



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 5th - October 11th
20th Sunday after Pentecost

A photograph of communion elements on a dark, polished wooden surface. On the left is a tall, light-colored wooden chalice. In the foreground, a shallow wooden bowl contains two round, golden-brown communion wafers. The background is a dark, textured surface.

**You prepare
a table before me.**

Psalm 23:5

Congratulations to Tyler & Taylor “Mack” Wilson!



THANK YOU!

Thank you for supporting PACH's annual Back-to-School drive. Your generous donation of food items helps provide weekend meals and snacks for local students as they begin the new school year. We sincerely appreciate your partnership and commitment to helping children in our community have access to the nourishment they need to grow, learn, and thrive.

The PACH Board



Annual Gathering

The LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ) Annual Gathering is a four-day event, **October 4th - 7th** featuring keynote speakers, worship and Bible study, breakout sessions, vendors and plenty of opportunities for fellowship and networking in Des Moines, Ia.

This year's theme is "Unleashed" with the verse "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." – Galatians 5:1.

You are able to **watch on livestream** during the event on your own (we've provided the **website address below** for you) AND if you are interested, **you can contact Pr Janine to watch at the church during those days!**

www.LCMC.net/live

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

OCTOBER 11TH

Please help us welcome

Alexis Carlson

Logan, Rebekah,

Faith & Lincoln Eide

Van & Debbie Schwinger

Amanda and Serenity Sowers

Aaron & Mari Swanson



Pastor **APPRECIATION**

WE WILL CELEBRATE PR. CRAIG AND PR. JANINE



On Sunday, October 11th, 2026
We will have a basket available for cards
and treats during coffee!

A decorative border of autumn leaves and berries surrounds the central text. The leaves are in shades of orange, red, and brown, and the berries are small red circles.

YOU ARE INVITED TO

The Seasoned Citizens Supper

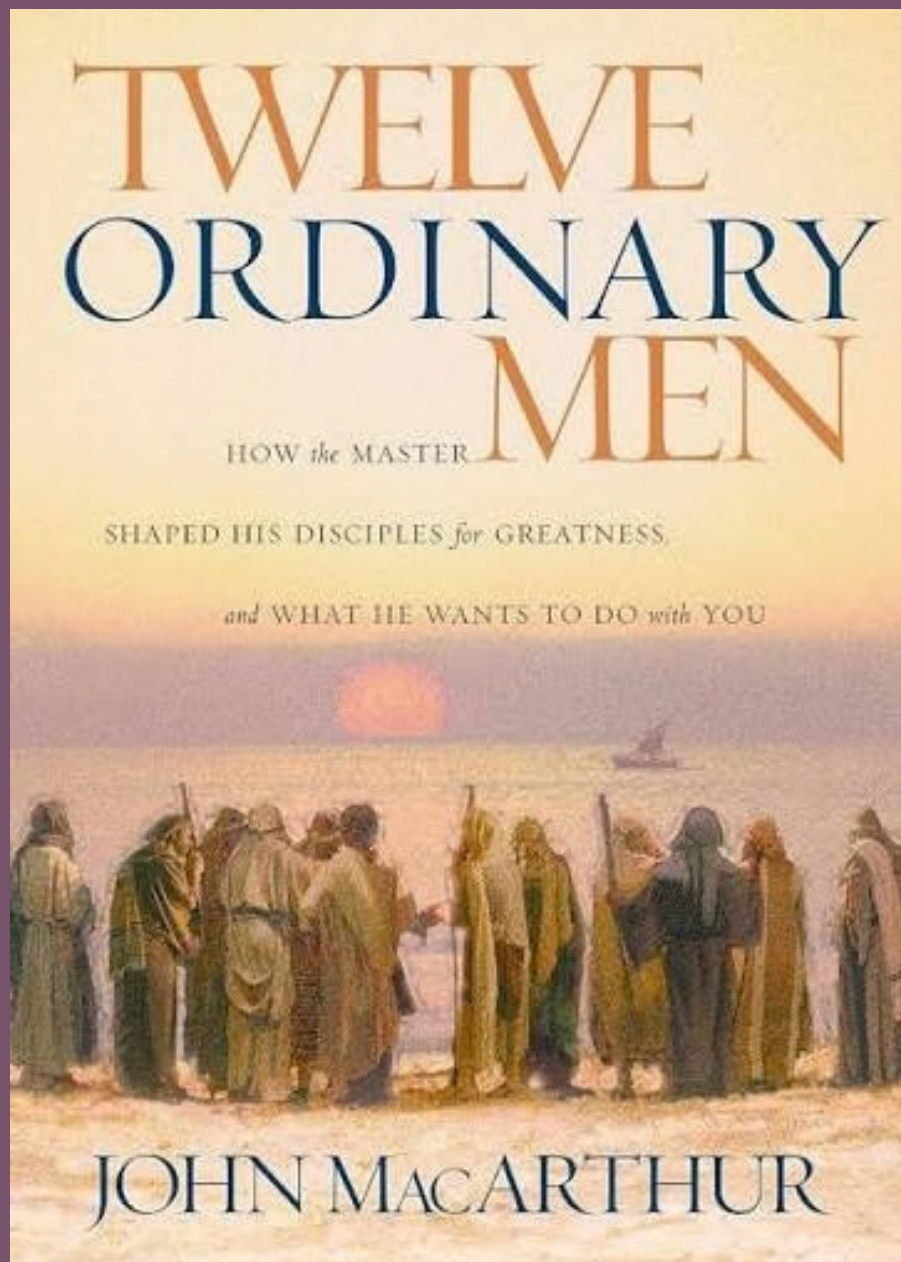
*Sunday, October 18th
starting @ 5:30 pm*

served by the Youth Group

Faith Circle

**1st Thursday of each month at 2PM
with Pr. Janine**

***Books are \$15,
they are in the office***

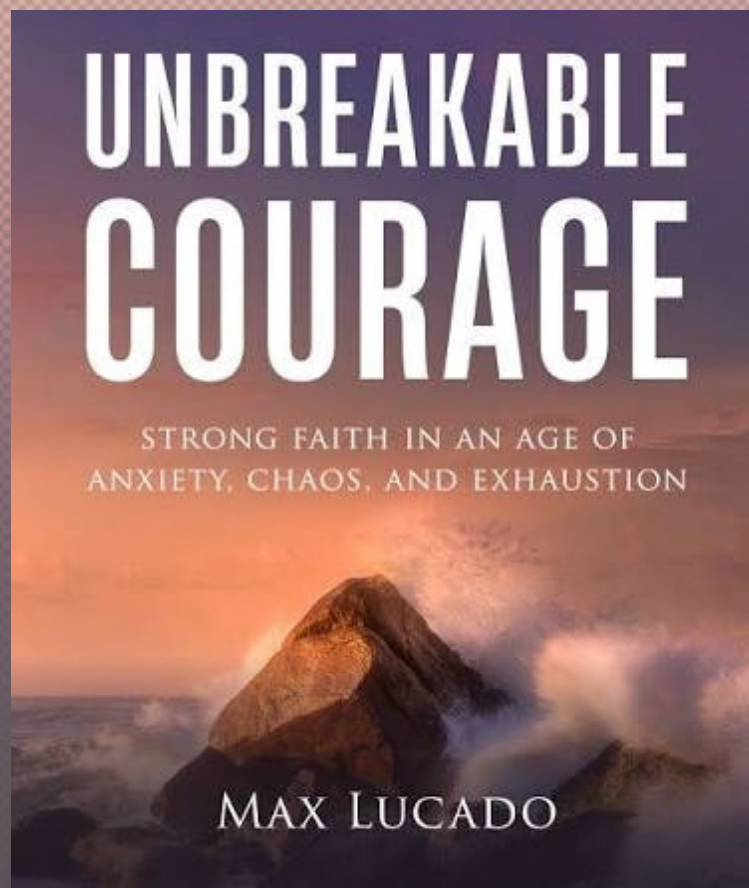


Bible study.

**2nd Thursday of each month at 2PM
with Pr. Janine**

***This will start in
November and go through April***

**Books are \$13,
they are in the office**



The background is a dark blue surface with white snow-like speckles. It is decorated with several items: a lit candle in a glass holder at the top left, a lit candle in a metal holder at the bottom left, and several star-shaped cookies or crackers, some of which are also lit. The word "Advent" is written in a large, white, serif font at the top, and "Celebration" is written in a large, white, cursive font below it.

Advent

**Sunday,
November 22nd**

2pm - 5pm

**Puzzles
a Movie**

Cookies & Hot Chocolate

Craft Stations

Bingo

Santa

Christmas Music

Sign up to help at the information table!

Youth Group Newsletter LINK





CLICK HERE

for order form

Youth Group Fundraiser

Funds will be used for Youth Group Faith-building experiences such as Quake (retreat weekend), Christian concerts, and local youth group activities.

Option 1

Short Sleeve Tshirt



\$20 Youth

\$25 Adult

Option 2

Long Sleeve Tshirt



\$25 Youth

\$30 Adult

Option 3

Sweatshirt



\$30 Youth

\$35 Adult

Option 4

Quarter Zip



\$40 Adult

Option 5

Baseball Hat



Cash and Carry at the church or special order!

\$25

Order forms can be dropped off
or mailed to the church office
or emailed to:

hosannafaitformation@gmail.com

Orders will be delivered in batches
approximately 2-3 weeks
after your order is placed with us.



Thanks to Darren at Bulldog Branding!

T-Shirt orders are in the classroom!

We will submit another order in early July if you would like to order.

Welcome to
Faith Formation
2026-2027!



Opening

approximately 10:30-10:45; Held either in the sanctuary or the chapel

Classes

approximately 10:45-11:30

Ages 3-5: Nursery

Teachers:

Jersey Peery,
Zayne Hartwig,
Natalie Gross,
Ellie Gross

Kgn and 1st Grade:

Classroom 1

Teacher:

Stephanie Hayunga

2nd and 3rd Grade:

Classroom 2

Teacher:

Melissa Gross

4th, 5th, 6th Grade:

Classroom 3

Teacher:

Danita Carlson

HOSANNA
Lutheran Church, LCMC



amen

Y.A.R.N.

HOSANNA
Lutheran Church, LCMC

You Are Really Needed

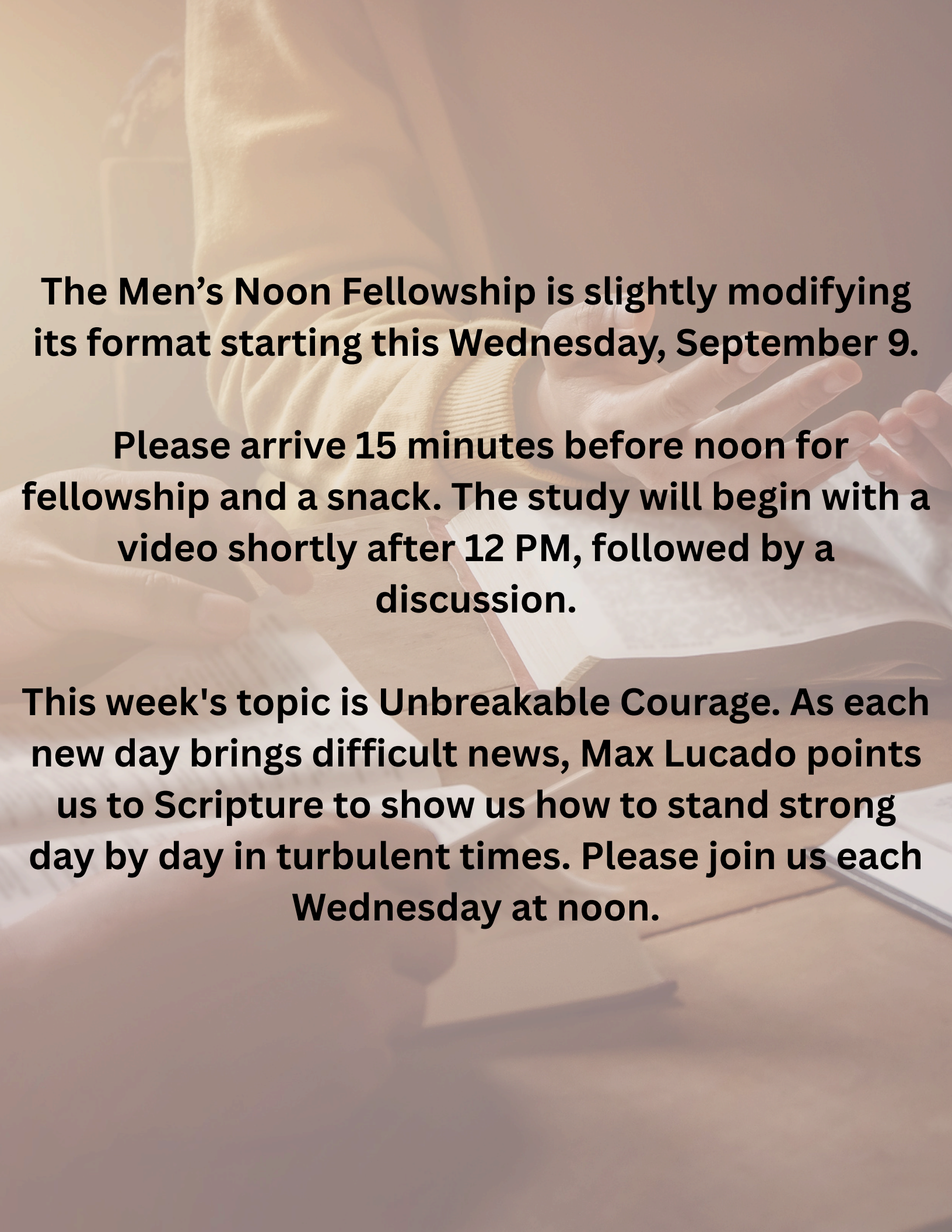
All are welcome to join us on the
1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month
in the Fellowship Hall @ 10:00 am

Quilt Ministry

2nd & 4th Wednesdays
of each month
9:30am to noon

Bring supplies if you can or fabric to donate.

All are welcome to help create quilts for local and worldwide comfort.

A background image showing a pair of hands holding an open book. The hands are positioned as if presenting the book, with fingers gently gripping the edges. The book's pages are visible, showing some text. The overall tone is warm and focused, with a soft, slightly blurred background.

The Men's Noon Fellowship is slightly modifying its format starting this Wednesday, September 9.

Please arrive 15 minutes before noon for fellowship and a snack. The study will begin with a video shortly after 12 PM, followed by a discussion.

This week's topic is Unbreakable Courage. As each new day brings difficult news, Max Lucado points us to Scripture to show us how to stand strong day by day in turbulent times. Please join us each Wednesday at noon.

Confirmation Class
for 7th & 8th Graders
on Wednesdays
@ 5:30 pm at the Church
Supper @ 6:45 pm
\$5 suggested donation



YOUTH **GROUP**
WEDNESDAYS
@ 7 PM

SUPPER @ 6:45 PM

\$5 SUGGESTED DONATION



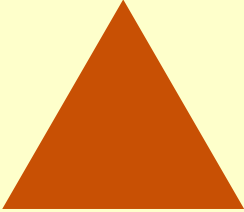
Do you have a love for music?

**Hosanna Choir would like to
invite you to join them!**

Each Wednesday @ 7 PM

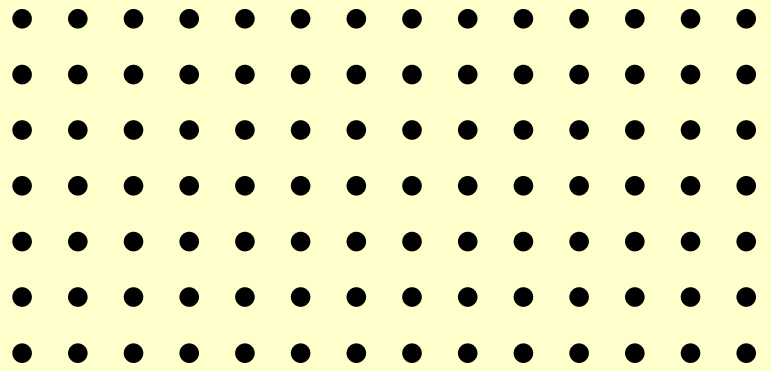
Previous choir experience is encouraged.

**Questions?
Please talk to Sarah Becker
or email her at
sebrindle@gmail.com**



Judges

A 10-WEEK STUDY



Join

Pastor Craig on

Thursdays @

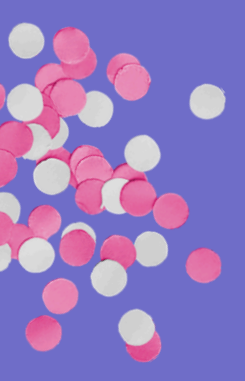
Noon & 6PM

September 10th -

November 12th

Please sign up at the information table.

Books are in the office for \$5.



*Join Pastor
Janine*

FOR

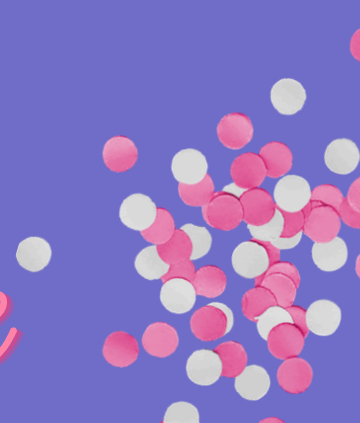


Faith Circle

Thursday,
November, 5th
@ 2PM

New Book

Twelve Ordinary Men
Books are \$15



All are Welcome

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 23) – October 11, 2026

11 “But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. 12 And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. 13 Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ 14 For many are called, but few are chosen.”

– Matthew 22:11–14 –

The parable of the wedding feast is about God’s calling in light of election and predestination. As Christians proclaim the gospel, there is a call that goes out to all. This can be called a “general call” due to its universal scope, or an “external call” because it does not necessarily touch the heart. However, through the work of the Holy Spirit, this gospel proclamation reaches the hearts of particular individuals and becomes effectual in the hearts of God’s elect. Thus, the calling of the Spirit, may be called a “particular call”, an “internal call” or an “effectual call” to distinguish it from the general and external call of the preacher.

These terms may sound strange to Lutheran ears. However, even if the terminology is strange, the substance should not be. As shown by Article V of the Augsburg Confession, Lutheran theology fully accords with the description given above: “Through the Word and Sacraments, as through instruments, the Holy Spirit is given. He works faith, when and where it pleases God, in those who hear the good news that God justifies those who believe that they are received into grace for Christ’s sake.”

Because the human heart is bound in sin, it cannot free itself. It can’t accept the gospel offer until it is regenerated by the Holy Spirit. After all, “The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned (1 Corinthians 2:14). Moreover, “the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed it cannot (Romans 8:7).” On its own, therefore, the human will cannot make a “decision for Christ” in order to be born again. Rather, it must first be born again to make a decision for Christ!

This might lead some to despair. If salvation is 100% God’s work, why evangelize? The answer is that God works through means, including our prayers and our witness. Because God’s word is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword (Hebrews 4:12), we may be sure that God works through His word as we witness to others. Consequently, we proclaim the gospel in complete confidence that God will work “when and where it pleases” Him to quicken the hearts of those whom He has chosen.

Pentecost20(Proper 23A)

October 11 , 2026



One thing, and only one thing,
is necessary for Christian life, righteousness,
and freedom. That one thing is the most holy Word of God, the
gospel of Christ, as Christ says, "I am the resurrection
and the life; he who believes in me,
though he die, yet shall he live."

– Martin Luther –

On Christian Liberty

Proclamation Points

The following are some thoughts and questions to be used for a text study on the weekly lessons, or for jump-starting the imagination of the preacher and hearer in preparing for the proclamation event.

Isaiah 25:6–9

On the mountain of the Lord, Zion – God’s chosen dwelling place in Jerusalem, God will make a rich feast for his people. The hope-filled apocalyptic vision expressed in these verses foreshadows similar New Testament imagery of righteous judgment and salvation. As in Revelation 21:4, we hear the promise that when God puts an end to death, he will “wipe away tears from all faces” (Isaiah 25:8).

• What does it mean to you that God will eradicate death one day? Why must we “wait”? In what sense is waiting on the Lord at the very heart of faith?

At the scene of a crime or accident, dead bodies are covered by the police. Verse 7 refers to a “covering” and a “veil” that is cast over all people.

• In what sense do we all live our entire lives in this world under the veil of death? For better or worse, how does the fear of death shape the way we live?

Verse 8 says that God will “swallow up” death. The Hebrew word, *balatz*, is the same word used in Jonah 1:17, in reference to the prophet being “swallowed” by a great fish.

• Read Jonah 2 for Jonah’s description of the experience of being swallowed by death. What is the irony in Isaiah that death itself will be swallowed by God?

Psalms 23

The depth of these well known words makes them so much more widely applicable than just on the occasion of a funeral where we hear them most frequently. This psalm vividly reminds us of God’s abiding presence in this life. He provides for all our needs and accompanies us on our journey of faith. He leads us in peace and before our last enemy.

• In what ways does this psalm speak to you in your present life situations? How can it comfort you in daily life and not just in times of trial and grief?

As in Isaiah 25, in Psalm 23:5 the blessing of God is described in terms of a banquet.

• What does it mean that God spreads a table “in the presence of my enemies” (i.e., those who trouble me)?

• Does this say anything about the regret unbelievers will experience when Christ returns?

Philippians 4:4–13

Paul wraps up his pastoral letter to the church in Philippi, admonishing a pair of local women to get along for the sake

of the gospel. He asks the rest of the faith community to help them do so in order that their important Gospel work may continue.

• In what ways does internal church conflict impair the mission of the church? How is the entire community of faith responsible for smoothing things over so the mission of God can flourish?

Paul goes on to say, “Rejoice in the Lord always!” Be reasonable. Do not be worried about things you cannot control. Pray! Do whatever is of God. We are able to follow Paul’s advice because of the promise he iterates, “The Lord is at hand!” With the Lord at hand, we need not worry about things so that conflict ensues amongst us. These are nuggets of advice from which every congregation and every Christian can benefit.

• Which pieces of Paul’s advice about how to live in Christian community catch your attention the most? Why do we fail to attend to these teachings until things get out of control?

Matthew 22:1–14

Jesus tells a parable that describes the urgent nature of the kingdom of God. He describes God’s kingdom as a wedding feast he was hosting for his son. Specific people were invited by the King, but the people gave all manner of lame excuses for why they couldn’t attend. Rather than grieving their absence, the King sent out servants to invite guests from among the roadside travelers.

• How does this parable help to explain the inclusion of Gentiles in the promise of the Gospel, in terms of the rejection of the Gospel on the part of the Jews?

• Compare how Paul addresses this same subject in Romans 11:1–24. What conclusions does he draw? What is Paul’s warning to the Gentiles in Romans 11:21?

To those who are inclined to see the King’s actions in this parable as an example of “cheap grace,” there is an additional twist at the end of the story. One of the last-minute invitees comes to the banquet but is not dressed appropriately for the occasion. He showed up, but he did not appear to understand the importance of what was happening — and he was thrown out.

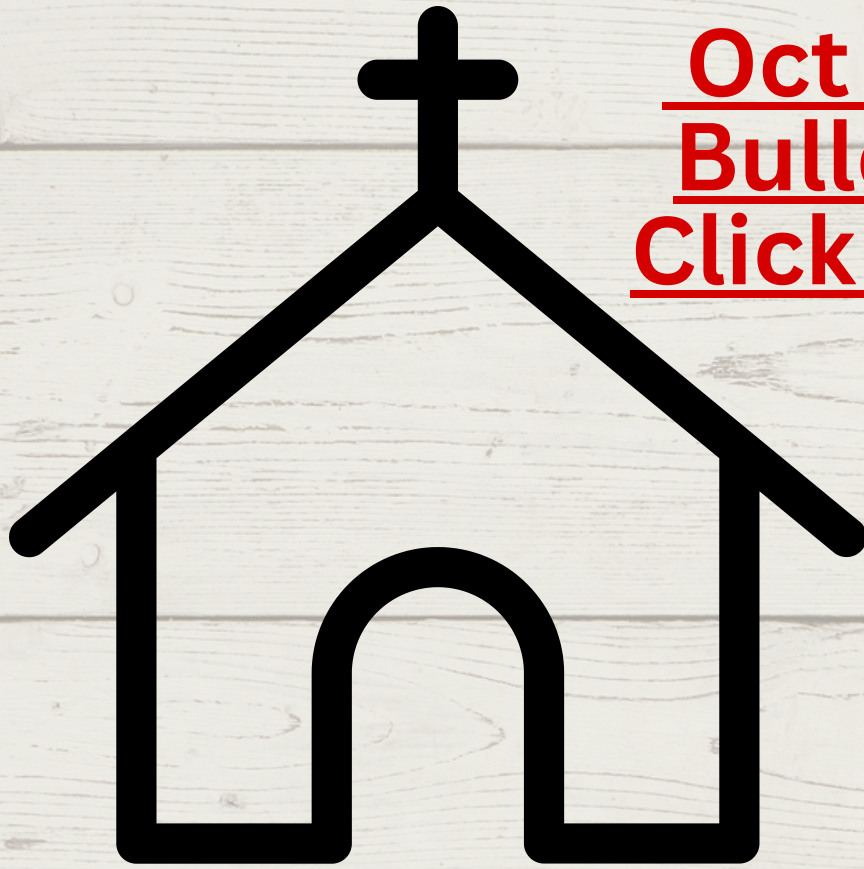
Once again, keep in mind that when Jesus spoke of the “kingdom,” he was talking about faith. Martin Luther said: “Faith does not free us from good works, but from false opinions about good works.” (On Christian Liberty)

• Does the grace of God make void our accountability to God? What does God expect of us as people of faith? What sense do you get from this parable that the time to act on faith is now?

MON	Office Hours Mon - Thurs 10am to 2pm
TUE	9:30 - Prayer 10:00 - Coffee 10:00 - YARN 6:30 - Property Committee meeting
WED	12:00 - Men's Bible study 5:30 - Confirmation Class 6:45 - Youth Meal 7:00 - Youth group 7:00 - Choir
THU	10:00 - Coffee 12:00 - Pr. Craig's Bible study 6:00 - Pr. Craig's Bible study
FRI	
SAT	
SUN	9:15 - Worship/Baptism/New Members 10:15 - Coffee/Pr. Apprieciation 10:30 - Faith Formation

This Weeks Bulletin

Oct 11th
Bulletin
[Click Here](#)



LIVE

STREAM



Oct. Servant Team!

Servant Team #6 - Serves - October 2026

- Abers, Debby
- Brist, Todd & Jennifer & family
- Brist, Travis & Gina
- Carter, Roger & Shirley
- Crandall, Kim
- Drake, Bob & Pam
- Elkins, Jeff & Janet
- Filipek, Cindi
- Flemming, Ed & Jackie
- Gravatt, Carter & Teresa & family
- Heiser, Blake & Jani
- Hopper, John & Cindy
- Hunter, Jim & Tammy & family
- Kaasa, Duane & Jane
- Kaasa, Larry & Audra & family
- Krause, Sheila
- Larson, John & Mary
- Magedanz, Andrew
- Peterson, Gene
- Pries, Bill & Angie
- Ronning, Wayne
- Schladweiler, Scott & Kristi & family
- Schneider, Carol
- Schulte, Jan
- Suttan, Jarod & Kristina & family
- Thyne, Gabriel & family
- Valberg, Jan
- Zinter, Dennis & Donna

HLC OCTOBER 11TH SERVANT TEAM



**Keyboard
Accompanist:**
Lynn Osthus



Head Ushers:
Randy Rakness



Lector:
Mike Aadland



**Non-Communion
Sunday**

Attendance & Offering

Sunday, October 4th, 2026

Attendance: 214

General Offering: \$7,728.10

Hospitality: \$174

Youth Group: \$55

HLC Year to Date Financial Report as of 8-31-26

	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Giving	\$276,480	\$290,815.50	\$14,335.50 - Over Budget
Expenses	\$221,696	\$209,305.93	\$12,390.07 - Under Budget

Please see a Council member if you have any questions.

SEPTEMBER

Benevolence &

Mission Outreach

\$3030 – Augustana District – Tabor Congregation in Ethiopia –
to help build churches in rural areas

2026 CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS & MEMBERS

JOSH MAAG – PRESIDENT
KATHY MONNENS – VICE PRESIDENT
KATHERINE ALTHOFF – SECRETARY
EARL BENSON – TREASURER

Sharon Brekke
Sherri Brindle
Jan DeBerg
DeDe Gilbertson
Patti Lien
Andrew Magedanz

Our Church Directory is Online!

View our church directory online or via the **FREE** mobile app today.

To view the directory online, go to members.InstantChurchDirectory.com and follow the prompts under "Sign In" to "Create a login now." Please remember, you must confirm your email address before you can sign in.

There is also a free mobile app available for download at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store and the Amazon Fire App Store. Simply search for "[Instant Church Directory](#)" to get the download.

You will need to use your email address as listed in our directory to create a log-in the first time you use the directory online and via the mobile app.

Need help or have questions?

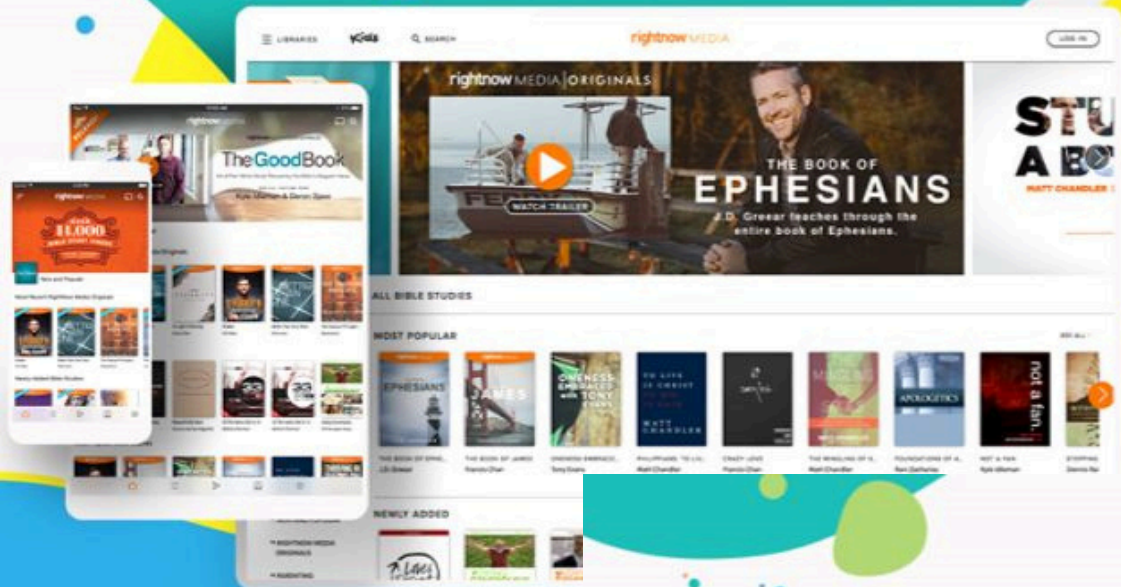
Please contact Anna at 605-237-8399 or email her @ watertownhosannalutheran@gmail.com



Our Church Directory is powered by [Instant Church Directory](#).

FREE GIFT

for everyone in our church!



We've purchased unlimited access to thousands of Christian videos and are giving free access to **everyone** in our church. If you haven't already accepted your invite:

1

Text HLW

2

to 49775



VANCO

OUR NEW GIVING APP

1. Download the free ***Vanco Mobile*** app from the App Store or Google Play.
2. Search for our Church name ***Hosanna Lutheran Church.***
3. Donate!

Thank you for your generosity!

1. Text \$(with amount) to 855-625-1726
Click the link they send you
Put in your information

5 ways to Give

2. Download Vanco Mobile App
Search for Hosanna Lutheran

3. Fill out an electronic giving form
They are located on the
information table

4. Place your gift in the offering plates in
the fellowship hall

5. Mail checks to 1617 14th Ave NE
Watertown, SD 57201

HELPING HANDS FUND



**This is a discrete fund used to help
those in need!**

**If you would like to give to this fund,
just place your donation in an
offering plate
and mark it Helping Hands.**



Endowment Fund Donations

Your donation can be sent to the church office at

1617 14th Ave NE Watertown, SD 57201

Checks must be written out to HLC Endowment Fund



Endowment Fund Board Members

President: Tyler Gross

Treasurer: Karen Olson

John Hopper

Dana Jones

Dick Nicolai



Augustana District's
October
Newsletter Click Here

Augustana District
Video



Upcoming FREE Theological Classes

Rev. Dr. Marney Fritts, Theology Coordinator for the Augustana District of LCMC, will be hosting a series of free online classes covering the theological distinctives the District is held together by, and which give the fellow congregations life and nourishment when gathered. The classes will cover topics such as:

- What is in the AD Statement of Faith
- The Law-Gospel Distinction
- The Power of Proclamation: Handing Over the Goods
- Justification and Vocation
- Sanctification as Purely Passive
- On Being Theologians of the Cross
- The Office of Pastor and the Royal Priesthood of Believers



These classes are geared for those congregations that are interested in Augustana District AND for member congregations. The classes will be held via Zoom the third Thursday of the month from 7 – 8 p.m. (CST), September 17, 2026 – March 18, 2027.

The Zoom link may be found at <https://augustanadistrict.org/events/confessing-christ-together/> or by clicking or scanning the QR Code above.

Any questions may be directed to dte@augustanadistrict.org

EKKA PRAYER LETTER

September, 2026

Grateful for your partnership in the Gospel

Neeraj and Nijhar



“All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, Lord; they will bring glory to your name.” (Psalm 86:9)



Birhor People of India

Left – Pray with us for Birhor People of India who are semi-nomadic and hunting people residing on hills. They collect honey from forest and make ropes of forest vines to sell. Their tradition is to catch monkeys, field rats and small birds and gather other forest produce for food. They worship sun god and village spirits. Their population is about 10,000. Most of them do not have access to education or other amenities.

Pray for their salvation

Pray for workers to go to proclaim the Good News and serve them.

Right – The School in North India is growing. There are 70 children in classes from nursery to Class 3. They learn Bible verses and prayer along with their regular courses. These children come from very poor and disadvantaged families but we are happy and thankful that along with children, the parents are also growing in responsibilities and new outlook on life. **Pray for students and their families.**

Pray for Kingdom Workers (teachers)



EKKA PRAYER LETTER



Learning about environment on the
'World Earth Day'

Pray that these children will be good
stewards of God's creation

 PRAYER LEAGUE



Discipleship House Participant Achal
who volunteered at the school is being
given farewell.

Pray for Achal as he is in Albania for
mission training

Want to grow in Prayer for Unreached People Groups of the world?
Join online Ask For the Nations Prayer Meeting on Third Tuesday at 7 PM Central Time.
Request zoom link at nnekka@prayerleague.org



Youth Retreat to grow in Prayer and
Discipleship
Pray for Holy Spirit's guidance for them



Thank you for your prayers for our
daughter Jhumpa who graduated from
H/S and has started college at the U of
MN. Thank you for your continued
prayers and financial support for us.

Security Concerns: **PLEASE DO NOT POST ONLINE**

Email: jnekka@gmail.com

Ph: 612 413 8509 (Neeraj)
651 435 3348 (Nijhar)

Prayer League • USA
232 Clifton Avenue
Minneapolis MN 55403
612.871.6843

prayerleague.org info@prayerleague.org



THE CHANNEL TO BRAZIL

Align With God in 2024

"So that the works of God might be displayed."

In John 9 we read about one of Jesus' miracles where he restored the sight of a blind man. At the beginning of the story, we see the disciples questioning Jesus about who had sinned to cause the blind man his disability.

Rather patiently (we might imagine), Jesus insinuates that the disciples are asking the wrong question. He encourages them to look forward, 'while it is still day,' (v4) rather than backward upon who to blame.

What are you looking forward to this new year? Right now, it feels like the world is full of suffering and poverty of spirit and unity. In this passage, Jesus teaches us that with suffering comes the opportunity for God's works to be displayed.

Children growing up in the slums are suffering because they are neglected and failed by a wider community that is unable to care for their physical needs and education. By supporting CBC you have the opportunity to step in as the healing hands and feet of Jesus.

Thank you for your partnership with us that displays the mighty works of God where there is sickness, anxiety and desperate poverty.

May God Bless you and your family this year.

Marc Marques
Executive Director

Summer Newsletter



FRIENDS of MADAGASCAR MISSION

Throughout the history of global mission work from churches within the United States, beginning in the 19th Century, we have seen the great mission outreach organized for the most part by Mission Societies. In the 20th Century the mission work was taken over by church denominations. It became institutionalized. As we enter the 21st Century, we are once again experiencing a return to Mission Societies claiming a greater role in Christian mission work around the globe.

It is in this climate of change, in how mission work is being done today, that the Friends of Madagascar Mission was begun. We believe we have a unique role in the future of mission, particularly in Madagascar at this time. In 2010 we began our fund raising activities and each year we continue to grow in giving from our generous donors. For this we give thanks to God!

[Newsletter Click Here!](#)

[Digital Magazine Click Here!](#)

PUMPKINS! Fall Festival!

Saturday, October 10

10 AM – 4 PM

- Pumpkins 4 Sale
- Corn Maze
- Petting Zoo
- Barrel Train
- Inflatables
- Iron Skillet Toss
- And Much More!

\$7 Lunch Combo

Sloppy Joe or
Mac n Cheese,
Chips, & Cookies

Free ..

Coffee, Cocoa,
Hot Apple Cider

*You're
gonna love this
place!*

Pumpkin Patch – 4 acres of pumpkins,
for sale on Saturdays, Oct. 10 – Nov. 7

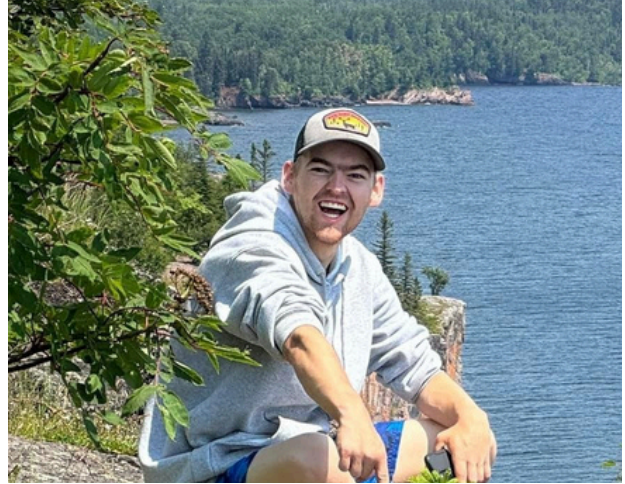
MIDWEST BIBLE CAMP
1500 N Hwy 20 Watertown



TRIVIA NIGHT



Help raise funds for COTA in honor of John Crandall, who needs a life-saving kidney transplant. Proceeds will assist with a lifetime of transplant-related expenses.



DATE: Saturday, October 24th

TIME: Social at 6pm, Trivia 7-9pm

PLACE: Cloud 9, Watertown



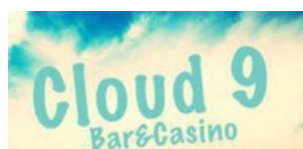
cota.org/cotaforteamjohnnc

\$20per person - Teams of 8.

Prizes for 1st and 2nd place.

Call or text Kim at 605-520-4181 to register your team.

SCAN to learn more about John's Story.





2026 Board of Directors

Resources

Watertown Area Memory Care & Aging Network has the following community resources available

- Memory Care Support Group
- Respite Care Financial Assistance
- Mary Drake Resource Library
- Community Caregiver Fair
- Memory Screening Event
- Savvy Caregiver Training Classes
- Caregiver Mentor Program

Upcoming Events

Watertown Event Center
West Highway 212 / 1901 9th Avenue SW
Watertown, SD 57201
First Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm!

July 1, 2026

“Navigating the Road Ahead: Senior Driving & Caregiver Support”

by Matt Hegg & Alexis Buysse, Community Engagement, Watertown Police Department

August 5, 2026

“Dementia: Signs, Types & Severities”

by Dr. Sara Erickson, PHD Licensed Clinical Psychologist, Bridgeway Counseling

September 2, 2026

“Continuum of Care”

by Aaron Shives, MD, Prairie Lakes Brown Clinic

October 7, 2026

“Let’s Talk and Share”

by The Support Group

November 4, 2026

“Teepa Snow Educational Material”

by Christina Ruml, State LTC Ombudsman for State of South Dakota

December 2, 2026

“Caregiver Christmas Party”

by Dar Fuchs & Chastity Wittemore



Connie Lake

Connie’s journey caring for those with dementia / Alzheimer’s started in 1980. Her first job was to create an activity program in a long term care facility for their residents. It was not long before folks with that diagnosis were in her heart. In 1997, she created a recreation program in a long term care memory care unit. The focus was “person centered” with engagement and positive communication. A supportive community was a huge help and part of her career. She is retired now but the passion remains to create programs & offer more help for this country’s unsung heroes - caregivers!

The Watertown Memory Care Support Group was created in 1998 by Connie Lake and Deanna Bullis to give caregivers a place to belong. Caregivers were able to listen, share, and learn how to care for themselves. This mission remains true today.