



REFORMATION

SUNDAY

REFORMATION

Living Hope Lutheran October 26, 2025

LIVING HOPE LUTHERAN

A Congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

3100 East Calumet Street • Appleton, Wisconsin •

appletonlutheran.com



Confirmation. . . .12:45pm

Divine Worship. . . 2pm

Voter's Meeting . . . 3pm

Andrew A. Schaller, Vacancy Pastor

Cell: (605) 880-7886

REFORMATION

August 24, 2025

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP:

PSALM: 48 (TLH Pg. 134);

PRAYERS: 71 (Pg. 109); **32** (Pg. 105).

HYMNS: WS 798 LSB 656 LSB 647

OPENING PRAYER

OPENING HYMN: 798 - *"God, We Praise You"*

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Dear Friends in Christ. Let us come to God with an honest heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him to forgive our sins because of the life, death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Congregation: Who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: I said, "I will confess my rebellion to the LORD,

Congregation: and you forgive the guilt of my sin."

P: Almighty God, you are our maker and our redeemer. We fallen sinners confess that we are sinful by birth and have sinned against you in thought, word and action. We come to you for deliverance and in view of your mercy, we seek and humbly ask your undeserved love because of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Merciful God, you have given your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy on us and for Jesus' sake grant us the forgiveness of all our sins; and by your Holy Spirit, help us to grow in faith and love and in true obedience to Your Word, so that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us. It is for Jesus' sake that the Father forgives us all our sins. He also promises that those who believe on Jesus' name are the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. It is written: He that believes and is baptized shall be saved." Lord, grant this faith to all of us.

C: "Amen."

OT LESSON:

JEREMIAH 31:31-34

³¹ "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³² not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. ³³ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more." *

EPISTLE LESSON:

GALATIANS 5:1-6

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. ² Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. ³ I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. ⁴ You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. ⁵ For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.

⁶ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love. *

GOSPEL LESSON:

JOHN 8:31-36

³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³ They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

♪ **Preserve Your Word, O Savior, To us this latter day, And let Your kingdom flourish; Enlarge Your Church, we pray. O keep our faith from failing; keep hope's bright star aglow. Let nothing from truth turn us While living here below.**

♪ **Preserve Your Word and preaching, The truth that makes us whole, The mirror of Your glory, The pow'r that saves the soul. Oh, may this living water, This dew of heav'nly grace, Sustain us while here living Until we see Your face.**

CONFESSION OF FAITH:

THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell, the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From there He will come to judge the living and the dead;

I believe in the Holy Spirit; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body, And the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN: LSB 656 - "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

GRACE ALONE:

ROMANS 3:22b-24

In fact, there is no difference, ²³because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God ²⁴and are justified freely **by his grace** through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

THE DECIDING FACTOR IS A QUALITY IN GOD

♪ By grace! None dare lay claim to merit; Our works and conduct have no worth. God in His love sent our Redeemer, Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth; His death did for our sins atone, And we are saved by grace alone.

♪ By grace! Oh, mark this word of promise When You are by Your sins opprest, When Satan plagues your troubled conscience, And when Your heart is seeking rest. What reason cannot comprehend God by His grace to you does send.

♪ By grace God's Son, our only Savior, Came down to earth to bear our sin. Was it because of your own merit That Jesus died your soul to win? No, it was grace, and grace alone, That brought Him from His heavenly throne.

FAITH ALONE:

ROMANS 3:28

²⁸For we conclude that a person is justified **by faith** without the works of the law.

FAITH'S OBJECT IS CHRIST

♪ The Law reveals the guilt of sin And makes us conscience-stricken; But then the Gospel enters in The sinful soul to quicken. Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live; The Law no peace can ever give, No comfort and no blessing.

♪ Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone And rests in Him unceasing; And by its fruits true faith is known, With love and hope increasing. For faith alone can justify, Works serve our neighbor and supply The proof that faith is living.

SCRIPTURE ALONE:

ISAIAH 8:19-20

¹⁹When they tell you, "Consult the mediums and the spiritists, who whisper and mutter," shouldn't a people consult their God? Should they consult the dead on behalf of the living? ²⁰To the law and to the testimony! If people do not speak according to this word, there will be no dawn for them.

ONE RELIABLE SOURCE OF TRUTH

♪ Preserve Your Word and preaching The truth that makes us whole, The mirror of Your glory, The power that saves the soul. Oh, may this living water, This dew of heavenly grace, Sustain us while here living Until we see Thy face!

♪ Preserve in wave and tempest Thy storm-tossed little flock; Assailed by wind and weather, May it endure each shock. Take Thou the helm, O Pilot, And set the course aright; Thus we shall reach the harbor In Thine eternal light.

THE OFFERINGS OF THANKFUL HEARTS

We express our thanksgiving for what the Savior Jesus has done for us by supporting His Work with our time, talents and gifts. Should you wish to leave a gift, there are offering plates in the rear of the sanctuary. As our gifts are brought forward to His Altar, we sing His Praise.

THE OFFERING HYMN

(LSB 655)

♪ Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son And bring to naught all He has done.

♪ Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are Lord of lords alone; Defend Your holy Church that we May sing Your praise eternally.

♪ O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth; Support us in our final strife and lead us out of death to life.

PRAYER(S) THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BENEDICTION: (Pastor) **CONGREGATION:** "Amen."

CLOSING HYMN: **LSB 647** *"Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head"*

Welcome to all of our guests and visitors this morning in Jesus' name. We are glad that you have come to worship with us and hope that you will return again. If you have any questions or are interested in learning more about the Scriptures, please either speak with the pastor on the way out.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 26, 2025

THIS AFTERNOON AFTER WORSHIP:

✓ Living Hope Voter's Meeting 3pm (No Bible Study)

THIS WEEK

Sunday: Confirmation 12:45am; Worship 2pm,
Bible Study/Sunday School 3pm.

HOLY COMMUNION

Living Hope's Council determined that Holy Communion would be offered on the 1st and 2nd Sunday of each month during the vacancy. If any member should desire private communion, they need only speak with Pastor Schaller who would be happy to provide it.

SOUTHEAST WOMEN'S RETREAT

The Southeast Women's Retreat will be February 13-15, 2026 at Camp Dogwood on Lake Norman in Sherrills Ford in North Carolina. Theme is Ephesians 4:3 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

THE EMOTIONS OF JESUS

Jesus was fully human and also fully God. He did things that only God could do to prove that He was God. He also exhibited his human nature from time to time. The Gospel writers (especially Mark) occasionally give us a glimpse into the emotions of the God-Man. This fall we will look at some of those glimpses.

<u>Emotion</u>	<u>Bible Passages</u>
Compassion	Mark 4:41, 6:34, 8:2, 10:16
Distress/Groan	Mark 7:34; 8:12, 14:33-34

MISSION BREAKFAST

The Luther Memorial Mission Committee has planned a Mission Breakfast for Saturday November 8th at 9am. Bring a breakfast item and stay for a Mission Presentation!

USED SMARTPHONES FOR AFRICA

Missionary Bruce Naumann is requesting donations of a certain kind of Android smartphone, for use by pastors and pastoral students in East Africa. If you have a used phone that was once on a Verizon plan and would like to donate it, please bring it to the church office. Verizon is preferred because it will work with African cell carriers, but most others will not. These phones are much appreciated by students and pastors in our sister African churches - thank you!

NOMINATIONS FOR ILC PRESIDENT:

The Board of Regents invites nominations for the office of President of Immanuel Lutheran College. The current term of Professor Daniel Schierenbeck concludes on June 30, 2026. All pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of member congregations of the CLC are entitled to nominate a man from the faculty of Immanuel Lutheran College to serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2026. Nominations are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight November 22, 2025 (letters postmarked November 12, 2025) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com

TWO HEART PROCEDURES

We are generally private people. We don't post on social media. We generally don't broadcast the things that are going on in our lives. As hard as it may be to believe, I have been a healthy person with no issues...until moving to Fond du Lac (Is there something in the water?). During my hospital stay back in April, it was discovered that I have a heart condition called Afib. My father has it and my mother had it at the end of her life. I'm having two procedures done in November. The ablation will hopefully correct the Afib and the insertion of a Watchman will remove the necessity for taking blood thinners the rest of my life. The procedures will be done on Monday November 10th. I expect to have to lay low for 3 days, but then be back to normal (as God wills it). Please keep me in your prayers.

CLC Financial Report - September 2025

Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2025	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 3 Months	Balance 9/30/2025
General Fund	0	246,992	316,981	316,275	(69,989)
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	518,455	404,568	443,760	113,887
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	99,143	8,970	30,499		77,614
ILC Building Projects	2,066,713	143,211	340		2,209,584
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	148,402	38,121	70,785		115,738
Kinship	169,472	40,673	44,038		166,107
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	2,503,796	167,131	227,543		2,443,384
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	101,689	77,536	68,909		110,316
EduK8 Fund	70,311	27,885	10,000		88,196
Reserve Fund	103,629	1,041	0		104,670
Auxiliary Funds Totals	\$5,263,155	\$504,568	\$452,114		\$5,315,609

General Fund – The fund shows a deficit of just under \$70,000 which is not quite as much as it was a year ago, due to an increase in contributions of almost \$20,000 over the same period last year.

ILC Operations – Revenues and disbursements are very similar to last year, resulting in a current balance of about \$114,000.

ILC Building Projects – The revenue consists of about \$70,000 in contributions and \$73,000 from increases in the market value of the investments in this fund.

Church Extension Fund – Year to date revenue consists of payments received of close to \$73,000 from congregations on the loans they owe the CLC, and about \$94,000 from increases in the market value of the investments. Disbursements include just over \$204,000 loaned so far to a congregation for some remodeling/asbestos work, with more coming in the next few months.

Other Auxiliary Funds – The activity in the other funds in the table above is similar to the activity in the same period a year ago.

Stephen R. Lentz, CLC Treasurer

Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees

2026 CLC MISSION HELPER TRIP

The CLC Mission Helper Program is making preparations for another Mission Trip to Africa for the summer of 2026. The main focus of this trip will be presenting the Gospel, through a series of child evangelism lessons, to member and non-member children in village congregations. Possible areas of evangelism include the CLC-Tanzania, CLC-Kenya, CLC-Zambia, and CLC-Uganda. CLC members are welcome and encouraged to apply. For more information and to apply, visit www.mht.lutheranmissions.org.

CLC CALL NEWS

Pastor David Pfeiffer has returned the call of Living Hope Lutheran in Appleton, WI. • Pastor Stefan Sonnenfeld has returned the call of Peace Through Christ in Middleton (Madison) WI. Peace Through Christ has now called Pastor Michael Gurath, who currently serves Holy Cross Lutheran in Phoenix AZ to serve as pastor. • Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd in Rapid City, SD has been called by Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church in Spokane, WA. • Pastor Em. Paul Tiefel Jr. has been called to serve as Vacancy Pastor at Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church in Spokane, WA. • Messiah Lutheran Church of Eau Claire, Wisconsin has called Pastor Matt Ude, who currently serves Faith Lutheran Church in Markesan, WI.

General Missions 2025

The Cooperative Budget Plan (CBP) is a pledge established to participate in the work of the Church of the Lutheran Confession. This fiscal year runs from July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.

Amount Pledged 2025	Received as of 9/30/25	Amount Remaining	Approximate per Sunday (39)
\$5,500.00	\$1,181.50	\$4,318.50	\$111.00

Living Hope General Budget 2025

*The Voters of Living Hope set the General Budget.
This fiscal year runs from January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025.*

General Budget	Received as of 9/30/25	Amount Remaining	Approximate Amount (11 Sundays)
\$95,419.00	\$60,638.59	\$34,780.41	\$3,162.00

* Scripture quotations are from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved." ** Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) © 2019 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

BIBLE READINGS - OCTOBER 27- NOVEMBER 1, 2025

Monday - Luke 15:11-24 The younger of two sons went to a far country and wasted his birthright. When he returns repentant, his father rejoices because he “was dead and is alive again. He was lost and is found” (v24).

Tuesday – Acts 28:16-31 Paul is under arrest in Rome, but speaks of Jesus to the leaders of the Jews there. Some were convinced, but others continued in unbelief. Nevertheless, Paul’s ministry continued for two years.

Wednesday - 1 Kings 19:4-18 Elijah is discouraged when opposition continues after the triumph on Mt. Carmel. God tells him there is more work for him to do, and he is definitely not the only believer left in the land.

Thursday – Deuteronomy 24:17-22 The LORD instructs Israel to make provision for the non-Israelites, the fatherless, and widows in the land, remembering that they were all once strangers in the land of Egypt.

Friday - John 2:3-17 This day Luther posted the 95 Theses to glorify Jesus Christ. After Jesus revealed his glory at the wedding of Cana, He went on to reform some of the current temple practices in Jerusalem.

Saturday - 2 Corinthians 3:12-18 When Moses received the law from God, his face glowed for a while. But there is a greater glory, and those who reflect the Lord’s glory (v18), revealed in the gospel, still shine!



These devotions are produced by Pastor/Professor Emeritus Paul Schaller and sent out on a weekly basis. Graphics in the bulletin are taken from Church Art Online via a regular legal subscription.