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.

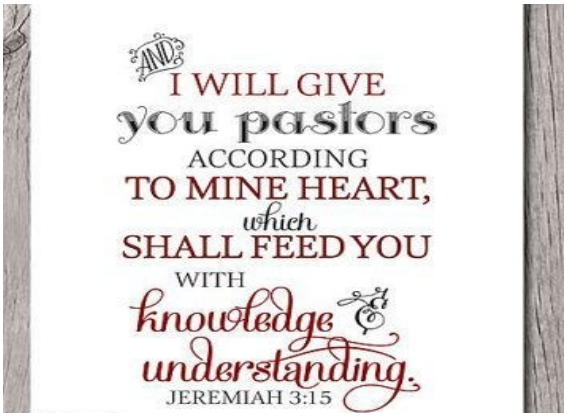
In Christ's Service,

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.




Lutheran Women in Mission

# 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

# 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 | Sunday School | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Early | Late | Total | Early | Late | Total | (Regular & Electronic) | 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 | 138 | 86 | 224 | | —— | | | 5 / | $ 0.00 |

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

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

**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<br>Ken Schroeder | Tom Roti | Mark Rees<br>Ken Schroeder | Jeff Chalstrom<br>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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Elder** | Paul Salton<br>Cole Brenden | Jerry Enderton | Travis Harman<br>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 |

**No 10:45 Service Oct. 25th- Unity Sunday**

# October 2026

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Every Wednesday all Preschool classes dismiss at 11:15 a.m. | 1 7:00 Spirit Lifters<br>5:30 LWML Fall Harvest Potluck & Meeting All Guilds | 2 **Pastor's Day Off**<br>No Preschool PreK Inservice | 3<br>**IDW Sr. Youth Gathering Oct. 2-4 Camp Okoboji** |
| 4 **LWML Sunday-Noisy Offering**<br>8:00 Divine Worship w/ Communion<br>9:00 Fellowship<br>9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery<br>9:30 Sunday School<br>9:30 Pastor's Bible Class<br>10:45 Divine Worship w/ Communion | 5<br>5:00 Preschool Board<br>6:30pm Ladies Bible Study-Fellowship Hall K. Kaldahl | 6 9:00 PS Fire Drill<br>8:00 Worship Service on SMU | 7 9:00 PS Disaster Drill<br>6:30 Men's Bible Study<br>8:20 IGLLS Chapel<br>8:30 Finance BD<br>10:00 Ladies Bible Study– Conf Rm<br>11:30 PS Staff Meeting -Library<br>2:00 Worship Service SMU<br>3:45 G.I.F.T. Grades 1-6<br>7:00 Choir<br>7:15 Confirmation<br>7:30-9:00 LYF | 8<br>7:00 Spirit Lifters<br>7:00 Elders | 9 **Pastor's Day Off**<br>8:00-9:30 Mrs. Schauer's Class in Sanctuary | 10 |
| 11<br>8:00 Divine Worship<br>9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts<br>9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery<br>9:30 Sunday School & Bible Class<br>10:45 Divine Worship<br>2:30 LYF / JLYF to Little Sioux Orchard<br>5:00 Langner's Home Bible Study | 12<br>4:00 New Horizons Mtg<br>6:30pm Ladies Bible Study-Fellowship Hall K. Kaldahl | 13<br>9:00 Pastors Circuit Winkle-Sheldon<br>7:00 Bd. of Trustees<br>8:00 Worship Service on SMU | 14 6:30 Men's Bible Study<br>8:20 IGLLS Chapel<br>8:30 Finance BD<br>9:45 Preschool Chapel<br>10:00 Ladies Bible Study– Conf Rm<br>2:00 Worship Service SMU<br>4:00-5:30 G.I.F.T. Activity Bowling<br>7:00 Choir<br>7:15 Confirmation<br>7:30-9:00 LYF | 15 7:00 am Spirit Lifters<br>9:45 Preschool Chapel<br>5:15 Bd C Life / Outreach<br>7:00 pm Church Council | 16 **Pastor's Day Off** | 17<br>8:30 LWML Fall Rally-Immanuel Spirit Lake<br>IDW Jr. Youth Gathering Oct. 17-18 W. D.M. |
| 18 *Door Offering-St. Luke Auxiliary*<br>8:00 Divine Worship w/ Communion<br>9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts<br>9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery<br>9:30 Sunday School / Bible Class<br>10:45 Divine Worship w/ Communion<br>5:00 Langner's Home Bible Study | 19 **No Preschool District Inservice**<br>6:30pm Ladies Bible Study-Fellowship Hall K. Kaldahl<br>**IGLLS—No School Oct. 19-21** | 20 PS Picture Retakes<br>1:00 Senior Game Day<br>6:30 Board of Youth<br>8:00 Worship Service on SMU | 21 6:30 Men's Bible Study<br>8:20 IGLLS Chapel<br>8:30 Finance BD<br>9:45 Preschool Chapel<br>10:00 Ladies Bible Study– Conf Rm<br>11:30 PS Devotions -Library<br>2:00 Worship Service SMU<br>3:45 GIFT Grades 1-6<br>7:00 Choir<br>7:15 Confirmation<br>7:30-9:00 LYF | 22<br>7:00 Spirit Lifters<br>**Julie Vacation Oct. 22-23** | 23 **Pastor's Day Off**<br>Preschool 3 yr.-olds Makeup Day<br>10:00 Organ Tuning<br>**PARISH NEWS DUE** | 24 |
| 25 **REFORMATION / UNITY SUNDAY**<br>8:30 Fellowship<br>9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class<br>**10:00 Divine Worship w/ Communion**<br>11:30 Congregational Dinner<br>1:00 Fall Voter's Meeting<br>5:00 Langner's Home Bible Study | 26<br>6:30pm Ladies Bible Study-Fellowship Hall K. Kaldahl | 27<br>4-6 Preschool Fundraiser Delivery-Fellowship Hall<br>8:00 Worship Service on SMU | 28 6:30 Men's Bible Study<br>8:20 IGLLS Chapel<br>8:30 Finance BD<br>9:45 Preschool Chapel<br>10:00 Ladies Bible Study– Conf Rm<br>11:30 PS Devotions -Library<br>2:00 Worship Service SMU<br>3:45 GIFT Grades 1-6<br>7:00 Choir<br>7:15 Confirmation<br>7:30-9:00 LYF | 29 7:00 Spirit Lifters<br>9:45 Preschool Chapel<br>**Pastor to St. Louis—LWML Meetings Oct. 29-31** | 30 **Pastor's Day Off** | 31<br> <br> |

1 Aaron Laurent
Trish Morenz
Becky Norgaard
2 Joel Egland
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
Katelynn 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

**THE OCTOBER ’26 PARISH NEWS**
**First English Lutheran Church**
**1311 East 18th Street**
**Spencer, IA 51301**

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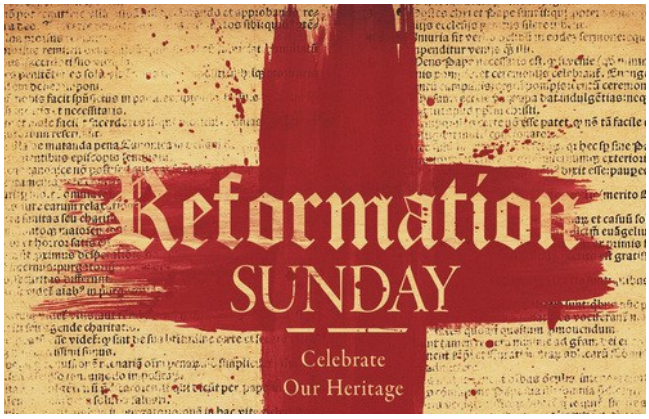
# Unity Sunday
# October 25

**Schedule for the day**

8:30 Fellowship
9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class
***10:00 Divine Worship*** ***(one service only)***
11:30 Congregational Potluck Dinner
1:00 Fall Voter’s Meeting