heat forecast for the day. The October Food Bank visit to Trinity will be on Tuesday, October 13, 1-3 PM.

Congratulations

Clayton Harrison and Kami Wymore were married on August 29 at Capital Bluffs Event Center with Pastor Viles conducting the marriage ceremony. Please keep Clayton and Kami in prayer as they begin a new chapter in their lives. Best wishes!

Prayer Chain Requests

Do you have a spiritual, physical, or mental prayer request? Trinity's Prayer Chain is here to support you. To begin a prayer request or to be added to the prayer chain to receive text messages or phone calls, please contact Kathy Koestner (573-690-0956) or Connie Harrison (573-680-9465). We invite you to stay connected as we support one another through prayer.

Pie Making Countdown

Pie Countdown Is On! This year we're making 1,500 pies, and we need your help with **orders, donations, and pie-making!** Please share the QR code (below) with family, friends, and coworkers, it's the easiest way to order. Paper order forms are also available at the back of the church. We still need **more pie orders**, together we can make it happen!

Donations are needed and may be placed in the Hall kitchen or refrigerator.

- Blue Bonnet margarine (1 lb/4-stick packages): **90 needed**
- Salt (1 lb packages): **12 needed**
- Flour (any kind, 4 lb bags): **20 needed**
- **60 banana boxes** are also needed for storing fresh apple

We will have a children's activity table during assembly days. We are looking for play dough tools or child-friendly cooking items. Feel free to bring items and take them home afterward.

Volunteers are still needed for the following assembly times.

- **Saturday, Oct. 10 / 8:30 AM-1:00 PM:** 5 volunteers needed
- **Wednesday, Oct. 14 / 3:30 PM-7:30 PM:** 15 volunteers needed
- **Saturday, Oct. 17 / 8:30 AM-1:00 PM:** 23 volunteers needed

This fundraiser would not be possible without our fun church family working together!



October Baptismal Birthdays

2–Evan Miles	13–Debbie Brandt	23–Gladys Moll
5–Renee Daniel	13–Karsyn Ann Keck	24–Bernadine Tambke
5–Halie Payne	14–Jim Meili	28–Ryan Rutledge
10–Cynthia Kleese	18–Dan Linhardt	30–Della Ott
10–Shamar Heywood	19–Tammy Goldammer	
11–Kolt Weber	20–Rhonda Watts	

October Birthdays

2–Nancy Bishop	13–Annabel Mason	25–Kirby Branch
6–Rhonda Watts	13–Sherri Wilbers	25–Bernadine Tambke
9–Amy Edwards	19–Larissa Mehmert	26–Gregory Ott
9–Della Ott	20–Lisa Westergaard	28–Ryan Ortvals
10–Malinda Penberthy	22–Dana Frisby	28–Beth Strobel
11–Judy Lewis	22–Kayne Kirchner	

***This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.***

Psalm 118:24

A Letter from Christ

Paul the Apostle gave a beautiful compliment to the believers in Corinth. He wrote:

“And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts” (2 Corinthians 3:3, ESV).

What a meaningful picture. A letter carries a message, and Paul reminded the church that their lives were sharing the message of Christ with others.

The same is true for us today. Through our words, actions and faith, people can see evidence of God at work in our hearts. None of us is perfect, but living faithfully can point others toward Him.

What a wonderful goal for every Christian: to be known as “a letter from Christ.”

Worship Servers for October

	October 4 Outdoor	October 11 Indoor	October 18 Indoor	October 25 Indoor
Council Member	Ken Bishop Becky Hayden	Travis Koestner	Sheila Thomas	Jerome Rockelman
Greeter	Michael & Jessica Keeran Family	Cody & Brooke Koestner Family	Kent & Cheyenne Shikles Family	Ryan & Kim Otto Family & Christine & Abel Clark Family
Acolyte		Brooklyn Wood	Acolyte Volunteer	Jocie Mertens
Lay Reader	Addie Cole	Adalyn Wood	Anna Wise	Lee Henry Penberthy
Children's Sermon	Connie Harrison	Jennifer Dampf	Becky Hayden	Tami Kirchner
Offering Assistants	Michael & Jessica Keeran Family	Cody & Brooke Koestner Family	Kent & Cheyenne Shikles Family	Ryan & Kim Otto Family & Christine & Abel Clark Family
Communion Assistant	Mollie Keck	Christina Wood	Anna Wise	Tami Kirchner
Video	Jack Hayden	Kathy Koestner & Denise Ortals	Jack Hayden	Jack Hayden
Piano	Judy Crocker	Judy Crocker	Judy Crocker	Becky Hayden

Seeds of Victory

Months before the U.S. victory at the World War II Battle of Midway, important work was happening far from the ocean. Code analysts were quietly studying Japanese messages, using early tools that came long before the computers we know today. Their careful work helped crack a code and gave American forces the warning they needed to avoid an ambush.

It makes you wonder what those long days felt like. Did the analysts ever grow tired of searching for answers? Did they wonder whether their efforts mattered? Did they feel discouraged when the breakthrough had not yet come?

We can understand that feeling. Christians sometimes grow weary, too. We wonder whether teaching children about Jesus is making a difference. We wonder whether small acts of kindness, quiet prayers or faithful service will ever bear fruit. We see sin, sorrow and brokenness around us and wonder how victory will come.

But God sees what we cannot. No faithful work done for him is wasted. The Spirit who helps us plant seeds of truth and love is also able to bring the harvest. And because of Christ, the final victory is already secure.

October 2026 Calendar

C = Church, **P/H** = Parish Hall, **P** = Pavilion, **P/O** = Parish Office, **P/L** = Parking Lot

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
October 5-24 - Parish Hall reserved for WELCA Pie Making				1 P/H-5:45 PM- Young Women's Bible Study P/H-6:30 PM- Men's Bible Study	2	3
4 P/H-8:15-8:55 AM Sunday School P-9 AM- Outdoor Worship Hall Reserved	5	6 P/H-5 PM- Yoga P/H-5:30 PM- Music & Worship	7	8	9	10
11 P/H-9:15-9:55 AM Sunday School C-10:00 AM- Indoor Worship	12	13 P/L-1-3 PM- Food Bank P/H-5 PM- Yoga P/H-6 PM Church Council	14 P/H 6:30 PM- Fire Dept	15 P/H-5:45 PM- Young Women's Bible Study	16	17
18 P/H-8:15-8:55AM Sunday School C-9:00 AM- Indoor Worship	19	20 P/H-5 PM- Yoga Newsletter Article Deadline	21	22 P/H-5:45 PM- Young Women's Bible Study	23	24
25 P/H-8:15-8:55AM Sunday School C-9:00 AM- Indoor Worship Reformation Sunday	26	27 P/H -5 PM- Yoga	28	29	30	31 Reformation Day Halloween

Reformation Sunday: Standing Firm in Faith

Reformation Sunday reminds us of the enduring gift of God's Word and the truth that we are saved by grace through faith. May we remain rooted in Scripture, grateful for those who have carried the faith before us and committed to sharing the good news with future generations.