

Mustard Seed

October 2025



Rick's Ramblings...

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Lutheran - A term that once was an insult to people in Europe when Martin Luther wrote against the Church, which was the only church at that time. You were considered a heretic if you followed Martin Luther's beliefs.

Evangelical is also central to Luther's teachings. Evangelical comes from the Greek "euangelion" meaning "good news" or "gospel". It is The Word. Our focus on The Word is central to being a Lutheran and a Christian.

Luther wrote in 1521, "It is not God's Word just because the church speaks it; instead the church comes into being because God's Word is spoken. The church does not constitute the Word but is constituted by the Word. The Word of God is a sure sign by which we may know where the church is."

As we are going into changing seasons and closing out the church year, may we focus on the Word in our lives and live into the Word of God.

Happy Autumn!

Vicar Rick

October Happenings

October 1)	Bible Study 6PM
October 8)	Bible Study 6PM
October 12)	Stewardship Sunday Potluck Brunch Call Patti W. with questions
October 14)	Quilting 9-12
October 15)	Bible Study 6PM
October 21)	Mutual Ministry 5pm Council Meeting 6pm
October 22)	Quilting 1-3 Bible Study 6PM
October 24)	Harvest Festival Immanuel Lutheran Church Food, entertainment, silent auction, raffle drawings
October 29)	Bible Study 6PM
October 31)	Halloween Trunk-or-Treat 4-6PM
November 1)	Great River Strings Ensemble Blood Curdling Strings Concert Cascade United Methodist Church Deerwood, MN 7PM
November 2)	Great River Strings Ensemble Blood Curdling Strings Concert Ripple Center Aitkin, MN 2PM

Birthdays and Anniversaries

October 3	Bette Hagman	Birthday
October 8	Shannon Smith	Birthday
October 9	Tom Bracken	Birthday
October 13	Bella Sam	Birthday
October 23	Tom & Sue Bracken	Anniversary
October 26	Sandy Kephart	Birthday
October 27	Aidan Anderson	Birthday

Sunday Helpers

October 5) Hosts: Judy V. & Gerald Lector: Judy W. Communion Asst.: Judy V. & Gerald Counters: Judy V. & Velma	October 12) Hosts: Mark & Michelle Lector: Mark Communion Asst.: Mark & Michelle Counters: Michelle & Judy W.
October 19) Hosts: Dick & Elaine Lector: Patti W. Communion Asst.: Patti W. & Bella Counters: Patti W. & Michelle	October 26) Hosts: Dixie & Bruce Lector: Dixie Communion Asst.: Dixie & Bruce Counters: Bruce & Judy W.

Free Little Pantry

Food scarcity is an ongoing battle for the local community. The Free Little Pantry is a small way to give to the community, which makes things just a little bit easier.

Here is how it works; people donate food items to the church (ex. canned foods, noodles, ready meals, etc.), we then fill up the Little Pantry 2 times a week, and anyone can come and grab what they might need.

You can also donate things such as hygiene products, laundry detergent, socks, and much more! Another way you could contribute is to bring in receipts from Teal's Market. When we turn in those receipts, we get a 1% kickback on the amount spent. This money goes back into the Free Little Pantry.

You can bring in donations anytime during open hours, or put items right into the Free Little Pantry.

Book Discussion Group

If you are interested in joining a book discussion group please speak with Vicar Rick. The book that the discussions will be about is called "**The Autopsy of a Deceased Church**" by **Thom S. Rainer**. The goal of this group is to form new ideas on how to keep our church active, and get new members to join.

No one wants to see a church die. And yet, far too many churches are dying. For more than twenty five years, Dr. Thom Rainer has helped churches grow, reverse the trend of decline, and has autopsied those that have died. From this experience, he has discovered consistent themes among those churches that have died. Yet, it's not gloom and doom because, from those themes, lessons on how to keep your church alive have emerged. Whether your church is vibrant or dying, whether you are a pastor or a church member, *Autopsy of a Deceased Church* will walk you through the radical paths necessary to keep your church alive to the glory of God and advancement of Christ's Kingdom!

Sunday Helpers

Do you have any interest in being a Sunday helper? We are in need of more people to volunteer their time on Sundays to be hosts, lectors, communion assistants, and counters. If you are available to lend a hand please leave a note with your name and the best way to contact you in the Admin. Office dropbox, or let Vicar Rick know of your interest.

<p>A woman customer called the Canon help desk with a problem with her printer.</p> <p>Tech support: Are you running it under windows?</p> <p>Customer: 'No, my desk is next to the door, but that is a good point.</p> <p>The man sitting in the cubicle next to me is under a window, and his printer is working fine.'</p>	<p>Tech support: 'Okay Bob, let's press the control and escape keys at the same time.</p> <p>That brings up a task list in the middle of the screen.</p> <p>Now type the letter 'P' to bring up the Program Manager.'</p> <p>Customer: I don't have a P.</p> <p>Tech support: On your keyboard, Bob.</p> <p>Customer: What do you mean?</p> <p>Tech support: 'P'.....on your keyboard, Bob.</p> <p>Customer: I'M NOT GOING TO DO THAT !!!</p>
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Today a man knocked on my door and asked for a small donation towards the local swimming pool. I gave him a glass of water.

The pharmacist asked me my birth date again today. I'm pretty sure she's going to get me something.

I read that 4,153,237 people got married last year, not to cause any trouble but shouldn't that be an even number?

Did you know that dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish?



"September and October"

By Eileen Clark

The September days can get very hot
Turn on the air conditioner, then it's not

By late afternoon you are cold again
Turn off the air and let evening set in

The very next day you wake up to a chill
Is that really frost on your windowsill
Get out the sweaters and turn up the heat
The day's to come this activity we'll repeat

We are now just entering the first of November
Much talk of a heatwave so try to remember
Weather change happens so don't lose your cool
Predicting the weather makes a smart man a fool

"Before it's Time to Go to Bed"

by Annette Wynne

Before it's time to go to bed,
"Let's have a feast," October said,
"Let's call our family all together,
And celebrate this pleasant weather";
Then every leaf put on her best,
And each small shrub most richly dressed,
In red and gold and orange, too,
And many another party hue.
The party lasted day and night,
Until the leaves were tired quite,
"O Mother Dear," at last each said,
"It's time for us to go to bed;
Dear Mother Tree, good night to you!"
Then loosened her hand and off it flew,
And every little sleepy head
Soon settled in the garnered bed,
And dreamed the dream that flowers do,
And slept and slept the winter through.

Lesser Known October Holidays

Most often, when people think about October they are thinking about Halloween, Columbus Day, and even **Breast Cancer Awareness**, but there are a few other odd Holidays that are celebrated in October.

National Hagfish Day is celebrated on the third Wednesday of the month. This holiday celebrates the slimy, jawless fish that secretes a sticky goo and eats dead matter.

International Ship in a Bottle Day, held October 4, pays tribute to the founder of the Ship in a Bottle Association of America.

Sweetest Day, celebrated the third Saturday in October, originated in Cleveland as a day for philanthropy and kindness.



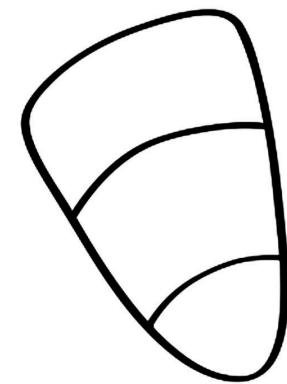
Count your Blessings

A nd

N ame them

D ay by day.

Y ou'll be reminded



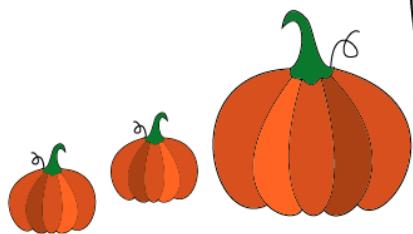
C hrist Jesus' love

O verflows to you,

R ight now, in

N early every way.

1. Color the stem green.
Green is for Creator God who lives in heaven.
2. Color the nose brown.
Brown is for mud. Mud is dirty, like our sinful hearts.
3. Color the mouth red.
Red is for the blood Jesus paid to forgive our sins.
4. Color the 2 eyes blue.
Blue is for water that washes us clean, just as Jesus gives us clean hearts.
5. Color the stars yellow.
Yellow is for the sun. Jesus is the Son of God. We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins so that we can one day live in heaven with God.
6. Color the pumpkin orange.
"Orange" you glad Jesus loves you?



My Gospel Pumpkin Coloring Page