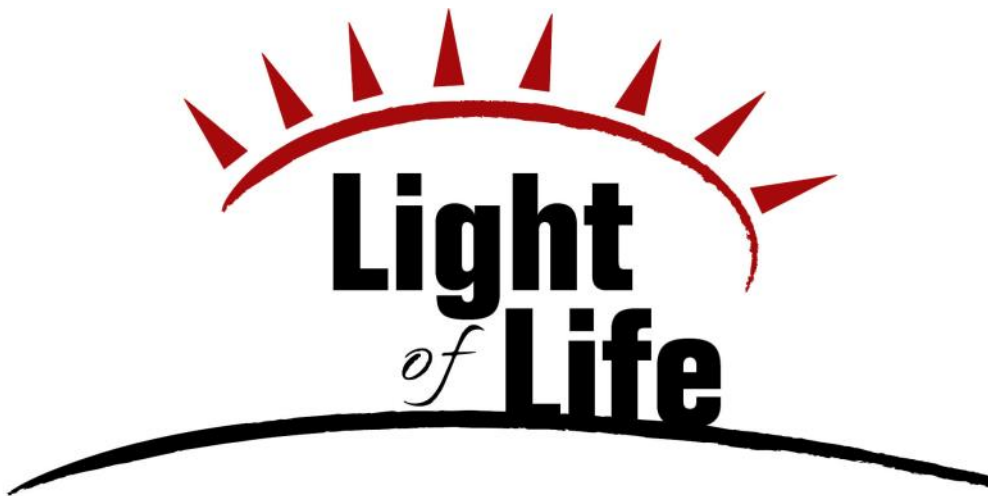




OCTOBER 2025

OUR STAFF

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BURKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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We're getting ready, are you? Burke Lutheran's Annual Craft and Bake Sale will take place Saturday, November 8 from 9:00am to 3:00pm. If you like to do crafts and have a few items you would like to donate, the BLCW will be having a table. Proceeds from the sale will go towards projects at Burke. In the past we have had some quilted table toppers, homemade cards and floral arrangements donated. Items can be dropped off in the church office at anytime. It's also time to start thinking about what items you might bake for the Bake Sale. The bake sale usually sells out quickly so we would love to have your cookies, pies, breads, etc. to sell.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers to help at the Craft and Bake Sale and to donate items for the bake sale. We need help with setting up tables on Saturday morning from 8:00a to 8:45a, lunch from 10:30am to 1:30pm (taking orders, dishing up food, taking payment, handing out food, kitchen clean up, etc.), bake sale from 8:30am to ?, and clean up from 3:00pm to 5:00pm. If interested, there are sign up sheets in the Narthex. Thank you in advance for your help!

Dear friends,

I've been asked a couple of times now over the last year why I don't include more comments about recent events in my sermons. So I thought I would use this space to explain myself a little so you know what to expect from me.

It was back in 1966 that preacher, teacher, and theologian Karl Barth (1886-1968) wrote in *Time* magazine that a preacher should, "Take your Bible and take your newspaper, and read both. But interpret newspapers from your Bible." A form of this quote was at the center of my formal education in seminary, that we should write our sermons with the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other. Of course, the image of the newspaper is a little outdated, but the idea still holds, that the preacher should keep attuned to what is going on in the world. Pastors like me live in the world just as much as you, even when my daily work is mostly ensconced in the walls of the church. But I still live in a community with neighbors, and I participate in civic life like everyone does (or should).

Yet, I don't always bring these social situations to the front of my sermons. And I have reasons for that. First of all, you did not hire me to be a political commentator. You called me to be your pastor and proclaimer of God's love through Jesus. So when I write my sermons, my first priority is always to point to Jesus. Any social situation may or may not have reference to the scripture readings of the day or to the particular message I try to speak that morning.

Other times, I find myself getting in the way of speaking to recent events. Even though I try to keep informed, sometimes I do not know enough about a given situation to speak clearly enough. Other situations produce a stronger emotional reaction within me that I feel would overshadow the message of Jesus. And, to be honest, sometimes I think that my comments about political events would not be welcomed. I've put myself into too many uncomfortable situations too many times previously to blithely walk into that again.

I also come to my position and opportunity of writing sermons with the realization that, within my lifetime, all social events have become "political," that colloquial term for different expected responses, reactions, and retaliations based on political beliefs and party choice. Since my political beliefs do not coincide with either of the major political parties, my reactions rarely fit nicely into the political expectations. With the polarization of political parties and their reactions to social events, a monologue (like a sermon) rarely, if ever, elicits constructive results. Instead, it tends to further polarize and eliminate the conversation that needs to happen to appropriately respond to some of the things going on in our world.

cont'd.

I also trust you as fellow followers of Jesus to draw your own connections between following Jesus and living in the world. Many of you have been involved in the adventure that is life for a lot longer than I have. Many of you have had more and different experiences than I have. I do not feel that I am an expert on how to interpret the world or faith. In fact, I look forward to learning from you as much as I hope you learn from me. After all, both faith and civic life are only accomplished in community.

So with all of these pieces, I exercise caution when commenting on societal events in sermons and in worship. I want to make our congregation a welcoming place for all people who come to hear of God's great love for us.

Luckily, my words are not the only opportunity to share with each other. When you want your church family to join in your sorrows or joys, you are invited to share them out loud or in your hearts during the prayers of intercession. When you want to share more with your friends here, you are invited to bring your concerns during the announcement time. And when you want to talk with me and others, sitting around tables with cups and snacks during coffee hour is a great time to have conversations. We can also go more in-depth conversations during Bible Study for us OWLs. And, of course, you can have time with me one-on-one or in small groups.

I believe that the church could be, and really should be, the place where people with different political and social views, theories, and ideas can be together with a focus of learning from each other and working together to generate more and better solutions for the problems of the world. From our gatherings and services like worship, Bible study, and projects, we make Jesus's love for the world a reality. I try not to jeopardize that by misusing time, place, and words to make others feel uncomfortable or unheard. Instead, I want to be an open and affirming community of Jesus-followers who seek out his will in all things.

God bless,
Pr. Bryan



WOMEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

Friday, October 24 at 12:00pm. They will be meeting at Texas Roadhouse. Please join us for the monthly celebration. Happy Birthday to all who have a birthday this month.

FOOD PANTRY

October Food Pantry Focus: October "Toiletries," such as shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, hairbrushes/combs, toilet paper, baby diapers, feminine products, Depends, etc. Please place your non-perishable goods in the 'Donations' basket in the entryway and it will be delivered to the pantry.

BIRTHDAY BAGS FOR RIVER FOOD PANTRY.

List of contents and bags are located in the entryway.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

The next Men's Breakfast is Wednesday, October 8 at Gus' Diner, Hwy 19, Sun Prairie, at 9:00am. Stop in for a cup of joe, a hearty breakfast and connect with brothers in Christ.



It's Lefse Time!!!!

We will be baking Lefse every Tuesday and Thursday at 8:00am starting Thursday, September 11 through Tuesday, October 14. Come join the fun!! Volunteers needed. No experience needed, you can be trained on the job.



JAM Youth Education Classes At Norway Grove Memorial Lutheran Church

J.A.M. (Jesus And Me) is religious youth education geared towards children aged 3-years-old to 4th grade. Class time consists of a bible story, crafts, games, music and prayers. JAM meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m., September through mid-May.

PRAYER CONCERNS

During the month of October we remember the following individuals in our Sunday prayers:

Family and Friends of Dave Erickson

Lisa Thompson	Mark Gehrke	Marie McCoy
Mary Brantmeyer	Tim Lothe	Pat McCallum
Bill Schmidt	Chris McFarlin	Paul Fritz
Diane Wendt	Tom Finhert	Sara Cross
Jeff Larsen	Jeff Hildebrand	Mani Lancaster
Darren Hauck	Jarod Lyle	Diane McFarlin
Ardith Hanson	Lynn Holtan	Steve & Sandy Davidson
Tom Hughes	Mary Schnick (Jean Schnick's daughter)	



We apologize if we have missed anyone, it was not intentional.

Reformation Sunday

October 26, 2025

In Christianity, Reformation refers to a 16th-century movement that aimed to reform the Roman Catholic Church by challenging its authority and practices, leading to the establishment of Protestant churches. Key reformers like Martin Luther advocated for salvation through faith alone, the supremacy of the Bible alone for spiritual truth, and questioned the Pope's authority and practices like the sale of indulgences. This movement resulted in a split in Western Christianity and the formation of diverse Protestant denominations.



We remember and thank God for all the saints who have entered his eternal kingdom this past year. A candle will be lighted in their memory during our Worship Service on Sunday, November 2. Please contact the church office if you wish to light a candle for any saints from this past year. Families are asked to attend and have someone come forward to light the candle.

VETERAN RECOGNITION SERVICE

Sunday, November 9, 2025, 9:00am

Please join us in a special Veteran's Day Recognition on Sunday, November 9 as we honor our Veterans. Veteran family members, neighbors and friends are all invited. Coffee Hour will be served in honor of our Vets.

With respect, honor and gratitude—thank you!



QUILTSGIVING AT BURKE LUTHERAN

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 9:00AM TO 3:00PM

Not one to go shopping the day after Thanksgiving, but want to get out of the house? How about a day of quilting at Burke Lutheran Church? You can work on projects that have been waiting or maybe you'd like to work on something that can be donated to a good cause. If you're interested, please contact the church secretary for additional information and a registration form (in person, 608.244.8486 or burkelutheran@att.net).

There will be a limit of 20 quilters, so get your name in as soon as possible. Everyone from beginner to advanced is welcome.

A potluck lunch will be served so please bring a dish to pass. Please bring your own beverage. Also, please bring one, two, or more 9 inch blocks the Burke Lutheran Quilters will use for a quilt to be donated to Lutheran World Relief.



To Cemetery Association members (all members of the congregation):

If you use the water hydrant by the Parsonage to water flowers, this affects you. A problem with the water distribution system outside the parsonage means that the water hydrant will be disconnected. The Cemetery Board decided not to replace the hydrant because of the cost. Once the hydrant is removed, please bring water in your own containers. We will let you know when another water source is available.

Please call Barb Hennings at 608.445.0566 if you have questions.

BIBLE TRIVIA

1. What are the names of Joseph's two sons?
2. What Athenian judge was converted under Paul's preaching?
3. Who was Moses's father-in-law?
4. When Saul was pursuing David, in which cave did David seek refuge?
5. How did Paul escape Damascus when the Jews were trying to kill him?
6. Upon what mountain was Israel cursed for disobedience?
7. What two kings disguised themselves before going into battle, and were both slain by archers?



OCTOBER 2025 CALENDAR



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 OWLS, 1:30pm JAM, 6:30pm	2 Lefse, 8:00am	3	4
5 No Screen Sunday Worship, 9:00am Coffee Hour, 10:00am	6 Praise Band, 10:30am	7 Lefse, 8:00am	8 Men's Breakfast, 9:00am OWLS, 1:30pm JAM, 6:30pm	9 Lefse, 8:00am	10	11
12 Worship, 9:00am Coffee Hour, 10:00am Confirmation at BLC, 5:30p	13	14 Lefse, 8:00am Open Forum, 6:30pm Council, 6:45pm	15 Quilting, 9:00am BLCW, 10:00am OWLS, 1:30pm JAM, 6:30pm	16	17	18
19 No Screen Sunday Worship, 9:00am Coffee Hour, 10:00am	20 Preach Board, 10:00am Praise Band, 10:30am	21 Foundation, 7:00pm	22 Quilting, 9:00am OWLS, 1:30pm JAM, 6:30pm	23	24 BLCW Lunch, 12:00pm	25
26 Reformation Sunday Worship, 9:00am Stewardship Dinner 10:00am	27	28	29 Quilting, 9:00am OWLS, 1:30pm	30	31 	

Save the Dates: October 12 - Confirmation at BLC
 October 31 - Halloween
 November 2 - Daylight Savings ends
 November 8 - Craft and Bake Sale at BLC
 November 28 - Quiltsgiving at BLC

October 26 - Reformation Sunday
 November 2 - All Saints Sunday
 November 9 - Veteran Recognition
 November 27 - Thanksgiving

Happy Birthday!

October 5	Scott Proebstle	October 17	Tom Finhert
October 5	Shirley Bible	October 20	Barb Hennings
October 5	William Kittleson	October 26	Louie Brown
October 6	Cindy Sommer	October 27	Anne Romeis
October 6	Linda Martin	October 28	Linda Klinger
October 11	David Hanson	October 28	Mary TeWinkel
October 12	Chris Brown	October 29	Kevin Thompson
October 13	Jim Lehr	October 29	Paul Beckman
October 17	Nick Ekern	October 30	Louis Loui
		October 31	Valerie Larson

Happy Anniversary!

Steve & Stephanie Larson	October 2
Don & Michelle Krisher	October 3
David & Kim Hanson	October 6
Troy & Connie Hauge	October 7
David & DeAnn Ludwig	October 9
Jay & Linda Olson	October 12
Paul & Cheryl Beckman	October 14
Bob & Angie Lenzendorf	October 20
Don & Connie Johnson	October 28
Mark & Shelly McCoy	October 28

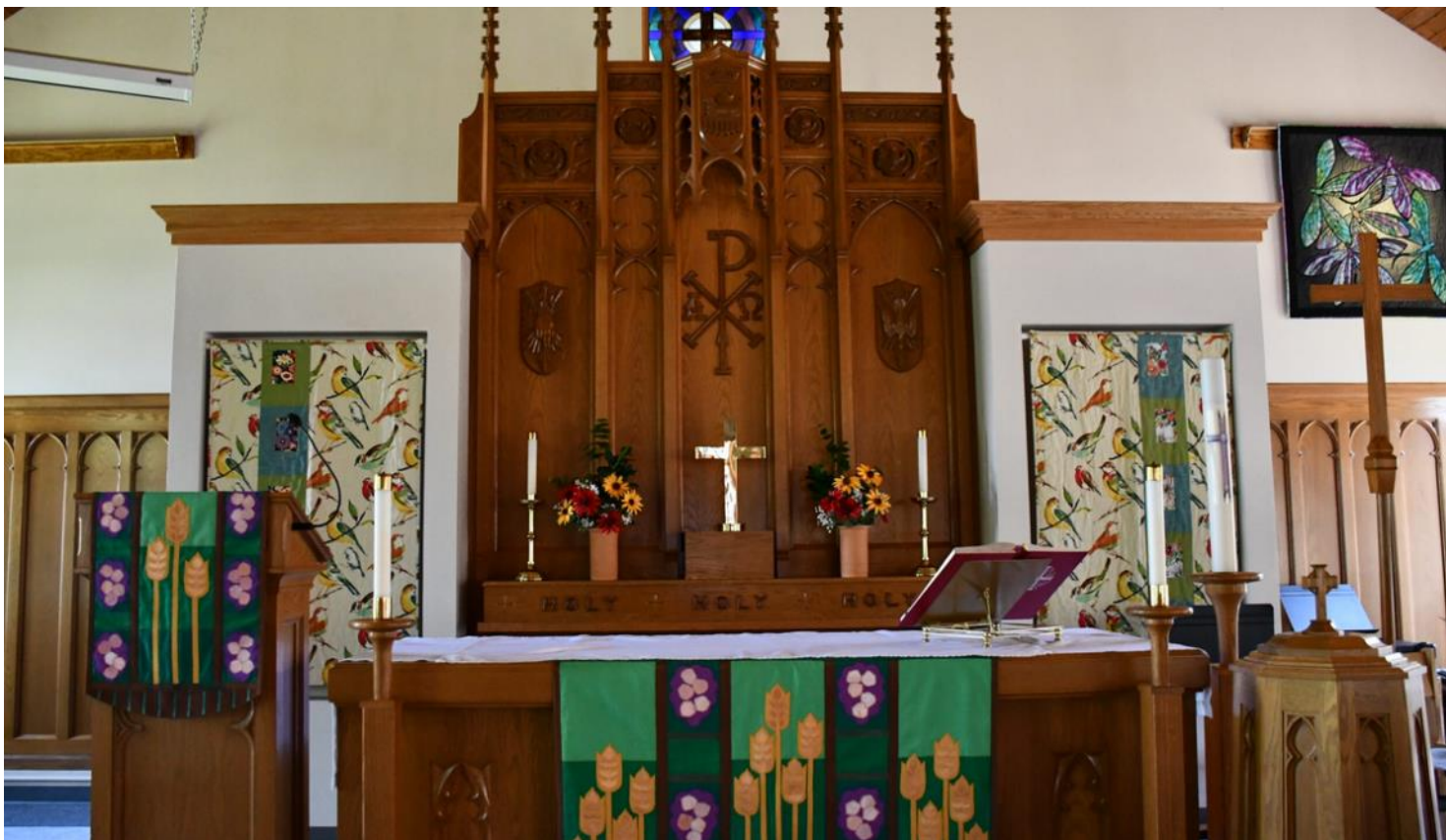
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OCTOBER WORSHIP LEADERS

	October 5 9:00am Service	October 12 9:00am Service	October 19 9:00am Service	October 26 9:00am Service
Organist/Pianist	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore
Music Leader	Chris Grefe Dave Wisner	Praise Band	Chris Grefe Dave Wisner	Praise Band
Communion Asst	Julie Clark	Sharon Hughes	Barb Hennings	Jean Schnick
Communion Prep	Gloria Lundquist	Jeannette Gehrke	Gloria Lundquist	Jean Schnick
Lay Reader	Sharon Hughes	Tim Wachs	Barb Hennings	Deb Brown
Ushers	Bob Lenzendorf David Hanson	Steve & Donna Frederick	Karl & Shari Patzner	Roger Kittleson Rick Brandon
Coffee Hour	Donuts	Donuts	Donuts	Stewardship Dinner
Counters	Jeannette Gehrke Gloria Lundquist	Deb Brown Rose Haney	Sharon Hughes Jan Peterson	Sharon Hughes Jean Schnick

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Ephraim and Manasseh (Gen 41:51-52)
2. Dionysius (Acts 17:34)
3. Jethro (Exod 3:1)
4. Cave of Adullam (1 Sam 22:1)
5. He was let down from the city walls in a basket (Act 9:25)
6. Mount Ebal (Deut 27:13)
7. Ahab and Josiah (1 Kings 22:34; 2 Chron 35:22)



Norway Grove Memorial Lutheran Church will be
hosting a combined Advent/Christmas Concert
“Let Us Enter In”
on December 7, 2025 at 2:00 pm

Musicians include singers from Oconomowoc,
DeForest and Madison. “Let Us Enter In” is a
stand-alone event and lasts about 1.5-2 hours.