



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

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Permit No. 1041
Sioux Falls, SD

October 2025



8:00 am & 10:00 am
Sundays
5:30 pm
Saturdays
WORSHIP SERVICES



The Voice

Welcoming All
Serving Others
Growing in Faith

Volume 29 Issue 10

of East Side Lutheran Church

October 2025



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

1. In what month do we celebrate the Protestant Reformation?
2. What date is said to be the start of the Reformation?
3. What needs reforming in your personal life of faith?

Instead of just one day, this year we are going to celebrate the Reformation every day in the month of October.

The work of Martin Luther and other reformers of the 15th and 16th centuries changed the world through the spread of ideas, education, changes in worship, and especially by placing the holy scriptures in the hands of the people in a language that they could actually understand. These are changes (and challenges) that are still impacting us more than 500 years later. The idea of forgiveness and grace being a free gift, and not something we must earn... as well as the idea of caring for our neighbor being our responsibility... gave people a freedom to let go of some of their own baggage, and experience lives of purpose and meaning. These things, combined with the use of Luther's Small Catechism by parents in the home, helped make faith down to earth and real, even sometimes gritty, on a day to day level.

During worship all throughout the month of October we will learn more about the Reformation. We will also hear personal faith statements written by our 9th graders that shape the way they see and understand their place in the world. We will be challenged to rethink how we each need reforming in our lives, that we might grow into something that looks more and more... like Jesus.

I invite you to begin and close each day with Luther's Morning and Evening prayers in October. They come to us from his Small Catechism. May October be a great month for you, and for our congregation. God bless each one of you! Remember we are in this... Together in Faith.

Luther's Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen. *(Then go joyfully to your work, singing a hymn...)*

Luther's Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

(Then go to sleep at once and in good cheer.)

[Answers: 1. October; 2. October 31 1517; 3. Your answer here]



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

Music Ministries

Paul R. Griffith Organist

Dr. Thomas Krause Director of Music

Katrina Mitchell. Accompanist

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

Blessing of the Animals

Animals are a big part of our lives, and they are a loved part of God's creation. Lets care for them.

Bring your pets to church for a blessing Saturday, Oct. 4, 6:30pm, outside under the north canopy.



Radio Sponsorships

For 80 years we've received cards, letters, phone calls and e-mails from those who enjoy "being with you" in Sunday morning worship through our radio ministry.



"YOU make this possible! Your sponsorship allows this to happen AND can honor someone or something special in your life... anniversaries, birthdays, the memory of a loved one or simply gratitude of God's love.

11:00am on KXRB Radio

(1140 AM or 100.1 FM)

Sponsor a radio broadcast

\$255/Sunday!

October 5—In honor of Kermit & Doris Rye's 62nd wedding anniversary given by Kermit & Doris Rye

Online Sponsorships

Did you know that people in SD, ND, NV, WY, TX, OK, OH (and other states) regularly worship with us online... and then share the Good News in their local community.

YOU make that possible!

**Online Sponsorship—
\$50/Sunday!**



October 5—In memory of Rita Erickson given by Mark, Mari, Matt & Michael Ossenfort

October 26-In honor of Aiden Ginter and the confirmation class given by Carol Trumbull

Communion Server Orientation

Tues, Oct 21, 6:30-7:00pm

Come and learn more about the Sacrament



As hearts simultaneously break and rejoice... please hold the following

ESL families in prayer:

Glenn Adler, Dean Midden,

Phillip "Bart" Fauteck, Kandy Strum

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.

Myra Bornitz given by

- Bob & Karel Amend
- Linda Ziegler
- Bob & Jan Folschow
- Judi Eliason
- Terry Bornitz
- Joe & Sharon Johansson

Glenn Adler given by

- Char VanBockern
- Nancy Renner
- Rhonda Baker
- Marlin & Colleen Wangsness
- Joe & Sharon Johansson
- Marv & Laurie McKnelly
- Carol Thomsen
- Carla Midden
- Dee Hohn
- Shirey Watke
- Judi Eliason
- Bob & Karel Amend
- Linda Ziegler
- Bob & Jane Himrich
- Vicki Jelsma
- Milt & Sue Jackson
- Roger & Nita Lien
- Friends and family

Dean Midden given by

- Rhonda Baker
- Bob & Jane Himrich
- Marlin & Colleen Wangsness
- Joe & Sharon Johansson
- Marv & Laurie McKnelly
- Family & Friends
- Carla Midden
- Reggie & Shelly Huber

Jim Buckneberg given by

- Marlin & Colleen Wangsness
 - Reggie & Shelly Huber
- (gifts given as of September 25th)



Trunk or Treat will be held on Sunday, October 26th in the east parking lot from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

Needed:

Decorated trunks

Bags, bags and more bags of candy

Volunteers

Upcoming Events

Sept 28, 1pm	Corn Maze (all Ages)
Oct 4, 6:30pm	Blessing of Animals
Oct 4-5	Lock-In (MS & HS Youth)
Oct 11, 7am	Great Bear Hike and BK Devotions (adults)
Oct 26, 1-3pm	Trunk or Treat (all ages)
Oct 28 (TBD)	Beer and Theology (Adults)
Nov (TBD)	Rock Climbing (all ages)
Nov 9	Consecration Sunday
Nov 23, 11:15am	Thanks-for-Giving Meal
Dec (TBD)	Pavillion & Imax (MS/HS)
Dec 11	Caroling & Cheer (adults)

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC TOM KRAUSE



The last Sunday in October in the Lutheran Church is always known as “Reformation Sunday”. This year we would like to make the whole month of October, “Reformation Month”. So many things changed for the entire world with that banging on the church door by that monk in 1517. His intent was not to start anything new, but to bring attention to what anyone could read in scripture.

Thus began changes in almost every area of daily life, from the monk to the congregant, the Nun to the hand-maiden, the scholar to the commoner. This month we look at how Martin Luther changed all of society, from waking to retiring at the end of the day. Luther thought that all of life centered around one thing, belief in Jesus Christ. To that end he began and ended everyday in prayer.

Through the month of October we will bring awareness to some of how Martin Luther’s influence changed not only religious practices, but the world as well.



Reformation Festival

STEWARDSHIP REPORT — JON CISAR



The Stewardship Task continues to work with GSB consultants in our “Stewardship for All Seasons” program. We are now half way through year two of this two year program. We have been finding great success financially, and in the tenor and tone of the congregation. As a church council, it has also helped us rethink the impact of “generosity” on our life together as a congregation. Good things are happening in this place, and you are a big part of that! Thank you!

Looking toward 2026: At the August meeting of the Stewardship Taskforce, it was decided to retain for the 2026 stewardship appeal the 3 areas of focus from last year. To accomplish this we are working towards a minimum of a 7% total increase in giving. Ideas to grow in these three areas of focus in 2026 include: the addition of a part-time custodial help to free up staff, a part-time program specialist to provide ministry opportunities for all ages, and a 3% increase in giving to keep up with inflation.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT — RAY SCHUT



**Do you like feeling good about yourself?
Do you enjoy that feeling of having made a real impact?
Do you sit a little straighter, taller knowing that your life has purpose and meaning?**

Then volunteering may be just the thing for you!

For it is when we give of ourselves, that we receive. It is when we give of ourselves for the sake of others that we live into the purposes for which God has created us. That is why we feel better about ourselves when we serve others through volunteering, even when we don’t get anything in return. Or in the words of Sherry Anderson...

“Volunteers don’t get paid, not because they’re worthless, but because they’re priceless”

Our church is much like every church in America. Every activity, every meal, every funeral, wedding, baptism and Sunday church service is made possible by volunteers. They’re the ones who set up tables and chairs, wash the dishes, make the food, greet you at the door, hand out bulletins, read the scripture verses and light the candles.

Recently, volunteers poured in over 2,000 hours of their free time into our rummage sale, which produced another record year! Our annual block party saw volunteers, setting up tables and chairs, grilling hot dogs, making snow cones and dressing up in unicorn costumes. Another banner year for our neighborhood families to enjoy a day of food and fun.

Without volunteers we wouldn’t be able to hold these events and grow our church. Like most churches, the same people tend to volunteer for each event, which can lead to burn out. That’s why I’m asking you to prayerfully consider donating some of your time.

When we have more volunteers, new volunteers, we get new ideas, a fresh set of eyes that leads to a new spin on our events and activities. **We want your ideas!** We want you to volunteer! No need to give up all of your nights and weekends... just a few hours once a month makes an enormous difference in the life of your church, and for yourself.

I invite you to donate a few hours a month for your church... and for your health.



COUNCIL MINUTES — PASTOR MICHAEL MOLLAND



East Side Lutheran Church Council Meeting - September 14, 2025

Present: Ray Schut, Carla Midden, Brian Ensberg, Brenda Schut, Gwen Oakland, Michael Molland, Kimberly Travers, and Pastor Layne Nelson. Excused absence: Todd Brower, Jon Cisar, Danielle Champa

President Ray Schut called the meeting to order at 11:25am.

Opening Devotion – Pastor Layne Nelson invited all members to introduce themselves to Kimberly Travers and then opened the Council meeting in prayer.

Secretary's Report: Carla Midden moved to accept the August 17, 2025 Council meeting minutes as presented. Gwen Oakland seconded. Motion carried.

President's Report: President Schut said the Church's online store will open in October 2025 for seasonal clothing and items for purchase. Proceeds will go towards youth activities. He reported that the block party was a success with over 450 people attending.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Layne Nelson discussed the Council Update schedule for the remainder of 2025. Church on The Bus will take place September 21st. Pastor Laura Phillips from St. Dysmas will lead services at East Side Lutheran on that day. New member reception will take place on October 11/12. He reported on Rally Saturday/Sunday worship attendance being 353, 135 more than our summer average. There are five Weddings scheduled for October. Pastor Nelson will be attending the SD Synod Fall Theological Conference in Mitchell. SD from September 14 – 16, 2025.

Trunk or Treat has been moved to October 26th from October 25th due to conflict in the church building. Pastor Nelson is assembling a trunk in neighborhood outreach for the Trunk or Treat at Terry Redlin Elementary School, which takes place just prior to East Side's Trunk or Treat event. Council and all members are welcome to participate in putting the trunk together and helping on that day at Terry Redlin and at East Side Lutheran.

Financial Report: Treasurer Brian Ensberg reported August revenue was more than budget and total expense was less than budget. August was net positive by \$9,925. Year-to-date through August 2025 total net is (\$40,432.50), which is \$18,736 better than budget. However, the budgeted September 2025 revenue amount may not be reached.

The Capital Savings Money Market balance is \$62,979. The Boiler repair project will begin shortly with \$31,000 in this account for that purpose. This account has \$21,857 in funds available for undetermined projects. The Finance Committee will meet Sept. 18th. Work is underway on the 2026 budget.

Brenda motioned to accept the Financial Report. Gwen Oakland seconded. Motion carried.

Council Committee and Task Force Reports

Outreach Committee: – Danielle Champa submitted a written report. Food to You on September 4, was busy again this month; however the turnout of helpers was less than what was planned for due to the rummage sale occurring on the same day. She thanked the regular volunteers for always helping.

Stewardship & Visioning – Pastor Nelson gave a verbal report. The Stewardship Task continues to work with GSB consultants. At the August 18, 2025 meeting, it was decided to retain the 3 areas of focus from last year. Ideas to further these three areas of focus include: Part-time custodial help to free up staff, Part-time program specialist to provide ministry opportunities, and 3% inflation to maintain.

EVANGELISM UPDATE — BRENDA SCHUT



Evangelism is the simple act of sharing the GOOD NEWS of God's love in Jesus and inviting others to trust in this love and join in God's work.

Such an easy thing to write out and can be such a complex thing to put into action. Many of us find talking to others about our faith difficult or uncomfortable; and honestly, I can see that. Our world is not the most accepting place any longer. Hopefully we all still see the benefit in sharing the GOOD NEWS of God's love.

Maybe evangelism could look a little "quieter" to you by simply sharing our church's Facebook posts, wearing an East Side sweat-shirt, or by inviting a friend to a church activity.

Martin Luther believed (and I whole heartedly agree) evangelism is to be a joyful, natural response to God's grace, not a performance or obligation.

God bless each of you on your evangelism journey!



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS — JACKIE SWIDEN



September 7th was Rally Sunday and was an eventful day all the way around. It started with a warm welcome in the children's message and blessings of backpacks. What an amazing way to start our Sunday School year.

We left the sanctuary together and headed to the Sunday School area where the children met their new teachers while doing a group project. The project helped us to tie into the theme for the year which is "Color our world with the love of God".

Together we said a group table prayer prior to sharing fruit snacks, goldfish and juice.

Children and teachers then went to their new class rooms. Where each child was gifted a heart shape crayon that was made from of melted crayons from past Sunday School years, as you can see they were so pretty.

We are so grateful for all of the children and the blessings they bring to us!



Pre K



K—1st & 2nd



3rd & 4th



5th

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 3:00 Worship Comm. Meeting 5:45 pm Bells 6:00 Supper –Pizza Hot Dish 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir	2 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Women's Bible 12:00 Staff/Council Lunch	3	4 5:30 pm Worship 6:30 Blessing of the Animals MS / HS Lock-IN
5 8:00 and 10:00 Worship 11:15 Education Task Force MS / HS Lock-IN	6	7 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship In the Barn 6:00 pm New Member Ort	8 11:30 am WELCA Board Meeting 1:00 pm WELCA Bible Study 5:45 pm Bells 6:00 Supper –BBQ's 6:45 Confirmation	9 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Women's Bible Study	10	11 7am—Great Bear Hike and BK Devos 5:30 pm Worship— Welcome of New Members
12 8:00 & 10:00 Worship Welcome New Member 11:15 Healing Service Clergy Appreciation	13 9:00 am Quilters— Lower Level	14 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship In the Barn 6:00 Charis Board Meeting	15 5:45 pm Bells 6:00 Supper-Lasagna 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir	16 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Women's Bible Study	17	18 5:30 pm Worship
19 8:00 and 10:00 Worship 11:15 Council Meeting	20 Newsletter Items Due	21 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship In the Barn 6:30pm Communion Server Ort	22 5:45 pm Bells 6:00 Supper— Tuna & Noodles 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir	23 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Women's Bible Study	24	25 5:30 pm Worship
26 8:00 and 10:00 Worship Reformation/ Confirmation Sunday 1:00—3:00pm Trunk or Treat	27 9:00 am Quilters Lower Level	28 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship In the Barn	29 5:45 pm Bells 6:00 Supper-Scallop Potatoes & Ham 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir	30 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Women's Bible Study	31 Reformation Day	

(Minutes continued)

The brochure for the Fall financial appeal is being developed. Temple talks will occur in October, November 8th and 9th is Commitment Weekend, and November 23rd is the Thanks for Giving meal.

Education – Gwen Oakland reported Sunday School and Confirmation have both started. The Corn Maze is confirmed for 1 – 2:30 PM on September 28, 2025 and is open to children, youth, and adults. The group rate is \$6/person, but cost should not be a burden. Thrivent grant money will be used for the upcoming Youth Lock-In. The 2025 Sunday School Christmas Program will be held at 10am Service on December 21st.

Evangelism – Brenda Schut gave a recap of the East Side booth at Life Light. Candy was given out as well as mini-Jesus stickers. She said the stickers were a big hit and recommends using them again. Brenda began Council discussion on ESLC member activation and involvement.

Fellowship – Carla Middlen recapped the recent Block Party. It was a success again this year. Carla recommended choosing a different date for next year as well as possibly involving a community partner and establishing a separate committee to coordinate and run the event in the future.

Property – Treasurer Ensberg reported the boiler and air conditioner replacement project is waiting until the weather is more favorable to be turned off for a conversion to forced air. It has been a warm month not conducive to shutting the air conditioning in the sanctuary.

Old Business – Treasurer Ensberg reported American Tower has been informed that a decision will be made by the end of December 2025

New Business –

The Council discussed ideas on how to increase volunteer involvement in East Side Lutheran Church events. It was a busy first week in September with several volunteer intensive events scheduled at the same time. The congregation members again helped in so many ways.

A new outreach event, “Beer and Theology” will begin off site in October. President Schut said a local company essentially “rents” lists for invitations to solicit the downtown newcomers. President Schut will collaborate with Treasurer Ensberg to obtain more information for targeted advertisement.

The current Council Secretary has submitted resignation, and a replacement Council Secretary has been recommended.

Brian Ensberg made a motion to accept the resignation of current secretary Michael Molland. Seconded by Carla Middlen. Motion passed.

Gwen Oakland made a motion to accept the appointment of Kimberly Travers as Council Secretary effective October 1, 2025. Carla Middlen seconded. Motion passed.

Each year the Council must select a level of Health Insurance for the Pastor and full time staff. The “Select 2000” plan be chosen as it is as close to the present “Silver Plan”.

Carla Middlen made a motion to enroll Pastor Nelson and Business Manager Wayne Wosje in the “Select 2000 plan” for 2026 . Seconded by Brian Ensberg. Motion passed.

The Fall Council Retreat to discuss Committee and Staffing Structure, among other related items, will occur on November 15, 2025. Sioux Falls location to be decided.

Corey Etter from Hope Harbor reached out to do a temple talk at East Side. Pastor Nelson will check availability and interest for this temple talk.

President Schut adjourned the meeting at 1:20 pm. The next meeting will be held Oct. 19 at 11:15 am.

=Respectfully submitted, Michael Molland and Kimberly Travers, Secretaries

Look for the ESL Online Clothing Store to go LIVE in Early October!

FELLOWSHIP HAPPENINGS — CARLA MIDDLEN



We are in the neighborhood for good!

The Fellowship Committee would like to thank everyone who attended the East Side Lutheran Block Party!

A very special thank you to all those who donated time and talents to make it a successful event. This year we only had one inflatable which turned out to be enough, as it was huge.

People thoroughly enjoyed the live music from Todd Casilli!

There was plenty of sidewalk chalk and lots of budding artists.

The weather was wonderful and made it more pleasant than usual to be outside.

We had fewer volunteers than usual due to scheduling conflicts but a huge thank you goes out to those of you who were able to help. A special thanks to all the members of the Fellowship Committee!!

Watch for news about our next event... **BINGO!!**

TREASURER'S REPORT — BRIAN ENSBERG



Year-to-date as of August 31, 2025, our net financial position is a deficit (\$40,432.50). This is a normal and expected position for East Side and for many churches at this point in the budget year. This normal net position is due to traditional giving patterns and lower summer church attendance.

In fact, we are ahead of budget by \$18,736, in large part due to generous giving up 11.2% over last year.

However, our net deficit position is a reminder of how important fall giving is. Going forward, as we finish our calendar year, our traditional giving exceeds our expenses each month allowing us to finish with a balanced budget. Thank you for your commitment to the mission of East Side Lutheran Church.

The complete year-to-date budget is posted on the church bulletin board.

Contact Brian Ensberg at 605-254-1870 with any questions that you may have.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT - GWEN OAKLAND



Gwen Oakland believes "Youth are the future of our Church and we need to be there and support them anyway we can." That is why Gwen stepped up to the plate and said yes at an education meeting when asked if she would be willing to help with the youth activities.

Gwen has been a member at East Side Lutheran since 1996 and has always been involved with the youth. She has been a Sunday school teacher and currently teaches 8th grade confirmation and serves on the church council.

One of her most memorable moments was when she was asked by two different 9th grade students if she would be their mentor and help them write a faith statement. She stated, "What an honor that was for me. As a mentor, I enjoy working one on one with the students and discuss our faith journey. That really meant a lot to me. Kids should enjoy their time with their church family which will in turn help them grow in their faith."

This past summer Gwen spent a few days at Ne-So-Dak Bible Camp with the East Side Lutheran confirmation students. We had a great time and she is hopeful that next year she can spend the full week with them.

While Gwen spent time at Ne-So-Dak her daughter Amber was a counselor at Shetek Bible Camp. During the 4th of July break Gwen and her mom Gayle invited some of the exchange student counselors to spend the holiday weekend with them so they did not have to be alone. They treated them to a night at the Canaries Baseball game, a trip to the Great Plains Zoo and spent time showing them around the city of Sioux Falls. This is just another example of Gwen's love and passion for young people.



If you have taken part in the Eggstravaganza around Easter you would have had a visit by the bunnies who help in the celebration. At the Summer Block Party a unicorn appears out of nowhere to bring smiles to old and young alike. If you have wondered who is inside of those costumes, you guessed it that's Gwen and she is game for almost anything asked of her.

This year Gwen is looking forward to meeting with Pastor Layne to prepare and plan many more youth activities. Keeping the youth engaged throughout the year is so very important as they grow in their faith and with one another.

Gwen works in accounting at Sanford USD Medical Center and has two adult children. Aaron who works for EPIC which is a hospital software program system. He and his wife Brianna and two dogs live in Lodi, WI. And Amber who is a sophomore in college at Black Hills State University in Spearfish, SD. Gwen is a sports fan and enjoys watching the Sioux Falls Canaries play baseball and is a huge San Francisco 49ers fan. Some of her other hobbies include bowling, playing cards and spending time with her family.

If you are interested in getting involved with the youth please contact the church office or visit with Gwen.

