



East Side Lutheran Church
1300 East 10th Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57103-1796
www.eastsidelc.org

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October 2026

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The Voice

Volume 30 Issue 10

of East Side Lutheran Church

Welcoming All
Serving Others
Growing in Faith

October 2026



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

What does October 31st mean to you?

The Lutheran Church (and several other protestant churches), celebrate October 31st as Reformation Day. The reason is because it was on this date in 1517, that Martin Luther posted his "95 Theses" on the door of the castle church in Wittenburg Germany. The next day (November 1) was All Saints' Day and everybody would go to church and have to walk past this list and see it. Luther hoped this would spark conversation and help to bring about some reform. And, see it they did. This conversation, fueled by social anxiety, sparked the Protestant Reformation, arguably the most influential period in the last 1,000 years.

What was so revolutionary about this?

Well at the time the Church, based in Rome, exerted great social, economic, and political control over the people and countries of most of western Europe. As you can imagine, kings and other leaders of countries grew tired of this. Europe was becoming a religious and political tinder box. But how could you fight back against Rome!

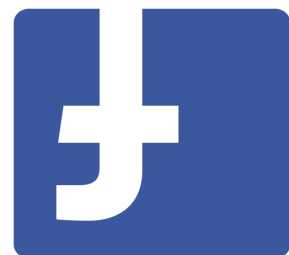
Enter Martin Luther and his list of 95 things that the church was doing wrong... The 95 Theses were mostly against the selling of indulgences that, for a price, were supposed to shorten the time you or a loved one would spend in purgatory. Luther was very much against this because it was not supported in scripture. It flew in the face of God's grace and forgiveness being a free gift because of Jesus. Rather, Luther saw the selling of indulgences as a way that the Church was taking advantage of people so that they could build cathedrals and exert control. So, Luther stood his ground in hopes of bringing reform, and ultimately in bringing people to relationship with God revealed in the grace and forgiveness of Jesus.

At ESL, your Worship Committee has requested we spent the entire month of October focusing on Luther, the Reformation, and the reform we still need in our lives today. I'll see you in church. And remember, we are in this... Together in Faith!

Hiking at Great Bear!



Rummage Sale Crew



8:00 am & 10:00 am

Sundays

5:30 pm

Saturdays

WORSHIP SERVICES



The Voice

This is the monthly newsletter of East Side Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

It can also be downloaded from our website.

East Side Lutheran Church

1300 East 10th Street, Sioux Falls SD 57103-1796

(605) 336-3597 www.eastsidelc.org

Staff

Rev. Layne Nelson Lead Pastor

Rev. Ray Heidenson Visitation Pastor

Wayne Wosje Business Manager

Gayle Lee Parish Secretary

Sue Hart Volunteer Coordinator

Tom Call Security

Nona Bixler. Newsletter

Jackie Swiden....Sunday School Superintendent

Music Ministries

Paul R. Griffith Organist

Dr. Tyler Thress. Music Director

Worship Services

Saturdays

5:30 pm

Sundays

8:00 am 10:00 am

Radio Broadcast: KXRB 1140 AM or 100.1 FM

Sundays, 11:00 am

Online: Facebook and YouTube

Sundays, 8:00 am

Radio Sponsorships

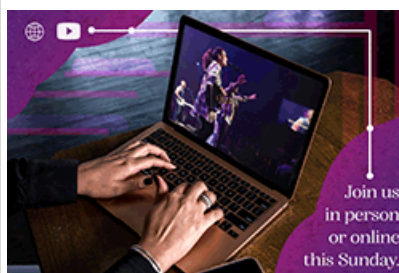


11:00am on KXRB
Radio

(1140 AM or 100.1
FM)

Sponsorships

\$255/Sunday



Online Sponsorships

ESL Facebook and
YouTube

Sponsorships

\$50/Sunday

October 11—In honor of Pastor Layne and
Pastor Ray for Clergy Appreciation Day given
by the Members of the Altar Guild

October 18—In honor of Leona Mariane
Fonkert given by her Grandparents

Oct 25—In honor of Lloyd & Peggy Nelson's
Anniversary



Join us on Thursday, October 1st

East Side Lutheran is the sponsor for Food To
You—Volunteers are need to set up for the
event and also help to serve guests Sign up
sheet is outside of the church office.



The following have been Honored this month to
the glory of God through gifts given in their
memory or honor to the work and ministry
of East Side Lutheran.

Thank you for your generosity.

In Memory of

Barb Hines given by

- Bob & Karel Amend

Ramona Moe given by

- Nancy Renner

- Altar Guild Members

- Dave & Nona Bixler

- Reggie & Shelly Huber

Randy Postma given by

- Nancy Renner

- Dee Hohn

- Judy Adler

James Breit given by

- Jake & Maurin Fisher

DeOrval Purintun given by

- Marv & Laurie McKnelly

Christine Monger given by

- Reggie & Shelly Huber

In Honor of

Don Salberg's birthday given by

- Reggie & Shelly Huber

- Kay Dammer

- Kary Dammer

- Doug & Bonnie Guhlke

- Don & Janet Messner

(Gifts received as of September 27th)



Oct. 4	"Church on the Bus" Vikings vs Dolphins
Oct 11	Clergy Appreciation Day
Oct 18	Indoor Mini Golf
Oct 24	Trunk or Treat
Oct 25	Reformation Sunday
Oct. 27	Beer & Theology—Remedy Brewing Company 7pm
Nov 8	Celebration of Living Saints (those 80+ years of age)
Feb 7	BINGO 1-3 pm
Nov 7	Lock-In at ESL for 6th-12th graders
Nov 25	Thanksgiving Eve Services



Do you have a trunk that you
could decorate for the annual
East Side Lutheran's Trunk
or Treat?

We would love to fill the east
parking lot with trunks filled
with candy so that kiddo's
can come and show off their
costumes.

Saturday , October 24 from 2-4pm

Protecting our Paraments

The Altar Guild is also seeking monetary
donations to help us purchase a thin piece of
plexiglass to place over the Altar. This will help
protect our beautiful paraments from wear and
tear and allow us to continue caring for them for
years to come.

If you are able and would like to make a donation,
please reach out to **Char VanBockern**, or you
may drop your donation off at the church office.
Please make sure it is noted that the donation is
for the Altar Guild.

EVANGELISM UPDATE — BRENDA SCHUT



From the Printing Press to the Coffee Table

As we approach Reformation Day on October 31, we naturally think about Martin Luther and the impact he had on the Lutheran Church. But rather than looking at Luther simply as a figure from history, I'd like us to think about him as something else: **an evangelist who understood the importance of getting the Good News into the hands of ordinary people.**

Luther lived in a time when the printing press was becoming a powerful new way to communicate. He recognized its potential and used it. His sermons, writings, catechisms, hymns, and especially his work making Scripture accessible to everyday people could be shared far beyond the walls of a church. He understood something that remains true today: **if we want people to hear the Gospel, we have to be willing to take it where the people are.**

Luther was, in many ways, on the leading edge of evangelism for his time.

Today, we don't need a printing press to share our faith. We have newsletters, email, websites, social media, videos, podcasts, and countless other ways to communicate. But perhaps one of our most powerful evangelism tools hasn't changed much at all.

It's the coffee table.

It's the conversation with a neighbor. It's inviting a friend to church. It's sitting with someone who is going through a difficult time and reminding them that they are not alone. It's telling someone about a worship service that touched your heart. It's sharing how your faith has carried you through a difficult season.

Sometimes evangelism is as simple as saying, *"I'd love for you to come to church with me."*

We don't have to be Martin Luther. We don't have to be theologians, pastors, or professional evangelists.

We simply have to be willing to share what we know and believe about Jesus.

Luther understood that the Gospel was too important to keep behind church walls or in the hands of a select few. **The Good News was meant to be heard, read, talked about, and shared.**

That hasn't changed.

So this Reformation season, perhaps we can ask ourselves: **What is our printing press? And what is our coffee table?**

What opportunities has God placed in front of us to share the Good News?

Maybe it's a conversation over coffee. Maybe it's a text to a friend. Maybe it's an invitation to worship.

Maybe it's welcoming someone who walks through our doors for the first time. Maybe it's simply being willing to tell another person why Jesus matters to us.

Martin Luther used the newest communication technology of his day to help spread the Gospel. We have even more opportunities today.

The question isn't whether we have a way to share the Good News. The question is whether we're willing to use it.

This October, let's celebrate the Reformation not only by remembering what happened hundreds of years ago, but by remembering that the work of sharing the Gospel continues—with us.

Celebrating Our Living Saints!

Save the date — November 8! We are getting ready for a special day at East Side Lutheran as we celebrate our **Living Saints — members who are 80 years and older!**

This celebration is about more than a birthday or a milestone. It is about celebrating a **legacy of faith** — the years of worship, prayer, service, friendship, and the many ways these faithful members have helped shape the East Side Lutheran family we know today.

We want to fill the church on November 8 with the people who have been such an important part of our story! **All members age 80 and over are especially invited to join us for worship** and join us between services for a special coffee hour featuring muffins, conversation, and plenty of time to reconnect with friends.

So, to our Living Saints: This day is for you! We want to celebrate you, hear your stories, share some laughs, and give thanks for the faith and legacy you have shared with East Side Lutheran.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT - PAM ALEXANDER



Pam Alexander's journey to become a member at East Side Lutheran is different than many of us. Her Great Grandparents lived in a house which is now the east parking lot of the church. Her family spent a lot of time helping her grandparents but didn't visit the church until she was in high school when two of her good friends Susan Eliason and Cindy Koepp brought her to church with them. Pam remembers that every Friday night after the football game she and her friends would visit the Parish House at the church. The basement was the gathering place for teens with a ping pong table, foosball and lots of conversation with friends. "It was such a fun place to spend time and get to know new people," said Pam.

Her parents and younger sister started to attend church at East Side Lutheran and Pam was married in the church to her husband Dan in 1981. However, she did not officially join until 1983. Dan and Pam have 2 daughters, Kayla and Katie, and one son, Kyle, who have blessed them with 7 grandchildren and Katie has one on the way due in October.

Pam retired in 2021 after working for 8 years for a finance company, 25 years as an office manager and 8 years doing payroll for Costello. During the time that she was working she volunteered as a Sunday School teacher for over 25 years at East Side. She remembers that the classes were much larger then with each grade having 2 classrooms per grade. She started in 3rd grade and worked her way up to 5th grade. Pam enjoyed getting to know all the kiddos and made a lasting impression on many of them as she has been invited to confirmations, graduations and even a wedding or two. One little girl really stands out in her memory. She was working with 1st graders, and one little girl had on a beautiful dress, so Pam asked her if she could borrow it to wear to work. The little girl beamed with pride and said yes, you can. After class was over and Pam was cleaning up the little girl and her mother appeared back into the classroom. Pam wondered if they had forgotten something, but it was just that the little girl wanted her mom to meet the teacher that wanted to borrow her dress. Years later Pam received an invitation to that little 1st graders graduation. What an ever-lasting impression she made with just one compliment.

Pam has volunteered and worn many hats in her volunteering at ESL by lecturing, serving communion, ushering, assisting in the church office, counting offering on Mondays, serving on the council for 7 years, serving on the education committee, helping with the block party, and rummage along with many other events. She states that giving back to the church is the right thing to do and helps you know all the things that go on to make the church run smoothly. Pam also enjoys getting to know all the members of the church. Everyone is welcoming and kind.

Pam encourages everyone to get involved. She suggests starting out by signing up to greet, working in the kitchen, serving meals on Wednesday nights or helping at one of the many events that go on at the church. Pam stated "It's a great way to share God's love and get to know others".

East Side Lutheran is grateful to have Pam serve in her many roles of volunteering.

Thank you, Pam, for all you do.

East Side Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes – September 20, 2026

Present: Ray Schut, Brian Ensberg, Brenda Schut, Kimberly Travers, Carla Midden, Gwen Oakland, Todd Brower, Danielle Champa, Pastor Layne Nelson. Excused Absence: Janelle Songstad

President Ray Schut called the meeting to order at 11:13am. Carla Midden moved to accept the agenda without changes. Gwen Oakland seconded. Motion carried.

Opening Prayer: Pastor Nelson offered prayer to open the meeting. Pastor Nelson and 8 ESLC members attended the “24 Hours on 8th Street” movie recently at Faith Lutheran Church. The movie focused on the difficulty that people can face when trying to access community services. Several additional showings are scheduled throughout Sioux Falls.

Secretary's Report: Carla Midden moved to accept the August 16, 2026 Council meeting minutes as presented. Gwen Oakland seconded. Motion carried.

President's Report: President Schut said there have been quite a few volunteer opportunities over the last year and voiced appreciation for everything the Committees have done for the congregation.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Nelson said that Sister Gretchen has started as the new Accompanist for the choirs. She is a Benedictine, who also works with Tyler at the University in Yankton. There have been two weddings and four funerals since the last Council meeting. The rummage sale hit an all time high of \$28,000+. Thank you to all involved! The ESLC Worship Committee resumed meeting this month. They would like a Martin Luther and Reformation theme to be used every Sunday for the month of October. The “Blessing of the Animals” will be held at 630pm on September 26th.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Brian Ensberg reported the budget is on-track. As of September 20, 2026, the Endowment Fund is \$989,122; the Mortgage balance is approximately \$439,876; and the Capital Savings Money Market balance is \$116,567. In August 2026, ESLC received a Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation distribution for \$21,502. The rummage sale items left over have been distributed as follows: St. Vincent de Paul, the Veterans Service Center for socks and shoes, the bus station for luggage, Owen's Outfitters for medical items, Nu2U Store, Savers Store, a charity in Chancellor, SD, and Last Stop CD Shop to sell CD's / DVD's/ books. Gwen Oakland moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Brenda Schut seconded. Motion carried.

Business

2027 Portico Health Plan: Each year the Council must select a level of Health Insurance for the Pastor and full-time staff. It was recommended for the year 2027 to stay with the “Silver Plan + High Deductible” plan. Gwen Oakland made a motion to enroll Pastor Nelson and Business Manager Wayne Wosje in the “Silver Plan + High Deductible” plan. Carla Midden seconded. Motion passed.

Budget Considerations for 2027: Pastor Nelson asked the Council members to check with their committees about budget needs for next fiscal year.

Canva – Pastor Nelson: The Microsoft Publisher program that has been used for almost all ESLC publications is being discontinued and not supported. ESLC is in the early stages of switching to Canva. The learning curve will be high, but ESLC's partner IT company will provide support as needed. This new program should allow for the improvement of designs, etc. As a non-profit, ESLC does not have to pay for a license.

“Final” Cell Tower Update - Brian Ensberg: American Tower waived the necessity for Thrivent to sign the SDNA. We received the full \$350,000 payment on August 31, 2026.

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TREASURER’S REPORT — BRIAN ENSBERG



We successfully completed the cell tower easement sale and received the full payment of \$350,000 from American Tower on August 31, 2026. The process was a long and winding road, with many twists, delays, and changes in direction, but it ultimately ended in success. We began by carefully weighing the benefits and drawbacks of selling [a perpetual](#) easement for the tower rather than continuing under our existing rental agreement.

At the February 8, 2026, Annual Meeting, the Church Council recommended selling a perpetual easement for the cell tower and depositing 100% of the proceeds into the East Side Lutheran Church Endowment Fund. The congregation amended the motion to state that proceeds would first be deposited into the Endowment Fund to make it whole, with the remaining proceeds applied to the church mortgage principal. The motion passed as amended.

During the summer, we addressed the final obstacle to completing the agreement. American Tower required signed approval from Thrivent, the holder of our building mortgage. Thrivent required that all proceeds, [less](#) any amount reserved for potential tax liability, be applied to the mortgage. In late August, American Tower granted a business exception that waived Thrivent's approval requirement, allowing us to complete the easement sale. In early September, we honored the congregation's direction by allocating the proceeds as follows:

- \$141,042** deposited into the East Side Endowment Fund.
- \$140,000** applied to the church mortgage principal.
- \$68,958** placed in the capital savings money market account to cover any potential tax liability.

Throughout this process, we received professional guidance from Greg Starnes, a member of our congregation, and an attorney at Woods, Fuller, Shultz and Smith. Greg brought significant expertise in contracts and agreements, and we are deeply grateful for his generous assistance.

As of August 31, 2026, our budget is on track. Year-to-date, our net position is a deficit **(24,935)**. We are **\$18,345** better than [budget](#) and **\$578** better than last year. In August, we received our Foundation distribution of **\$21,502** from the Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation. This is \$3,203 more than last year. These funds come from estate gifts established by former members through the Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation and are [designated for](#) East Side Lutheran Church. These gifts are from Nyla and Hymen Pitts, Selmer and Genevieve Nelson, and Vern and Connie Berg.

The recently completed rummage sale was a tremendous success generating **\$28,248** and counting for our church. Volunteers literally worked a cumulative total of several thousand hours to make this happen. **Thank You** for all who volunteered and for all who donated items to be sold! At the end of the sale remaining items were donated to the following organizations:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Veteran's Association: Socks and shoes | Savers: A full trailer of items |
| St. Vincent de Paul: A full trailer of items | Bus Station: Luggage |
| Chancelor non-profit: Boxes of clothing articles | Last Stop CD Shop: Electronics |
| Owens Outfitters: Medical supplies | |
| Nu2U Thrift Fashion and Home Goods: Items to support SF Christian | |
- Our hard work continues to help many people all over Sioux Falls!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Food to You Distribution	2	3 9:30 am Altar Guild 5:30 pm Worship
4 8:00 & 10:00 Worship Kings Choir Church on the Bus	5	6 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship In the Barn	7 5:45 Bells 6:00 Supper Mac'n'Cheese 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 Adult Choir	8 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Women's Bible Study	9	10 5:30 pm Worship
11 8:00 & 10:00 Worship Kings Choir Clergy Appreciation Day	12 9:00 am Quilters	13 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship In the Barn	14 11:30 WELCA Board Meeting 1pm WELCA Bible Study 5:45 pm Bells 6:00 pm Supper 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 pm Adult Choir	15 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Women's Bible Study	16	17 5:30 pm Worship
18 8:00 & 10:00 Worship Kings Choir	19 <i>Newsletter Articles Due</i>	20 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship In the Barn	21 5:45 pm Bells 6:00 pm Supper Spaghetti & Meatballs 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 pm Adult Choir	22 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Women's Bible Study	23	24 2:00—4:00 pm <i>Trunk or Treat</i> 5:30 pm Worship
25 8:00 & 10:00 Worship Kings Choir Reformation Affirmation of Baptism for 9th Graders	26 9:00 am Quilters	27 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship In the Barn 7:00 pm Beer & Theology	28 5:45 pm Bells 6:00 pm Supper French Bread Pizza 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 pm Adult Choir	29 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Women's Bible Study	30	31 5:30 pm Worship

Therefore, ESLC was able to honor the Congregation’s decision to pay \$140,000 to the mortgage, \$141,042 to the Endowment Fund, and save \$68,958 for potential tax liability. A tax attorney is currently being consulted regarding the potential tax liability.

Council Committee and Task Force Reports

Stewardship Task Force: Janelle Songstad reported Kim Mathison is going to donate the plates, cups, silverware, napkins, and some of the tablecloths for the upcoming donor gathering on October 15th and the total is \$131.53. Janelle is donating the decor and the tablecloths for the food tables and total is \$83.96. Janelle paid the security deposit for the History Club, and that amount is \$250, which is refundable provided the rental space is left in good shape. The PA/microphone and speaker will be rented from the History Club for \$25. The room is \$80 an hour and has been reserved from 5 PM to 8 PM. The caterer will be Shari’s Kitchen and Catering from Rock Rapids, Iowa, and a menu has been chosen. The cost will be about \$17.50 per person.

Education: Gwen Oakland reported Rally Sunday was Sept. 13th. Ice cream was handed out to everyone after the 8am and 10am services. Confirmation started on Wednesday, Sept. 9th with 17 kids for 6th-8th grade. The confirmation group hiked a trail at Great Bear and discussed the 1st Article of the Apostle’s Creed. An upcoming meeting will be held to discuss the 2027 National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN. The Block Party was held on August 29th. A lot of neighborhood kids and families participated. The next Block Party is being planned for September 11, 2027.

Upcoming events: Sept. 27th @ Sky Zone from 2-3:30. Everyone is welcome, cost is \$12 and ESLC will buy the socks if needed; Oct. 18th @ Pirate’s Plunder at 2pm. Everyone is welcome. Cost will depend on how many people participate in our group - the more people, the lower the price! Nov. 7th-8th @ ESLC. 6th-8th grade lock-in from 8pm-7:30am. Details yet to be worked out for roller skating, tubing at Great Bear, ice skating, and Thunder Road.

Outreach: Danielle Champa reported ESLC will be sponsoring Food2U on October 1st.

Evangelism: Brenda Schut reported that Life Light Festival was a lot of fun. ESLC gave away trinkets and pamphlets about the church. Many of the people who stopped by the ESLC booth had a connection to East Side and had stories to share. Plans are underway for a Living Saints celebration on November 8th to celebrate ESLC congregation members 80+. We will have a short presentation during coffee hour focusing on their Legacy of Faith. Muffins and conversation to follow. A special invitation will be mailed to those members who are being celebrated.

Fellowship: Carla Midden reported the Fellowship Committee will meet Tuesday, September 22nd, to schedule and plan for activities through May 2027. These activities include assisting with the Easter egg hunt and breakfast, sponsoring Bingo Sunday, providing breakfast for ESLC confirmands and their families, providing breakfast for ESLC graduating seniors and their families, and other activities to be determined. Anyone interested in serving on the Fellowship Committee, please call or text Carla Midden at 605-360-6767.

Property: Todd Brower has been approached with the following requests: new chairs for the Fellowship Hall, air conditioning in the garage, and replacement of the church entryway carpeting with flooring similar to what is now in the kitchen. These requests will be researched and vetted.

President Schut adjourned the meeting at 12:27pm. The next Council meeting will be held October 18, 2026 at 11:15am.
Submitted by: Kimberly Travers, Secretary

PORTRAIT OF A SPIRITUAL QUEST—WENDY ROWE



AUTHOR'S NOTE: *This brief profile of members of the East Side Lutheran Church family is presented here because they are in the pews and you have noticed them. In fact, you are often aware when they are in church and when they are not because their presence shapes your sense of belonging in this faith community. This story may offer an insight, a bit of inspiration or answer a question you've wanted to ask.*

Even if Wendy Rowe is not in the pew with her mother, Bonnie Wosje, and her brother, Wayne, she is part of this community thanks to a decision forced on East Side Lutheran Church by Covid-19.

The church created an online broadcast that, like the 81-year-old radio ministry, folds in a whole other community of Sunday worshippers. "It was one good thing that came out of Covid," Wendy said. Most Sundays Wendy joins this congregation from her home in Henderson, Nevada, which is not far from Las Vegas.

Obviously, having a Sioux Falls family connection helps. When she goes online, she says, "I feel like I am still here."

Initially, the online service served as a pleasant reminder of Wendy's hometown. She had attended grade school in the neighborhood and high school down Cliff Avenue, graduating from Lincoln High School in 1980. But Wendy has not lived in Sioux Falls for a long time. She joined the Air Force right out of high school and after a tour of duty began work as a professional in child care, settling in Nevada working her way through the entry-level jobs to now one in management.

Yet after all the years away the East Side's online broadcasts seemed to feel just right. Wendy said she had explored other nondenominational churches in the Las Vegas area but felt there was something missing.

"I found I liked the structure of the liturgy," she said. In any service she said she knew what was coming next. And she liked the preaching.

So after a few years Wendy made another decision: she joined her mother and brother as a member of the East Side community.

However she has found that there are some drawbacks. "We are an online community and sometimes the internet doesn't work. "We have to be gracious about that and find a way to resolve the problem and go on."

She also misses the easy interaction with other members of the congregation that can happen in the building before and after services. "The things I really miss are the volunteer opportunities."

During the workweek she finds time to gather with a community closer to home. She has been a member of a Bible study in Henderson. The group has been together for more than a decade.

Bible study and an online worship routine complement each other.

"I was brought up in the church. I was never a non-believer."

While it wasn't always that easy to find a church community in the military, civilian life provided opportunities to find a new rhythm of regular worship.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS — JACKIE SWIDEN



Rally Sunday was a wonderful success not just with the children but for the whole congregation. Our theme "God's Sweet Love" brought us all together to enjoy fellowship and ice cream treats after both worship services. During our time together in Sunday School we discussed our theme and what it meant to all of us and finished the morning with a craft.

We are looking forward to a year filled with love, fellowship and learning about our Lord Jesus Christ. The Children will also have many activities surrounding God love.



FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE—CARLA MIDDLEN



The Fellowship Committee met Tuesday, September 22 and discussed activities planned for the remainder of 2026 through May 2027. The activities include assisting with the Neighborhood Easter party, sponsoring BINGO Sunday, providing breakfast for our confirmands and their families, providing breakfast for our graduating seniors and their families and other activities that may come up.

The BINGO date was set for February 7th from 1-3pm. The committee is asking the congregation for donations of prizes. These items can be new or gently used items. Gift cards are also a very popular BINGO prize.

Cleaning the Altar & Sanctuary

The Altar Guild is rolling up our sleeves and giving our beautiful Sanctuary some extra love! We have two cleaning days planned for a deep cleaning of the Altar and portions of the Sanctuary:

October 8 at 10:00 a.m. And October 10 at 8:00 a.m.

We need many extra hand to come join us! We all have a little real-life experience with cleaning, right? Whether you're already familiar with the Altar Guild or have never joined us before, this is a great opportunity to lend a hand, get to know us, and see what the Altar Guild is all about. So come spend some time with us, help care for our beautiful worship space.

Thank you to everyone who helps us care for and beautify our Sanctuary. We appreciate every helping hand and every donation!

