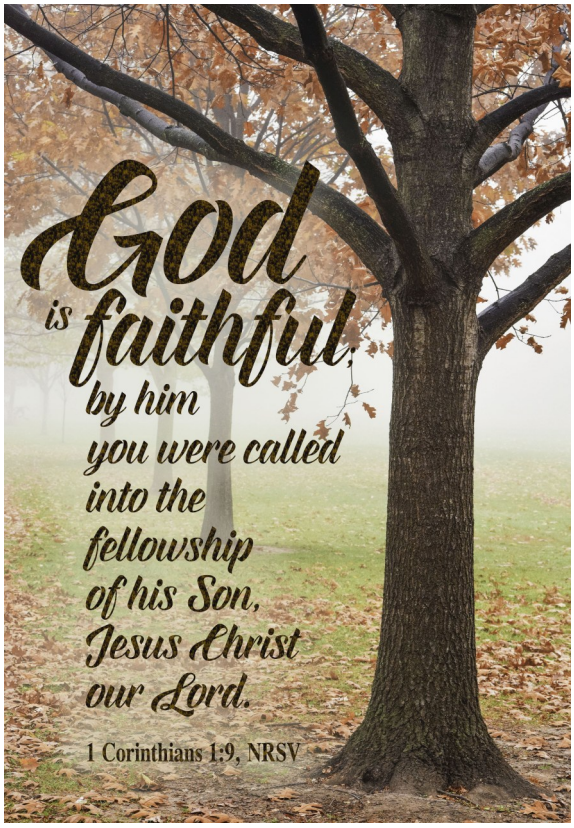
BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Volume 67 Issue 10

Celebrating 135 Years of Making Jesus Known

THE BETHEL NEWS

OCTOBER 2026



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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

10:30	Inside w/communion (and streamed on FaceBook)
9:30	Sunday School

OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON OCTOBER 12TH IN OBSERVANCE OF COLUMBUS DAY

Pastor's Page

From the Pastor

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ!

This is a continuation of a series by Pastor Dave Daubert that talks about the basics of the Lutheran faith using a stack of cards to explain it. I am going to go through these points each month in our newsletter:

The Ace-There is no way to God (Period) God comes to us. In other words, we are saved by grace alone.
The King: Jesus reveals God is love.
The Queen: Grace for us includes hope for others.
The Jack: Vocation of the baptized.
The Ten: Priesthood of all believers.
The Nine: Life is sacramental.
The Eighth: Worship is horizontal.
The Seven: Love the Bible without worshipping it.
The Six: perfection is not the point. We do not have to measure up to be loved. God has declared us righteous and we know this through faith. God's love is the one thing that makes us worthy.
The Five: Response is Freedom and Gratitude. The Reformation emphasis is always start with Christ's grace as a gift. God's grace we will produce good works. God frees us to do good works for our neighbors and this our response.
The Four: Faith Forms the Church(It's about people) *gathered around Word and Sacraments.

This month we are looking at The Three-We have an ecumenical heart. As Lutherans we center on grace and people of faith make the church and the church is where faithful people are. The church is too to be under one denomination and tradition though. Dave Daubert says, "While Lutheran Christians are part of the church, Lutherans do not have the corner on being the whole church." Jesus prayer that we all may be one is very important. The Lutherans confessional document "The Augsburg Confession" was meant to heal divisions in the church and find common ground among differences. The ELCA is very ecumenical and is in communion with the Episcopal Church, Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), The Moravian Church, The Reformed Church in America, and the United Methodist Church and in talks and works for the common good with all. A joint declaration on Justification was issued in partnership with the Roman Catholic Church in 1998 and Roman Catholic-Lutherans have prayed together and held celebrations of the Reformation. This is something that would have been unimaginable decades ago. I am a member of the Lutheran-Catholic Covenant Commission at the Neo Synod. The truth of the Reformation was not to divide the church but to reform the church. Sadly, the start of the Reformation caused a division and more divisions after that. However, the Reformation was to call us back to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Our Lord Jesus said in John 13:35: By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. This is how we Make Jesus Known.

In Christ alone,

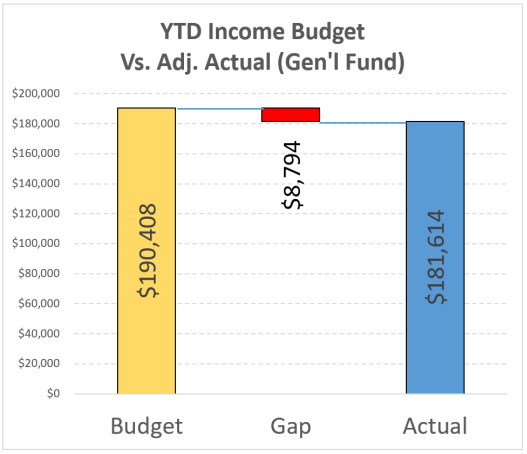
Pastor Richard Kidd

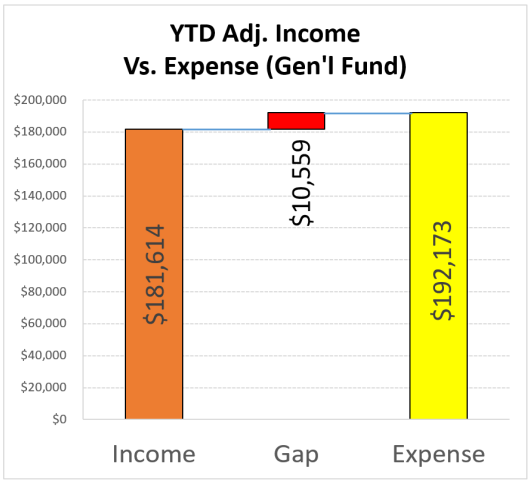
On Going Prayers including occasional homebound folks

Deanna Brannigan	Johnny Conti
Lynn Henry	Janet Phelps
Linda Martin	Sharon Chase
Cora Dixon	Janice John
Arlene McAtee	Alice Ogden
Ron Kinnick	Elva Evans
JJ LoSasso	Rick Swanson
Carl Dahlgren	Lori Richards
Nicole Gettman Wells	Justin Horn
Theresa Krazinski	Jen Seitz
Mary Ann Fees	Teddy Conway



October 25th from 5:00-7:00pm. $25.00 gift card for best decorated trunk; Best Costume award, pumpkin decorating, games, refreshments, face painting, and of course, candy! All are welcome to join us! A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for all vehicle decorators. Questions? See Beth Applegate or call her cell 330-696-4189.







Dear Members:

Contact for our **e-mail** for the **Prayer chain** is Nancy Kuivila. Her email is nkuivila41@gmail.com If you would like to be a part of the e-mail prayer chain, contact Nancy. ~Thank you Nancy!!~

We've all been waiting for it! It's time to reveal our Secret Sisters!

The Secret Sister luncheon will be on October 18th directly after worship.

NOTES TO THE CONGREGATION:

Sunday School

Begins October 4th

At 9:30am

For ages Pre-K through 12th grades

Please bring your children to Sunday School! We have a great year planned!

An adult SS class will begin in January 2027

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you have **Altar Flowers or a Candle**: Please pay when you reserve your flower date. Make checks payable to the church **$25.00** for flowers and $8.00 for a candle, and mail to the church or put in the offering plate.
If you have a date you want, let Susan know 330-360-4537
Thanks, Altar Flower Committee

2026 Church Council

President:	**Tom Peterson**
Vice President:	**Gary Wollet**
Secretary:	**Janie Morckel**
Christian Ed:	**Rhonda Klase**
Communications:	**Shelia Kidd**
Finance:	**Ed Rusinowski**
Parish Life:	**Candy Rusinowski**
Property:	**John Smiley**
Outreach:	**Karen Protzman**
Worship:	**Karen Marchese**

OUTREACH Ministry

Since Veterans Day is coming in November, Outreach is having a donation drive for the homeless. According to the Coalition of Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO), there has been a 14% increase from 2020 to 2025 of homeless veterans. Please consider the following for aid:

— Hygiene Kits: Toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, shaving cream, disposable razors, and wet wipes.
— Clothing & Warmth: New socks, underwear, gloves, winter hats, scarves, thermal blankets, and rain ponchos.
- Food & Hydration: Non-perishable, easy-open food items (protein bars, canned goods with pull tabs) and bottled water.
—Gear: Large, sturdy backpacks or drawstring bags to securely carry belongings.
Thank you for your generosity!
The Outreach Committee

If you can't be here in person, remember, Online Giving is a way to stay connected and up to date! Go to our web page www.bethelboardman.org you will find the Online Giving Link there. If you have any questions, please call Beth Applegate at the church.

All Council Committee Meetings: If you would like to attend a Committee Meeting, please contact the Chair person of that committee to find out when that committee meets. All committee members and associate members should attend monthly meetings.

Church Council Meeting on the 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. each month unless notified of changes. All council members should attend monthly meetings.

Mickey Schuster Meeting will be as meetings are scheduled.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



2 Alex Lee, Glenn Fabis
6 Becky Butcher
7 Arlene McAtee, Nora Lee Klase
9 Teddy Conway, , Teri Gear
10 Thomas Billock
14 Nancy Kuivila
16 Fred Noday, Jr.
18 Aidan Wittman, Brian Klase
20 Elaine Bader, James Gear
22 Jacob Morlan
23 Ron Kinnick
24 Elisabeth Lucas
27 Francesca Noday, Jacob Shood
31 Nick Rusinowski



9 Fred & Danielle Noday, Ben & Ashley Basista
14 Cliff & Karen Protzman

MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR OCTOBER IS YOUNGSTOWN COMMUNITY FOOD BANK
TOTAL GIVING FOR AUGUST MISSION (RESCUE MISSION) $755.00

PLEASE NOTE THE OCTOBER MISSION OF THE MONTH HAS CHANGED TO YOUNGSTOWN COMMUNITY FOOD BANK. You can use your current envelope. We will direct payment appropriately. Thank you!



Let the office know of any changes, corrections or additions, or if celebrating a "milestone" birthday or anniversary. Thank you!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Worship 10:30 with Communion	28	29	30	1	2	3
4 **Sunday School at 9:30** **Worship 10:30 with Communion**	5	6 **Grief Recovery Group 7:00pm**	7	8	9	10
11 Crop Walk at 1:00 **Sunday School at 9:30** **Worship 10:30 with Communion**	12 **Office Closed ColumbusDay**	13 **Grief Recovery Group 7:00pm**	14	15	16	17
18 **Sunday School at 9:30** **Worship 10:30 with Communion** 12:00pm - 2:00pm Secret Sister Luncheon	19	20 **Grief Recovery Group 7:00pm**	21	22	23	24
25 **Sunday School at 9:30** **Worship 10:30 with Communion** 5:00pm - 7:00pm Trunk or Treat	26	27 **Grief Recovery Group 7:00pm**	28	29	30	31 **Happy Halloween!**

*In her **Weekly Word** from September 27, Pastor Barb Holzhauser from Martin Luther LC talks about our One Church Experiment. **It is an excellent summary!***

Recent conversation has made it apparent that we need to revisit what the One Church Experiment is all about. One of the things that happens with any new thing is the human tendency to "get the cart before the horse" and jump too far ahead. Especially when we're engaged in a process where we don't yet know the outcome. People have a really hard time with "process" because it is full of unknowns - we just want to know what's going to happen! We are uncomfortable with "process" and fight the adage "trust the process".

But, truth be known, the Holy Spirit still invites to do just that — trust that God is at work in the midst of the unknown. I heard someone once say, "What is the next best thing? Do that first before anything else." It's important to note that any initiative taken by the collaborating congregations will be chosen by the congregations themselves. Yes, there are factors at play that are "pushing us" toward certain inevitabilities, but that is for *all* of us to wrestle with . . . together.

Those elements will become clearer as we do the work! Again, the goal of the One Church Experiment is to form collaborative ministry sites that are proclaiming the gospel by sharing mission, ministry, ministers, and money. These vital connections (aka relationships) are needed to empower the witness of the God's people in this time and place.

For over a century every church has been an "island" – something that the polity of the ELCA reinforces by its governing documents. This has led to a sense of isolation from our faith neighbors at best, and a sense of "competition" at its worst. The fact is that God has ONE church in many locations.

There's a distinction between "congregations" (the way we've been *organized)* and "Church" – that body that God brought to life in the world (a living *organism)*. The church is a gathering of people – Luther used the word "assembly" when referring to the church. The church is a collection of "assembled believers" who join the work of God's Spirit in the world. To summarize what several Lutheran scholars have noted, *"In every new day the imagination of an organization and renewed wisdom are needed to effect the church's mission."* In other words, the church is at once reformed and reforming, constantly reinventing itself for opportunities in a new era of mission and ministry.

The One Church Experiment is a modern-day invitation by God to explore what it means to be the church today. With any good experiment we anticipate outcomes. The hope is for things to happen that will strengthen ministry, however we are not necessarily tied to those outcomes if they do not.

At minimum the hope is that there will be:

1. Clear and shared mission and vision
2. Empowered laity
3. Partnerships for rostered ministers
4. Improved relationships among the collaborative partners and members.

Bonus outcomes might include:

1. Increased adaptability
2. Deep relationships with the surrounding community
3. More energy and resources for missional work in the world
4. A deeper witness to God's redeeming presence in the community.

The One Church Experiment is basically a living "laboratory" where new and exciting possibilities for the church can be lived out right here and right now.