



First English Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

The Parish News

Rev. Paul E. Kaldahl, Jr.
Pastor

Kristin Kaldahl
Emily Bernau
Organists

Julie Moran
Office Manager

Tammi Harrison
Preschool Director

Shannon Halsrud
Preschool Secretary

Trevor Loehr &
Tony Kladstrup
Custodians

Sunday
Worship Services
8:00 & 10:45 A.M.
Fellowship
9:00 A.M.
Nursery 9:15-Noon
Sunday School &
Bible Classes
9:30-10:30 A.M.

1311 E. 18th Street
Spencer, IA 51301
712-262-5598 Phone
712-262-8396 Fax

Website —
www.spencer-church.com

E-Mail —
felc5598@gmail.com

Preschool
712-262-3699

IGLLS
712-262-8237

Augsburg Confession XIV and the Necessity of a Rightly Ordered Call

Dear friends of Christ and members of FELC and CTK, I continue Part 6 on my Newsletter article series regarding the office of the public ministry. We have called a pastor. What is our duty and responsibility to him? Let's see how God uses pastors to accomplish His good will for His bride—The Church.

The Church must not allow anyone to preach or administer the sacraments without a proper call. This protects the Gospel, the congregation, and the Integrity of Christ's ministry. The Augsburg Confession, Article XIV famously states, **"No one should publicly teach or preach or administer the sacraments without a rightly ordered call."** This brief statement carries enormous theological weight. It means the pastoral office is public—not private—and that the authority to preach and administer sacraments is not self-assumed. God established Churches with overseers—men whom God calls into the office to run the Church in good order and to keep scriptural doctrine pure.

This is why the Bible says, Acts 20:28, **"Pay careful attention... to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers."** The call is both divine (the Spirit places overseers) and external (the Church calls them). Romans 10:14–15 **"How are they to preach unless they are sent?"** Preaching requires being sent, not self-appointed. 1 Timothy 4:14 **"Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you... when the council of elders laid their hands on you."** The call is recognized publicly and formally.

So, the Divine Call into the Holy Ministry matters! It protects the congregation from false teachers. It ensures accountability and doctrinal fidelity. It confirms that the pastor acts in Christ's stead and not on his own authority. And, it gives the congregation confidence that the Word and Sacraments they receive are valid.

What is your God-given responsibility? Because the call is Christ's work through the Church, the congregation must receive their pastor as Christ's servant; Support him in his ministry; Avoid undermining or bypassing the office. This is why Hebrews 13:17 and 1 Thessalonians 5:12–13 are so central. Hebrews, **"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them**

do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you." 1 Thessalonians, *"We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves."* Our Lutheran Confessions (the book by which we elect to walk together) safeguards the pastoral office by requiring a proper call. Scripture teaches that pastors must be sent, appointed, and recognized by the Church. The congregation honors Christ by honoring the office He established.

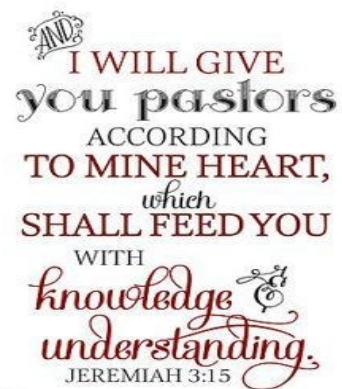
In Christ's Service,

Pastor Paul Kaldahl

October is Clergy Appreciation Month

This month is a special time when congregations honor their pastor(s) and called church workers and their families for their hard work and sacrificial dedication.

Please remember Pastor Kaldahl, Kristin and their family in your prayers and take the time to thank him for his work in ministry.


I WILL GIVE
you pastors
ACCORDING
TO MINE HEART,
which
SHALL FEED YOU
WITH
knowledge &
understanding.
JEREMIAH 3:15



October LWML News

Thursday, October 1st at 5:30 p.m.

LWML Harvest Potluck and Meeting at FELC

All Women of FELC are Invited to Attend

Esther/Naomi—Devotions Sarah Guild—Serving

October 4 - LWML Sunday

Bring ALL your coins to make a BIG noise as we have our NOISY offerings!!!

The cans will be passed during the regular offering time during the services to support our Mite collection.



LWML Fall Rally

"His light shining through us." John 8:12

Saturday, October 17th at Immanuel
Lutheran - Spirit Lake

Registration 8:30-9:00

Brunch

"JESUS" Bracelet Assembly
Meeting

Ingathering for

"Handbags with Hope"

(see posters for more details)

put in LWML totes by Friday, October
16th in the Opportunity Corner

October, 2026

Youth Ministry



Galatians 6:9

Let us not become weary
in doing good, for at the
proper time we will reap a
harvest if we do not give
up.

High School - Grades 9-12

Wednesday nights starting at 7:30pm

****new start time**

- Oct 7 - leaders: Wendy, Cole, Jordan
- Oct 14 - leaders: Wendy, Cole, Jordan
- Oct 21 - leaders: Wendy, Cole, Jordan
- Oct 28 - leaders: Wendy, Cole, Jordan

Youth Usher Dates/Times

- none in October



Combined LYF/JLYF Activity (6-12th)

LITTLE SIOUX ORCHARD

- Sunday, October 11
- meet at FELC at 2:30 pm for carpooling, return around 5:30pm
- bring \$5 for corn maze, or \$11 for corn maze and a bag of apples
- snack of hot chocolate & apple crisp provided
- corn maze, apple sling-shot
- FRIENDS WELCOME



Stay informed with BAND:

- download the BAND app from your phone's app store
- join the FELC Youth group for future communications



Discipleship

Week	Attendance			Communion			Offering (Regular & Electronic)	Sunday School	
	Early	Late	Total	Early	Late	Total		Kids/Adults	SS Offering
Sept 6	131	88	219	109	68	177	\$	NC /	\$ 0.00
Sept 13	122	70	192		—		\$	NC /	\$ 0.00
Sept 20	95	76	180	95	57	152		NC / 47	\$ 0.00
Sept 27	151	72	223		—		\$	/ 46	\$ 0.00

October, 2026

G.I.F.T. Growing In Faith Together



- | | | |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Oct 7th | Bring a Friend
Menu: Taco in a Bag | Wear something with your name on it
Dessert—Cake in a Bag |
| Oct 14th | Activity Night—Bowling at Spencer Bowl from 4:00-5:30 | |
| Oct 21st | School Spirit
Menu: Hot Dogs & Chips | Wear Your School Colors
Dessert—Ice Cream |
| Oct 28th | Backwards Night
Menu: Pancakes, Eggs & Bacon | Wear your clothes inside out
Dessert—Strawberry Poke Cake |



G.I.F.T. Schedule

Grades 1-6

3:30-4:10 snack and free play in the gym
4:10-4:40 Worship Time all grades
4:40-5:20 Bible Time 1-4 / Playtime 5-6
5:20-6:00 Bible Time 5-6 / Playtime 1-4
6:00-7:00 Family Time

Grades 7 & 8

6:00-7:00 Family Time
7:15-8:45 Confirmation

Unity Sunday - Reformation **October 25**

Schedule for the day

- 8:30 Fellowship
9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class
10:00 Divine Worship
(one service only)

11:30 Congregational Potluck Dinner
1:00 Fall Voter's Meeting



Unity Sunday Potluck - Following the 10 am service the Elders are hosting a Potluck Meal.

Salads / Side dish items should be provided by members whose last name begins with **R-Z**

Meat / Main dish items should be provided by members whose last name begins with **A-I**

Dessert items should be provided by members whose last name begins with **J-P**

Beverages and table settings will be provided by the Board of Elders.

October, 2026

**Church Council Minutes
Thursday, September 17, 2026**

Members present: Leonard Langner, Dan Knaak, Paul Salton, Libby Stricker, Jon Stricker, Amber Christianson, Janet Iedema, Pastor Kaldahl, and Karen Hargens.

L. Langner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Kaldahl opened with devotion.

A. Christianson made a motion to approve the agenda, J. Iedema seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Secretary's report – The minutes from August 2026 were reviewed. P. Salton made a motion to approve the secretary's report. D. Knaak seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report – Libby Stricker

Balances for Council Meeting

L. Stricker brought to the council's attention that we have \$42,000 from a previous CD that is in the checking account, and also \$34,486.50 in the dedicated funds that is set aside for the bell repair/renovation. There was discussion about moving some of these funds to an account that bears interest. J. Iedema made a motion to move the dedicated bell money to an LCMS liquid money market savings account that returns 4% interest. A. Christianson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approve bills – No bills.

IGLLS – Leonard Langner

- Current enrollment sits at 171 students.
- Discussions continue on the use of the CTK building.
- The PIE group will be hosting a garage sale in the future at the CTK property.
- The staff and board members are continuing to work on items for the accreditation process that will be happening in April next year.

New Horizons – submitted

Present were voting members Tim Christensen, Beth Frankenstein, Doug Kading, and Dean Pingel. Also present were Pastor Kaldahl, Libby Stricker, and guest Leon Schoenfeld from the LCMS Foundation.

Beth and Dean moved to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried. Mr. Schoenfeld gave a report on the invested funds with the LCMS Foundation. Leon reported that he has had the opportunity to work with several FELC members. It was reported that there will be additional funds forthcoming to the New Horizons.

New Horizons Old Business:

- The Articles of Service were reviewed. Libby moved and Tim seconded the motion to use the term "Future Generations Endowment" for the funds restricted for FELC support. The motion carried
- Beth moved and Tim seconded the motion to keep the term "Restricted" rather than "designated" for all gifts to New Horizons. Motion carried
- Tim moved and Beth seconded the motion to remove all dollar goals from Addendum 1. Motion carried. Dean will email copies of the changes.
- Dean moved and Beth seconded the motion to give \$300 each to the 2 youth who were planning to attend "Camp Restore- Detroit". The motion carried.

Board of Elders – Paul Salton

- We have received an estimate for the sound system from Iowa Audio Visual out of Clive. RDI has been on site and looked at our system and will put together an estimate as well.
- The elders should have a full slate of potential elders for the fall voters meeting. They will be approved at that time.
- Julie will be retiring April 30, 2027. Need to start advertising the position possibly end of the year.
- October 25 will be Unity Sunday with communion.
- The elders are revisiting the possibility of having communion every Sunday.

Board of Trustees – Jon Stricker

- The foundation has been sealed underneath the stained-glass windows, but still having water get in around/under the windows. BV Glass will be contacted to come and check the windows.
- There is some landscaping work that needs to be done where the dirt work was completed, splitting and replanting flowers, etc.
- The gym roof leaked during the last big rain. Leonard will get ahold of Mule-Hide and send pictures. The roof is still under warranty.
- Outside of the church has been painted.
- The gym doors still need to be completed.

Preschool Board – submitted Corey Langner

- We currently have 33 3-year-olds and 24 4-year-olds.
- We appreciate the donation of tires and pea rock for the preschool playground and those people that were able to help get it ready for the school year.
- Leah's husband, Adam, is working on building a shade structure. We appreciate all the help he has given to the preschool and the playground.
- IDW Early Childhood Conference was August 7th and all staff including our new secretary Shannon and Pastor were able to attend.
- Preschool Parent night went well. We appreciate the help that night and the help from the two guilds to put together parents form packets.
- Staff home visits have been completed, and all went well with them.
- The preschool fundraiser will begin on September 14 and go through September 30. There will be a notice in the Herald if anyone wants to order anything online.
- Really happy to have all the wonderful staff back again this year. Looking forward to another great year!

Board of Education – Amber Christianson

- GIFT starts Wednesday, September 23. GIFT positions are full.
- Sunday School starts September 27. Sunday School teaching positions are full with the exception of perhaps 6th-7th grades.
- Working on organizing the Christmas program.

Board of Youth – Janet Iedema

- Completed 2027 budget and turned into the office
- Moving LYF back to 7:30 start (ending @ 9:00). Kids are rushed from activities and so we will try this time.
- Background checks are needed for the chaperones attending youth gatherings. The BofY is going to complete these through the school and reimburse the school.
- ALL YOUTH EVENT (6-12th grades): Little Sioux Orchard in Milford, Sunday, Oct. 11, meet to carpool @ 2:30, returning around 5:30 for ice cream & apple crisp, \$5 per person
- Church Merch Fundraiser: asking through BAND app for a parent to lead this project
- Possible Youth Lead event in St Louis, MO in March 2027. Once we have information, we will see what interest there may be and evaluate cost and logistics.
- Senior Youth Gathering, Oct. 2-4, Okoboji, 5 youth attending w/ 2 chaperones.
- Junior Youth Gathering, Oct. 24-25, West Des Moines, 7 youth attending w/2 chaperones.

Board of Christian Life/Outreach – no report

Pastoral items: Pastor Kaldahl – normal activities.

Old Business:

1. Sound system – see discussion above.
2. Stewardship campaign – Discussion on how to proceed and when to proceed. Tabled at this time.
3. Call to Pastor Craig Niemeier – Leonard, Paul and Pastor have all spoken to Pastor Niemeier. He is still considering.
4. 2027 budget will be completed at the October meeting.

New Business:

1. Background checks for volunteers – Need to do some investigation into whether the church could do background checks through the school or if we need our own subscription to do them. Also, there will have to be a system put in place to keep track of who has had a background check and when to make sure they are updated properly. More to come on this item.

Next meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2026

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Hargens



THOSE WHO SERVE—October, 2026

8:00 A.M. Services

10:00 AM Worship Service

	Oct. 4	Oct. 11	Oct. 18	Oct. 25 Unity Sunday
Elder	Gaylen Fey Ken Schroeder	Tom Roti	Mark Rees Ken Schroeder	Jeff Chalstrom Mark Rees
Acolyte	Laura Harman	Morgan Beachler	Hudson Frankenstein	Grant Langner
Organist	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl
Altar Guild	Carol Gilbertson & Karen Wee —————>		Melinda & Mark Herda —————>	
Ushers	# 3 Tom Roti	# 3 Tom Roti	# 5 Tom Miller	# 5 Tom Miller
Service Builder	Corey Langner	Ranae Kehoe	Kelly Hartmann	Amber Christianson
Presenter	Lori Gamble	Ranae Kehoe	Sylvia Ruden	Bob Cody
Sound Board	Bruce Gamble	Kelly Hartmann	Abbey Ruden	Dan Knaak
Live-Stream	Matt Ruden	Alex Halverson	Matt Ruden	Matt Ruden

Serve the LORD with gladness:



10:45 A.M. Services

	Oct. 4	Oct. 11	Oct. 18	No 10:45 Service Oct. 25th- Unity Sunday
Elder	Paul Salton Cole Brenden	Jerry Enderton	Travis Harman Jerry Enderton	
Acolyte	Hana Loehr	Katelynn Guerttman	Karson Koenecke	
Ushers	# 2 Paul Salton	# 4 Jerry Enderton	# 4 Jerry Enderton	
Organist	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	
Presenter	Jerry Enderton	Michael Schauer	Steve Hallgren	



October

2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Every Wednesday all Preschool classes dismiss at 11:15 a.m.	PS Fundraiser Ends October 1st	1 PS Picture Retakes 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:20 IGLLS Chapel 8:30 Finance BD 11:30 PS Devotions 2:00 Worship Service SMU 3:45 G.I.F.T. Grades 1-6 7:15 Confirmation	2 7:00 Spirit Lifters 5:30 LWML Fall Harvest Potluck & Meeting All Guilds No School—IGLLS 1st-3rd LEA Convocation	3 Pastor's Day Off No Preschool PreK Inservice	4 LWML Fall Rally 9:00 Registration 9:30 Brunch 10:00 Program at FELC
5 LWML Sunday-Noisy Offering 8:00 Divine Worship w/ Communion 9:00 Fellowship 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 Sunday School / Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship w/ Communion 1:00 Special Voter's Meeting 5:00 Langner's Home Bible Study 7:00-8:30 LYF	6 5:00 Preschool Board 6:30 Young Adult Bible Study—Library (Julie Off)	7 9:00 PS Fire Drill 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study -Fellowship Hall K. Kaldahl 8:00 Worship Service on SMU	8 9:00 PS Disaster Drill 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:20 IGLLS Chapel 8:30 Finance BD 9:45 Preschool Chapel 11:30 PS Staff Meeting-Library 2:00 Worship Service SMU 3:45 G.I.F.T. Grades 1-6 7:00 Senior Youth Gathering Mtg.	9 7:00 Spirit Lifters 9:45 Preschool Chapel 7:00 Elders	10 Pastor's Day Off	11
12 8:00 Divine Worship 9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship 2:30—5:00 LYF-JLYF Little Sioux Orchard 4:00 IGLLS Auction Meeting 5:00 Langner's Home Bible Study	13 5:00 Board of Youth 6:30 Young Adult Bible Study—Library	14 9:00 Pastors Circuit Winkle-Sheldon 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study -Fellowship Hall K. Kaldahl 7:00 Bd. of Trustees 8:00 Worship Service on SMU	15 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:20 IGLLS Chapel 8:30 Finance BD 9:30 Ladies Bible Study- Conf Rm 11:30 PS Devotions 2:00 Worship Service SMU 3:45 G.I.F.T. Grades 1-6 7:15 Confirmation	16 7:00 am Spirit Lifters 3:45 New Horizons Mtg 5:15 Bd C Life / Outreach 5:30 PS Family Night-Gym 6:30 Parent Mtg. 7:00 pm Church Council	17 Pastor's Day Off	18 Wedding- Swiss Acres Allie Halverson & Caleb Milsap IDW Jr. Youth Gathering Oct. 18-19 W. D.M.
19 Door Offering-St. Luke Auxiliary 8:00 Divine Worship w/ Communion 9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 Sunday School / Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship w/ Communion 5:00 Langner's Home Bible Study 7:00-8:30 LYF	20 No Preschool / IGLLS Inservice 6:30 Young Adult Bible Study—Library (Julie Off)	21 PARISH NEWS DUE 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study -Fellowship Hall K. Kaldahl 8:00 Worship Service on SMU	22 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:20 IGLLS Chapel 8:30 Finance BD 9:30 Ladies Bible Study- Conf Rm 9:45 Preschool Chapel 11:30 PS Devotions 2:00 Worship Service SMU 3:45 GIFT Grades 1-6 7:15 Confirmation	23 7:00 Spirit Lifters 9:45 Preschool Chapel Julie Vacation Oct. 23-24	24 Pastor's Day Off Preschool 3 yr.-olds Makeup Day 2:00 Organ tuning	25
26 REFORMATION / UNITY SUNDAY 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:00 Divine Worship 11:30 Congregational Dinner 1:00 Fall Voter's Meeting 5:00 Langner's Home Bible Study 7:00-8:30 LYF	27 6:30 Young Adult Bible Study—Library	28 4-6 Preschool Fundraiser Delivery-Fellowship Hall 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study -Fellowship Hall K. Kaldahl 8:00 Worship Service on SMU	29 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:20 IGLLS Chapel 8:30 Finance BD 9:30 Ladies Bible Study- Conf Rm 11:30 PS Devotions 2:00 Worship Service SMU 3:45 GIFT Grades 1-6 7:15 Confirmation	30 7:00 Spirit Lifters	31 Pastor's Day Off  REFORMATION DAY	



Celebrate October Birthdays!



- 1 Aaron Laurent
Trish Morenz
Becky Norgaard
- 2 Joel Eglund
Deb Hinkeldey
- 3 Roger Potratz
- 5 Roger Godfredsen
Brandon Nolin
Isleigh Simmons
- 6 Paisley Klein
- 7 Kayla Beachler
Leo McCarty
- 8 Lori Gamble
Vickie Godfredsen
Sydney Radcliffe
Betty Sharp
- 12 Mike Koenecke
Faith Staedtler
- 13 Amanda Winterboer
- 14 Ensley Bland
Charlotte Elliott
Shelly Johnson
Dave Larsen

- 15 Mia Fuhrman
- 16 Dana Lowder
Matt Rabel, Jr.
- 17 Adam Johnson
- 18 Everett Burhans
Katellynn Guerttman
Julie Riessen
Andrew VonEhwegen
- 19 Denise Conley
Dolores Hatfield
Corey Langner
- 20 Mark Borsheim
Beckey Church
Reegan Hornby
- 22 Nancy Hartmann
Michael Kourakis
Patty Laubenthal

- Nelda Olson
- 23 Cooper Hornsby
Sue Hubbard
- 24 Tim Christensen
Sherri White
- 25 Rich Doede
Sharon Kading
Kade Muilenburg
- 26 Deb Berven
Carlee Fletcher
- 27 Troy Halverson
Phyllis Raska
Libby Stricker
- 28 Karen Buchholz
Jill Schendel
- 29 Jennifer Huisenga
Aviana Ruisenor
- 30 Eleanor Bieber
Kyle Fitch
Jacie Staedtler
- 31 Matt Ruden



- Oct. 3 Mark & Shelly
Bergstadt
- Oct. 3 Brent & Victoria
Bern
- Oct. 5 Rob & Carol
Gilbertson
- Oct. 6 Bryan & Amanda
Guerttman
- Oct. 7 Mike & Janet
Iedema

- Oct. 7 Tay & May
Lo
- Oct. 8 Bill & Phyllis
Raska
- Oct. 9 Jenny & Joe
Ackerman
- Oct. 9 Darin & Tricia
Wempe
- Oct. 19 Darrell & Donna
Nordman

- Oct. 20 Clay & Julie
Carstens
- Oct. 22 Ken & Jolene
Gonnerman
- Oct. 23 Doug & Sharon
Rutter
- Oct. 26 Joe & Shawn
Caven
- Oct. 30 Steve & Sharon
Steinbeck



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1311 East 18th Street
Spencer, IA 51301

Non-Profit Organization
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Unity Sunday October 25

Schedule for the day

- 8:30 Fellowship
9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class
10:00 Divine Worship (one service only)
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