



**LIFELINE OCTOBER 2025**





## Pastor's Prattle

October is an important month in Lutheran circles. And, NO! It's not because our roots are in Germany, and it's time for Oktoberfest. Although, the celebrations are fun and festive! There is a much more serious reason for us to celebrate.

In October, we find ourselves preparing to celebrate the Reformation. In Luther's day, there was a need to reform the church. Many of its teachings and practices had strayed from the truths of the Scriptures, and the church needed to be brought back. Luther, at the cost of his own safety, said and did what was necessary to stand up for the truth.

Even more than reforming the church, Luther's work represented a revival of faith all across Europe and from there to other parts of the world. People once again knew the true freedom that comes from the gospel of Jesus Christ and salvation that was not dependent on their own righteousness. That freedom brought joy to people that had been oppressed by the church's emphasis on guilt and fear.

Today's church, in many corners, is in need of reformation. There are many denominations that are minimizing the authority of Scripture and offering interpretations that have been influenced by our culture, where sin is gaining more of a foothold. As that happens, the impact of the Church on the world is lessened; it becomes just another social organization.

What is missed in all of this is that the world is in need of revival, spiritual renewal. There is a crying need for something substantial in life, something that is lasting, eternal. There are many who are searching for the truth, but are being fed lies. We, as Christians, know that can only be found in Jesus Christ. He is the One who has bridged the gap between us and God, who has made us a part of the family of God.

It is up to the people of God to bring that revival. It is up to us to be bold and courageous as we proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and his love to the world. We must let nothing stand in the way—no opposition, no criticism, no rationalizing away the truth, no threats. We must speak the truth in every situation.

I believe we have seen the beginning of a revival in the events of the last two weeks. With the martyrdom of Charlie Kirk, we have witnessed an outpouring of the Holy Spirit similar to the first Pentecost. We have seen a public witness of Jesus Christ that is drawing millions of people, some who have never felt the pull before. Story after story are emerging of people coming back to faith or wanting to check it out.

Let us pray that this is a lasting revival, a fire that can't be put out. And may we all draw courage from it, the courage to speak out about our faith and to stand up for the truth.

*Pastor Jim*





**LORD OF LIFE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
AND PRESCHOOL**  
6865 Poplar Pike  
Memphis, TN 38119  
**Church Office**  
901.754.0669  
**Preschool Office**  
901.309.3980

**Email**  
[lordoflife@bellsouth.net](mailto:lordoflife@bellsouth.net)  
**Online**  
[lordoflifememphis.com](http://lordoflifememphis.com)

**Church Office Hours**  
9:00AM to 3:00PM  
Monday to Thursday  
Closed on Friday

**Sunday Worship Services**  
8:30AM Traditional  
11:00AM Contemporary

**Rev. Jim Shears**  
Pastor  
[pastorjim@bellsouth.net](mailto:pastorjim@bellsouth.net)

**Debi Lawler**  
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**Nancy Bergeron**  
Minister of Music  
[nberg10434@aol.com](mailto:nberg10434@aol.com)

**Barry Oliver**  
Church Organist  
[barryasheville@yahoo.com](mailto:barryasheville@yahoo.com)

## OCTOBER WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER October 8 at 6:00PM

### Oktoberfest Inspired Dinner!

We're having Brats & Dogs,  
Beer Cheese Soup and sides!

Dinner donations are \$9.00 per person, and  
not more than \$25 per family.

We always appreciate volunteers to clean up, set up,  
help with dinner & bring desserts!

*Questions?* Contact Terri Hill at (901) 230-0972 or email me at  
[terri@residentialcarePro.com](mailto:terri@residentialcarePro.com)



### BELTLINE COMMUNITY PROJECT

**Sisters of Service** are continuing to collect personal care items for the women in the Beltline community. They are so appreciative! During October we will be collecting soap, and skin care items.

During November we will focus on gift bags, tissue paper, bows, cards. In the narthex there is a container for your donations.

If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please put "Beltline Women" on the memo line of your check. They are always so grateful for your gifts.

### The Road to the Reformation

This is the overall theme for our Sunday worship during October this year, as we prepare for our celebration of the birthday of Lutheranism. The weekly themes are:

- October 5 – "Wait For It...."
- October 12 – "On the Road Again"
- October 19 – "The Faithful Journey"
- October 26 – "A Message of Freedom"

We hope that you will join us each week!





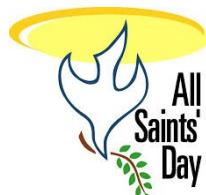
### REFORMATION SUNDAY OCTOBER 26th

Luther taught that salvation is not earned by good deeds but received only as a free gift of God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ as Redeemer from sin. His theology challenged the authority of the Pope of the Roman Catholic Church by teaching that the Bible is the only source of divinely revealed knowledge. Those who identify with Luther's teachings are called Lutherans.

"Faith is a living and unshakable confidence, a belief in the grace of God so assured that a man would die a thousand deaths for its sake."

—Martin Luther

At Lord of Life Church, we traditionally wear **red** on this Sunday.

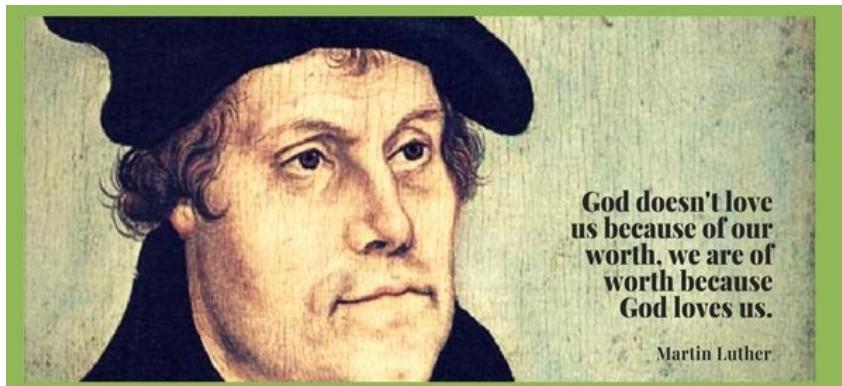


### ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd

On November 2nd we will remember, at each of our services, all of the saints who have passed away since November 2024.

If someone in your family or a friend has died this year, please let the church office know their name and we will include them in the services on November 2nd.



Toni Pittman	2
Aldona Kleinaitis	4
Michael Tibbets	4
Steve Manasco	12
Kim Houck	22
Nolan Lawrence	23
Mark Kooker	25
Nicholas Johnson	

### SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

#### SEPTEMBER

7th	43
14th	47
21st	45
28th	50

DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER IS OCTOBER 20<sup>th</sup>. Please send articles to the church office at [lordoflife@bellsouth.net](mailto:lordoflife@bellsouth.net)

Call 754-0669 Monday to Thursday, 9am-2:00pm with any questions. You may send in your articles early if you like –the newsletter is always a work in progress. Thanks.



### Got Facebook?

'Like' our Facebook page so you can get updates on activities and share events with your friends.





## Come to a Halloween MOVIE NIGHT!



**October 29<sup>th</sup> at 6PM**



**(Costume Optional)**

**Snacks will be provided.**

**Bring a comfy chair, and your dinner.**



**Food, Fellowship and Trivia!!**

Come hang out with friends on  
**Monday, October 20th** at Mellow

Mushroom in Germantown at our monthly Trivia nights! Come eat and leave, or eat and trivia, or just trivia (7:30 pm).

Please text Victoria if you want to get a place at the table, and monthly reminders for future events! 901-828-0670



## WEDNESDAY MORNING LADIES GROUP ☺

**Wednesday mornings 10:00am-11:30am in the adult classroom.**

Wednesday Morning Ladies/Life Threads (LOL's prayer shawl ministry). We are a group of ladies who meet to talk, share stories, eat, joke and laugh. Some of us bring a craft to do such as needlepoint, crochet and knitting. Even if you don't do a thing but talk, please come and enjoy a cup of coffee, a weekly snack and fellowship!



### Wooden Plate Offering

The FIRST Sunday of each month the Wooden Plate is passed in addition to the regular offering plate.

All money going into the **Wooden Plate** is split between two Community Service local outreach Ministries ONLY. Those Ministries are Memphis Interfaith Association (MIFA) & St. Luke's food pantry.

### Clothing Drive



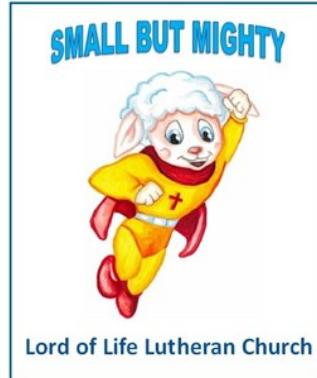
**BELTLINE CLOTHING DRIVE**  
New and gently used clothes & coats  
are needed from

**October 19 – November 9**

It's getting close to that time of year again, so you can start looking to clean out your closet to make more room and help someone else at the same time. The Community Service Ministry will be having a clothing drive from Sunday, **October 19 - Sunday, November 9**.

Men's slacks, larger sized clothing, purses, and socks are among the most needed items, but all things donated can be used! New and gently used Coats & Clothing of all sizes for men, women & children that will benefit the folks in the Belt Line Community of Memphis.

You may leave your donated items in the narthex by the office. If you have questions, contact Shirley Lyles. Thank you!



### WE HAVE SHIRTS

You can purchase a T-shirt, or Golf shirt, with the "Small But Mighty" logo.

T-Shirts are \$16

Golf Shirts are \$23

There will be order forms in the narthex with information. If you have any questions see Pastor Jim.

# Fall Break October 13-17



## THOSE SERVING THE 8:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE

October 5

Assisting Minister: Brent Berry  
Acolyte: Leah Collamore  
Crucifer: Chloe Collamore  
Lector: Jill Koch



October 12

Assisting Minister: Brent Berry  
Acolyte: none  
Crucifer: none  
Lector: Donna McKinney

October 19

Assisting Minister: Jim Gienapp  
Acolyte: None  
Crucifer: None  
Lector: Jim Gienapp



October 26

Assisting Minister:  
Acolyte: Cole Cunningham  
Crucifer: Ian Cunningham  
Lector: Chrissy Cunningham

*If you are unable to serve on your designated day please find someone to take your place. Please call the church office with the change, 901.754.0669*



**Flowers in October are given by:**

5 –

12 – The Ethertons – for family birthdays

19 – The Houcks

26 – Kookers – Celebrating their Anniversary



**The Memorial Candle Is Given by:**

5 – Bonnie Stevens – in memory of lost loved ones

12 –

19 –

26 –





## BELTLINE THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION

**Saturday, November 22nd  
at the**

**Beltline Community Resource Center**  
427 Boston & Mt. Pleasant Baptist

**Event Schedule:**

9:00 a.m. - Clothing Bag Sale

10:30 a.m. - Worship Service

Noon - Thanksgiving Meal

Side dishes will be provided by Lord of Life Church through Superlo Foods. If you would like to contribute to the cost of the side dishes please memo your check or envelope with *Thanksgiving Beltline Lunch* and place it in the offering plate. Thank You.

Superlo turkey dinner will be available from a serving line, and guests will be seated at tables inside like the years before COVID instead of picking up carry-out boxes.

**Festival Sponsors:** Belt Line Civic Association, Williams Temple COGIC, Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Mt. Pleasant Baptist, Episcopal Church of the Annunciation, Coca-Cola Refreshments, Jacob's Ladder Community Development Corporation



### Continental Youth Conference

**July 7 – 10, 2026**

**Roanoke, VA**

Registration opens in  
**October 2025.**

Cost will be \$300/person,  
plus spending money for  
meals on the road, and  
souvenirs.

There is a limit of 350 people for the event. Youth, and required chaperones, will get priority. Additional adults will be added if space allows. Please sign up on the board in the narthex.



**GriefShare** is a grief support group that will begin meeting on **October 7**, at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 5296 Park Avenue.

This is a 13-week program where participants will meet

weekly to view a 30-minute video featuring respected councilors, teachers, and healthcare professionals speaking on grief-related topics. Afterward, there is a small group discussion to allow people a time of sharing, support, and personal application of what they learned on the video. Group participants will get a book to take home filled with valuable exercises for navigating their personal grieving process.

Please feel free to contact Christ the King, (901) 682-8404, or [churchoffice@ctkmemphis.com](mailto:churchoffice@ctkmemphis.com), if you have questions or would like more information about the **GriefShare** program. Or you may visit [griefshare.org/findagroup](https://griefshare.org/findagroup) to find a different group in your area, or online.

### Women's Bible Study

#### **W3: Women, Worldview and the Word**

A Chronological Study to discover who God is for women. Come and join us.

Wednesday Mornings, 9:30AM to 11ish  
at the home of Marla Inman  
6829 Tangleberry Lane

Starting January 8, but feel free to join anytime!  
<https://chronologicalbibleteaching.com/products/w3-women-worldview-word>





## *Au revoir, Barry!*

We are sad to be saying “au revoir” to our wonderful organist, Barry Oliver, who is leaving us to move to Paris, France! We want to wish him extremely well, and God’s blessings on traveling to this exciting new journey ahead. Barry’s last day with us will be on Reformation Sunday, October 26th.



### **What's Different?**

All the German books are gone!

A lovely new family has recently moved to our area and joined the Germania group. They have a nice space in their house that they wanted to turn into a library. It is their hope to have German books and resources for teachers to use, and for anyone who wants to read and learn. They also hope it will be an opportunity for people to come to their home, meet and get to know each other, making a stronger community. We wish them great success! If you, or

anyone you know, would like to access any of the German reading/learning materials contact the Germania/Memphis German group.



Cydney Beets, Brent Berry,  
Nanci Gienapp, Sarah Gulla,  
Frank Howell, Kelli Howell,  
Robby Jacquette, Beth Kooker,  
Mark Kooker, Joe Lowry,  
Steve Manasco, Don Sass, Laurie Soffos,  
Mike Tibbets

## RELATIVES & FRIENDS

Anderson, Shelly -  
Baechler, Wendell - former member  
Benfield Family, Ben Brian – friends of Joe Lowry  
Brister, Tish & Ron – Donna McKinney's sister & BIL  
Cavalier, Roy, Angie & Faye –friends of Naomi Mertes  
Coleman, Vicki – friend of Floyd Johnson  
DeLoach, Katherine - former member  
Easton, Gavin - friend of Laura & Kelvin Hill  
Edgerton, Ruth – mother of Katherine DeLoach  
Ellis Family Cousins of Georgette Etherton  
Etherton, Jim – Bob Etherton's brother  
Froelich, Jack + Gerry – in-laws of Linda Froelich  
Geerde, Rosemary – wife of Bob Geerde  
Haggard, Barbara – friend of Floyd Johnson  
Hare, Vicki – friend of Bob & Georgette Etherton  
Holman, Kathy – friend of Pam & David Anderson  
Hoover, Tom – brother of Nanci Gienapp  
Howe, Jake – friend of Naomi Mertes  
Hugel, Susan – friend of the Bethany people  
Inman, Clark – grandson of Marla & Page Inman  
Inman, Jack, Emma & family – son & daughter-in-law  
King, Scott – friend of Jim Gienapp  
Loewenstein, Kim & family - Jim Gienapp's sister  
Lois – a Beltline meal recipient who had heart surgery  
Loven, Myra - Naomi Mertes' mother  
Marsh, Brenda & Bill – parents of Tony Marsh  
McEwen, Steve – friend of Erin & Ray Schultz  
McNeill, Sr., Phillip – friend of Erin & Ray Schultz  
McStay, Lori – daughter of Nanci & Jim Gienapp  
Mittler, Airana – granddaughter of Ginger McDowell  
Mueller, Shannon – cousin of Jim Gienapp  
Pearson, Jeff – Pastor Jim's youngest brother  
Pyburn, Barbara & family in NewOrleans, lost 2 Sons  
Quesenberry, David – on the loss of his mother  
Rindels, Joyce - friend of Naomi Mertes  
Roux, Denis – brother-in-law of Sue Hall  
Sanders, Betty – sister-in-law of Kim Sanders  
Sanders, Faye – mother-in-law of Kim Sanders  
Saum + family – son of Nancy Balazadeh  
Suzanne, Devin – friend of Laura & Kelvin Hill  
Taylor, Don – friend of Joe Lowry  
Taylor, Tony – friend of Naomi Mertes  
Tucker, Mark & family – Brother-in-law of Brent Berry  
Tully, Loni – friend of Laura & Kelvin  
White, Bill – our former pastor  
Williams, Donna – friend of Laura Hill

## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

A-3 Brendon Brotherton, Navy – stationed at MCAS Iwakuni, Japan, grandson of Mike Tibbets

CDR Eric M. Etherton, USN (Operations Officer for the Aircraft Carrier John F. Kennedy) being built in Newport News, VA. son of Bob & Georgette Etherton

Staff Sgt. Fletcher Lewis, Airforce – (stationed at Dyer AFB in Abilene, TX), nephew of Sue Hall

## PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

Dave & Elizabeth Linkenhoker (daughter Grace) (Haiti)

Josh & Nani Harris (Singapore)

Debbie Ward (Panama)

Pastor Didi Panzo– NALC missionary (The Democratic Republic of the Congo)

**PRAY for the underground churches in North Korea and their pastors/overseers and families.**

# OCTOBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00AM Ladies Group 6:30pm Adult Choir	2	3 Office Closed	4 8-1 DFS 1-2:30 Violin
5 8:30AM Trad. 9:45AM Christian Ed 11:00AM Cont	6 10:30am Adult Bible Study	7	8 10:00AM Ladies Group 6:00pm DINNER 6:45pm Adult Choir	9	10 Office Closed	11 8-1 DFS
12 8:30AM Trad. 9:45AM Christian Ed 11:00AM Cont	13 <b>Columbus Day</b> 10:30am Adult Bible Study	14	15 10:00AM Ladies Group 6:00pm Adult Choir	16	17 Office Closed	18 8-1 DFS
19 8:30AM Trad. 9:45AM Christian Ed 11:00AM Cont	20 10:30am Adult Bible Study	21	22 10:00AM Ladies Group 6:00pm Adult Choir	23	24 Office Closed	25 8-1 DFS
26 <b>REFORMATION</b> 8:30AM Trad. 9:45AM Christian Ed 11:00AM Cont	27 10:30am Adult Bible Study	28	29 10:00AM Ladies Group 6:00pm Adult Choir 6-8pm Movie Night	30	31 Trick-or-Treat  Office Closed	1

Preschool Closed for Fall Break 13th – 17th



6865 Poplar Pike  
Memphis TN 38119

