



Grace Notes

September 27 2026

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**HONORING HISPANIC
HERITAGE MONTH**

living
lutheran

Sept 15 - Oct 15

Feliz Mes de las Herencia Hispana
Happy Hispanic Heritage Month

Did you know?

The ELCA has roughly 150 Latino ministries in the USA. "The people they serve often use Spanish as their primary language and were born in or trace their heritage to Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean." (livinglutheran.org).

"Latine' ministries of the ELCA affirm that we are a part of the larger community of saints – Christ's church. The church...includes people of all nations and all languages."

May each one of us work toward the unity of all members of the ELCA - respecting rich cultural traditions and utilizing each person's unique skills and perspectives for the well-being of one another and Creation.



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Every Child Matters

Save Our Date



A walk to build awareness
and to educate ourselves,
to remember the children
of Indian Boarding Schools,
and to begin the process of
finding truth and healing.
Come learn about the school
that operated in Milwaukee
from 1877 until 1978.

OCT 3

2026 MKE
EVERY CHILD MATTERS WALK

Join us for the Walk of Awareness—a Call To Action to confront the painful legacy of the Milwaukee Indian Boarding School, which operated for 101 years in Milwaukee, WI. This is more than a walk—it is a movement to uncover the truths about the forced assimilation, cultural erasure, and generational trauma endured by our ancestors. We honor the past generations of boarding school students with awareness, strength and resilience.

If you don't know your family boarding school story, this event will help make what happened in Milwaukee a story we all inherit.

Our journey begins at 6:45 a.m. with a Sunrise Ceremony, followed by a Water Ceremony, as we set our intentions for healing, truth-telling & reconciliation. We are asking for our runners to cover the initial 6 miles, relay-style. The pace will be between 8:30 and 10 minutes a mile. When runners arrive at our rendezvous point, we will walk the rest of the way, 7 miles relay style, along sidewalks & roadways, carrying the Eagle Staff and the Every Child Matters flag.

Walkers are expected to arrive at Indian Community School by 11:30am. If you're unable to join the full walk, we encourage you to meet us at the school as community greets the runners and walkers - after the light meal we will have informational programming and afterwards, a lacrosse game to bring people together.

Indian Community School
10405 W St Martins Rd, Franklin, WI 53132-2421

September 27 to October 4

Sun Sept 27	9:30am Worship Service <u>Zoom ID: 841 6597 2335</u> <u>Passcode: 12012</u> <i>Season of Creation Liturgy Continues</i> 10:40am Faith Forum Hour
Mon Sept 28	7:00pm Book Club 7:00pm NA 12 Step Group Fellowship Hall
Tues Sept 29	Noon AA 12 Steps Meeting Upper Room 6:30pm Hands of AA 12-Step Upper Room
Wed Sept 30	<i>Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools</i> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bible Study 1:00pm Prayer Warriors 1:00pm Tosa Cares Donation Drop-Off 6:30pm Voices of Zion Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Festival Bells Handbell Rehearsal
Thurs Oct 1	3:45pm Staff Meeting
Friday Oct 2	12:00pm Mayfair AA Group 6:00pm ACA 12 Step Group Room 100
Sat Oct 3	9:00am Women of Heart Bible Study
Sun Oct 4	9:30am Worship Service <i>Pet blessing</i> 10:40am Faith Formation Hour
Next Week	Pride Worship Service

Creator in Creation?

Where have you seen God in Creation?

You are invited to share a short testimony of a time you've seen or experienced God in creation.

Like a conversation with friends at lunch, the stories do not have to be rehearsed; they simply come from the heart. Who will share their story this week?

Volunteers for September 27

A/V: Lilly Snow and Abby Sumiec

Acolyte: Arlo Johnston

Altar Care: Susan Kenny and Edi Di Giacinto

Assisting Minister: Jenny Hawes

Communion Bread: Liz Anderson

Communion Wine: Erik Peterson, Gwen Anderson, Jenny H.

Greeter: Carl and Karen Engelhardt

Lector: Liz A.

Teller: Ellyn Steinke, Carl and Karen Engelhardt

Usher: Kurt and Debbie Kleppek

HEAR OUR PRAYERS

Join in and lift up our community's prayers of concern and thanksgiving. Prayer warriors meet Wednesdays at 1:00pm. Or you can pray at home as you're able:

<https://bit.ly/4j0emzo>

Need Prayer? Contact Pastor Tyler

414-258-0456

pastor@mtzionlutheran.org

Fill out a card in church or at the prayer box

Submit a request online: [mtzionlutheran.org](https://bit.ly/4j0emzo)

Pet Blessing

**COME,
ALL WHO
ARE THIRSTY!**



**PET
BLESSING
OCT 4**

IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.

**ANIMALS NEED TO BE ON A LEASH
OR IN A CARRIER.**

**IF YOU CANNOT BRING YOUR PET,
BRING A PHOTO OF THEM!**



Stolen Stories

How do Palestinian Christians tell their story?

In “Stolen Stories,” a five-part educational video series by ELCA Sumud, Palestinian Christians recount their historical narrative from pre-1948 to the present day. This series highlights the important perspectives of our Palestinian siblings in Christ and lifts up the lived experiences of Palestinians — especially the Indigenous Christians of Palestine and Israel — in their own words.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=klqK487TYnE&list=PLNDmVwhz-M36yL2radQv-OI6p_b5ZnA-Y

Some notable quotes from Episode 4 – Daily Life

“I always say, the moment this wall was built, ignorance was built as well. Why? Because no interaction. And the moment ignorance grows, hatred grows, distance grows and there will be more fear of one another.” - Rev. Ashraf Tannous, Pastor ELCJHL

“Part of the segregation system is IDs. For example, I was born in Gaza. I lived in the West Bank. But when I moved from Gaza to the West Bank, from one part of the Palestinian territory to another part of the Palestinian territory, changing my home address needed Israeli approval. And I was blessed to have it within five years.” - Dr. Yousef Khoury, Academic Dean, Bethlehem Bible College

“When people speak about the expansion of Israel, they forget that this expansion is on the account of villagers, of Palestinians, of people who are losing country, lands homes, and being silently expelled out of their homes.” Dr. Imad Haddad, Bishop ELCJHL

“They squeezed us in through the wall and the settlements. And now, for the first time in history Bethlehem and Jerusalem are separated....we used to go shop in Jerusalem. Take one bus, 15 minutes, do all our shopping in Jerusalem, let alone pray in Jerusalem. And now, that’s not even a possibility. That tells you everything you need to know about how much this wall is impacting the psyche of Palestinians.” Rev. Dr. Munther Isaac, Pastor ELCJHL

Action Alert!



On June 2, 2026, Natalie Abudayyeh, a 21-year-old Lutheran young adult of the Church of the Reformation congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL), was abducted from her university housing at gunpoint by Israeli forces alongside three of her classmates.

To date, Abudayyeh has not been charged with any offenses. It is not known why Abudayyeh was abducted or continues to be held in Israeli detention, and no information has been shared with her lawyer, her family or her church. Abudayyeh's family and pastor have all been denied access to see her, and her lawyer has only been able to speak to her through a video chat.

From ELCA Sumud:

We ask for continued prayers and advocacy for Natalie. Please use our ELCA Advocacy Action Alert here to advocate for her release.

From ELCJHL:

Many of you have been following the case of Natalie Abudayyeh, the ELCJHL youth and Birzeit University student who was abducted and detained by Israeli forces in June. Natalie appeared in court today, but unfortunately the decision regarding her release was once again postponed to the 20th of October. We are incredibly frustrated and distressed that Natalie will spend another month in prison, and we pray without ceasing for her safety and freedom.

Please keep Natalie, her family, and the church in your prayers, and please continue to raise your voices to your church networks and elected officials to advocate for Natalie's immediate release. We will share more updates as we have them.

Take action here: <https://act.elca.org/page/100411/action/1>

Farewell and God be With You

Join us for a Special Reformation Sunday on October 25.

We will be having a heartfelt send-off blessing for Tom and Linda Ertel as they prepare to move to Oregon. Stay after worship for a community-wide social with Linda and Tom celebrating all the life-changing and laughter-giving ministries they have provided.



God's Work. Our Hands!



Thank you to everyone who helped out during the God's Work. Our Hands. Day of service! We had a fantastic turnout and the food was delicious!

And the gift baskets are so cute!



Pizza Fundraiser



Help support the girls and their cheerleading goals while enjoying some DELICIOUS, fresh homemade pizza!

We're selling freshly made pizzas that are perfect for an easy dinner, family night, or even stocking the freezer!

Thank you so much for supporting our girls and cheering them on every step of the way!

Contact Angela Riccaboni for more information and to order!

Steve's Science Tidbits

The Looming End-Of-Summer Depression

It's that time of year when many of us are experiencing the end of a good thing—namely, carefree summer days. The end of August signals the end to relaxed vacation routines and a return to school and/or heavier work schedules. In addition, days are getting shorter and temperatures are dropping. And we can't help but feel a little sad.

The end-of-summer blues are less intense for me now that I'm retired, but there are still other environmental cues that add to the feeling. Sadly, we are in the process of losing our hummingbird population.



Every spring—usually in May—we set out our hummingbird feeder and wait for the birds to arrive after a long migration from Mexico and South America. The only species that frequents Wisconsin is the ruby-throated hummingbird. It arrives in the spring and soon begins raising a family. They are high energy birds that require a lot of fuel, and our sugar water feeder provides a critical energy source.

Our feeder sits in our back yard about six feet from our kitchen window. They're so fun to watch that every time we see one, we shout out "hummer!" We've generally had good luck each summer attracting them, but this year has been spectacular. It's difficult to know how many families we have close by, because there is rarely more than one at our feeder at any time; nevertheless, the activity has been high.

But now that summer is ending, it is time for the hummers to begin their long southern migration. The adult males (the only ones with the iridescent red throat patch) are the first to leave. This happens when shorter days trigger hormonal changes that tell them it's time to go. In addition, declining numbers of blooming flowers, nectar sources, and insects signal that local resources are running low. About one week later, the adult females depart. We haven't seen either of these adults for 1-2 weeks.

Interestingly, the adults leave the juveniles behind to grow and build up their energy stores to enable them to migrate as well. We now have juveniles chasing each other around the yard, visiting the feeder and finding nectar on our weigela, rose of Sharon and bee balm shrubs. For the first time, we've seen more than one at the feeder at the same time. Alas, soon they will be gone as well.

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

Karen E. 9/26
Francesca R. 9/27
Joey S. 9/28
Pete P. 9/28
Jonathan F. 9/29
Mavis R. 9/30
Shae U. 10/1
Shauna J. 10/1
Joanne B. 10/2
Linda E. 10/2
Adam F. 10/3
Joey H. 10/4

Arlo J. 10/6
Chuck W. 10/8
Zach P. 10/8
Lexi G. 10/9
Brenda M. 10/10
Jason B. 10/11
Grace A. 10/12
Judy M. 10/13
Vivian T. 10/14
Shirley B. 10/15

Kristin W. 10/16
Amy F. 10/17
Carl E. 10/18
Ellie W. 10/19
Justin V. 10/20
Irene M. 10/21
Kent S. 10/21
Amanda C. 10/21
Elizabeth F. 10/22
Dorothy S. 10/23
Paul Z. 10/24

Anniversaries

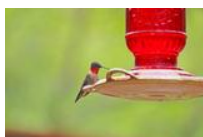
Jess and Brendan M. 10/9
Andy and Jen J. 10/13
Katie and Tony F. 10/22
Jeremy and Angella G. 10/24
Brian and Lori J. 10/26
Beth and Jonathan F. 10/30

Hummingbirds

I was surprised to learn that all hummingbird migrations are solitary, meaning no family groups. Before departing, they undergo a period of hyperphagia, basically a feeding frenzy, doubling their body weight by storing thick layers of energy-rich fat. They'll need it, especially those who fly 500 miles nonstop across the Gulf of Mexico.

Hummingbirds can identify individual humans, especially those who refill feeders. They also have amazing memories, remembering locations of food sources thousands of miles away, and are known to return to the same back yards. We hope they remember us!

Steve Downs



At Mt Zion we are
Joyfully growing disciples in Christ
 so that
Everyone we meet comes to know themselves as a
reflection of
God's image, worthy of life and love
 by prioritizing
Faith **Community**
Hospitality **Justice**

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Church Office Hours

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