



LIFELINE October 2026



The hammer felt heavy in Luther's hand as he stood before the wooden doors of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. The autumn air cooled his fingers, but his resolve burned hotter. Behind him, students whispered, unsure whether they were witnessing courage or catastrophe. Before him, the church doors stood like a giant bulletin board for the whole world — a place where ideas were nailed, debated, and sometimes buried.

Luther lifted the hammer. Each strike echoed down the street like a drumbeat of defiance. Thud. Thud. Thud. Ninety-five statements — not of rebellion, but of conviction. Luther wasn't trying to start a revolution or divide the church. He was trying to call God's people back to the center: Jesus.

When the final nail was set, Luther stepped back. The parchment fluttered slightly in the wind, but the truth it carried would not be moved. In the days that followed, townspeople gathered to read it, scholars copied it, and printers reproduced it. Soon, the sound of Luther's hammer echoed across Europe. Within a few days, Luther was defending. Within weeks, he was being accused. Within months, he realized that the simple act of nailing a document to a church door had become the spark that God would use to ignite a movement — a movement that would reshape the church, the West, and eventually the world.

The Protestant Reformation did far more than correct theological errors. It changed how people read Scripture, how they worshiped, and how they understood grace. It influenced education, politics, economics, and culture. It helped shape modern ideas of freedom, conscience, and human dignity. But at its heart, the Reformation was not a political movement or a cultural shift. It was a return to Jesus — to his finished work, his authority, his Word, and his mission.

The Reformation reminded the world that Jesus is the cornerstone of the church, not human tradition. It reminded believers that salvation is a gift of grace, not a reward for performance. And it reminded pastors and all Christians that every voice — every life — is meant to praise God and proclaim his gospel.

We live in a world that is loud with competing centers. People build their lives around success, comfort, politics, or personal truth. Even churches drift toward programs, personalities, or preferences. The temptation to place something other than Jesus at the center is as real today as it was in Luther's time. That is why the Reformation still matters.

It calls us back to the only foundation strong enough to hold the weight of our lives: Jesus to the only truth powerful enough to save: the gospel of grace — to the only mission worthy of our time: making Jesus known.

The Reformation is not just a historical event. It is a reminder to be a people shaped by Scripture and sent by Jesus. Just as Luther's hammer rang out across Wittenberg, our voices are meant to ring out across our neighborhoods, workplaces, and families. We don't nail theses to doors, but we do carry a message in our hearts, through our actions, and on our lips: Jesus saves. Jesus reigns. Jesus sends.

In a world hungry for hope, God has given his people a mission — not to win arguments, but to bear fruit; not to build empires, but to proclaim Jesus; not to retreat in fear, but to step forward in faith. The Reformation reminds us that every believer has a voice — a voice to praise him and to make him known. May our lives echo the truth Luther nailed to the door:

Scripture alone. Faith alone. Grace alone. Jesus alone. Glory to God alone.

Pastor Wes

**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

Online

lordoflifememphis.com

Sunday Worship Services

8:30AM Traditional

11:00AM Contemporary

Wes Brown

Pastor

PastorWeslol@outlook.com

Allie Reynolds

Preschool Director

lolpreschool38119@bellsouth.net

Nancy Bergeron

Choirmaster

Nberg10434@aol.com

Kendrick Little

Church Pianist

Ken.Little@yahoo.com



Scan the QR code to download and get started using our app.

You can go to this address to access the same information online: <https://lordoflifememphis.churchcenter.com>

Bible Study



The Women at the Well are studying **With God Nothing is Impossible** by Shannon Bream. Come and join us! Sundays at 9:45

Monday Morning Bible study: A group meets at 10:30 on Monday mornings to study the Word.



Property

Thanks to all for helping us care for the building God has given us to use in our ministry.

Work is underway to repair the broken sewer line.
Outdoor Cross- repainting and relighting project



Facebook:
lordoflifememphis

Instagram:
lordoflife_memphis

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

Preschool news

THE SUNDAY BULLETIN

DEADLINE is Tuesday at noon.

THE NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE is October 26.

Please send your information to
the church office at

lordoflife@bellsouth.net

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

September

6th 40

13th 58

20th 43

27th 50

GIVING

Giving as of 8/31/2026

Projected (August): \$26,000

Actual (August): \$25,044

Projected (YTD): \$208,000

Actual (YTD): \$194,279



If you would like
to use our
giving page,
please scan the
code or go to

Giving in your app.



Lord of Life Church and Preschool will have an Autumn Family Night on Wednesday, October 28 from 5:30 to 7 pm. Please sign up to be in the Trunk or Treat on the board. Donate candy in the marked bin.

Fellowship

HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAY!

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

The **Wednesday Morning Ladies Group** Meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 10 am in the Adult Sunday School room. We chat, have a snack and generally have a good time in fellowship with each other. Some members bring crafts to work on (crocheting or knitting). Contact Bonnie Stevens or Sue Hall for more information.



TRIVIA NIGHT!

October 19, 2026 @ 7:30

Come join us at **Mellow Mushroom in Germantown** for trivia at 7:30 pm on the third Monday of each month. Families are welcome!

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

Wednesday night Dinner

Join us at 6 pm on the first Wednesday of the month for dinner. You can sign up on the app (you can pay there too!) or on the sheet at church.



No prep, No cooking!

\$9/person; \$25/family

Oct 14, 2026

Mini Oktoberfest

Youth and Family Ministries

Family Night activity: *Movie Night-Sketch* from Angel Studios



Oct 7, 2026 @ 6:30 pm

Bring your own dinner from 6 to 6:30; Movie begins at 6:30.

Sign up on the app or on the sheet at church.

Word & Witness Young Adult (18 to 30 yrs) Mission Trip:

May 29–June 5, 2027 | Edmonton, Alberta

BYLD High School Leadership Gathering:

July 12–17, 2027 | Beaver, Pennsylvania

NALC Youth Gathering: July 11-14, 2028 Rantoul, Illinois

Community Service



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. Thank you for your generosity, you make a difference!



BELTLINE COMMUNITY UPDATE

Sisters of Service are collecting items for the Beltline community.

Please deposit items in the container near the office. If you prefer to make a monetary gift, please put "Beltline Women" on the memo line of your check. We will then purchase and deliver all items for distribution. Thank you so much for your generosity! The community is so grateful for your gifts!

Blessing Boxes

We will meet to pack the boxes and enjoy a potluck dinner on **November 11 at 6 pm** in the Adult SS room.

Toiletry items (for both Men and Women)

shampoo
conditioner
body wash or bar soap
mouth wash
dental floss
toothpaste

toothbrushes
deodorant
Household items
sponges/ dish rags
dish towels
toilet paper

paper towels
dish soap
multi-surface cleaner
Misc
Boxes (paper box size)

American Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED classes

Classes are available through the church. Contact Kathy Marsh (gssunfish@yahoo.com) to find out when the next class is scheduled and for more information.

Classes available:

Adult and Pediatric 1st Aid/CPR/AED (Oct 21, 6-10 pm; pre-class online work required)

Babysitter (Dec 19, 8-6)

Wilderness and Remote First Aid (Disaster preparedness) (Nov 14-15, 8-5 each day; Basic first Aid and CPR required-see above)



News

www.thenalc.org

Next year the NALC convocation will be August 9-13, 2027 in Orlando, Florida.

September Newsletter Headlines

- ❖ Our Shared Calling to Invest in the Next Generation
- ❖ Registration Now Open: Clergy Retreat 2027
- ❖ “All Right, Lord. I’ll Be a Pastor”: An Interview with the Rev. Ethan Zimmerman, Newly Ordained
- ❖ Your Church Wants to Hire a Youth Minister—Now What?
- ❖ Leading Well When There Is No Pastor
- ❖ All Praise and Thanks to God: The Eucharistic Meal; Part 2: The Proper Preface
- ❖ Celebrating Recent Ordinations
- ❖ Annual Interns’ Retreat
- ❖ Spiritual Formation: The Heart of Stewardship
- ❖ BYLD—Building Youth as Leaders Who Are Disciples of Christ

Here is the link to the latest Newsletter:

https://6rd9yudab.cc.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r_q5XCxzm9W9jOwLag-Uysfkko-LMN22tLsWpOvVJ54VLgsSzBAniCZxd-Q67QfMkq1wHmy1WrBfFAarLAh4lyg5AhhJtgBkPAQhsCI3bod63FIGzaXEAFcptDI3NG3bsirlkslq4l8v504JogobiUI9YEKKC8s9pi1QuZaa-gR5bt-SsfCECA==&c=9vnCwKXyq2QkripwFLcL_UosyATlc0rfgXO-EF3R0cahvFXO_YSXKQ==&ch=wDD6gLRFa1nNEgmXUfMSqQY30q7lGd-cteNWb7txAltMOX8GfAYHGQ==

Let's all pull together! Worship leaders and assistants

	Oct 4	Oct 11	Oct 18	Oct 25	5 th Sunday
Asst. Minister	Brent Berry	Karen Manasco	Jim Gienapp	Tony Marsh	Karen Manasco
Communion assistant	Beth Berry	Donna McKinney	Georgette Etherton	Karen Manasco	Terri Hill
Lector	Sue Hall	Donna McKinney	Jill Collamore	Chrissy Cunningham	
Acolyte	Charlotte Brown	Naomi Brown	Leah Collamore	Ian Cunningham	
Crucifer	Naomi Brown	Charlotte Brown	Chloe Collamore	Naomi Brown	
Usher	John Houck	Jim Gienapp	Tony Marsh	Frank Howell	Jim Gienapp
Sound Booth	Peter Claverie	Aubrey Brown	Stacey Hill	Stacey Hill	
Recording	Kenny Friend	Kenny Friend	Kenny Friend	Kenny Friend	Kenny Friend
Book Bearer				Chrissy Cunningham	
Torch Bearer				Ian Cunningham Charlotte Brown	
Usher (11)					
Sound Booth (11)					

If you would like to serve or If you are unable to serve on your designated day, please find someone to take your place. Please notify the church office with the change, 901.754.0669 or lordoflife@bellsouth.net



AUDIO-VISUAL
---team---

We need some volunteers to help do the big video screen and service recording.

No experience needed, we will teach you what needs to be done. All volunteers welcome and as soon as possible! Please speak with Pastor Wes, Stacey Hill or Steve Manasco.

The Flowers in October are given by:



- 4 Howell – Beth Garton birthday
- 11 Lyles – Keith & Kevin birthday
- 18 Kookers – anniversary
- 25 Houck

The Memorial Candle Is Given by:

- 4 Toni Pittman – family birthdays
- 11
- 18 Bonnie Stevens – blessings received
- 25



October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:30 pm choir	2	3 8-1 DFS
4 8:30AM Trad. 9:45AM Christian Ed 11:00AM Cont 12:30 pm Preschool Board Meeting	5 10:30 am Bible Study	6	7 6 pm Movie Night	8 6:30 pm choir	9	10 8-1 DFS
11 8:30AM Trad.  9:45AM Christian Ed 11:00AM Cont	12 10:30 am Bible Study	13	14 10 am Ladies Group 6 pm Wed. Night Dinner	15 6:30 pm choir	16	17 8-1 DFS
18 8:30AM Trad. 9:45AM Christian Ed 11:00AM Cont	19 10:30AM Bible Study	20	21 6:00-10:00 pm First Aid/CPR	22 6:30 pm choir	23	24 8-1 DFS
25 Reformation Sunday 8:30AM Trad. 9:45AM Christian Ed 11:00AM Cont 12:30 pm Council	26 10:30AM Bible Study	27	28 10 am Ladies Group 5:30-7:00 PM Preschool & Church Family Night	29	30	31 All Hallows Eve
All Saints Sunday						



Cydney Beets, Nanci Gienapp, Frank Howell, Kelli Howell, Robby Jacquette, Mark Kooker, Joe Lowry, Norm Rodriguez, Mike Tibbets, Barry Oliver

RELATIVES & FRIENDS

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
Ellis Family --Cousins of Georgette Etherton
Etherton, Jim – Bob Etherton's brother
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
Inman, Jack, Emma & family – son & daughter-in-law
Kilgour, Sue – mother of Tracy Lowery
King, Scott – friend of Jim Gienapp
Loewenstein, Kim & family - Jim Gienapp's sister
Loven, Myra - Naomi Mertes' mother
Marsh, Bill – Father of Tony Marsh
McStay, Lori – daughter of Nanci & Jim Gienapp
Mueller, Shannon – cousin of Jim Gienapp
Pearson, Jeff – Pastor Jim's youngest brother
Pyburn, Barbara & family in New Orleans, lost 2 Sons
Rindels, Joyce - friend of Naomi Mertes
Roux, Denis – brother-in-law of Sue Hall
Sanders, Betty – sister-in-law of Kim Sanders
Schaefer, Billy – friend of Ray and Erin Schulz
Taylor, Don – friend of Joe Lowry
Taylor, Tony – friend of Naomi Mertes
White, Bill – our former pastor

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

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

CDR Eric M. Etherton, USN, is attached to The Joint Services War College in Norfolk, VA, as an instructor. He is the son of Bob & Georgette Etherton.

LCDR Elijah F. Fetzko, stationed on the USS Gerald R. Ford. (Jacksonville, FL) He is the nephew of Carol Neison.

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)

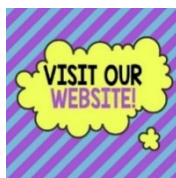
Rev. Humphrey Mungah (Kenya)

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



Request Prayer

Prayers will stay on our list for 1 month. Please request again if prayers are still needed.



The church's website address is lordoflifememphis.com.



[Facebook](#) lordoflifememphis
[Instagram](#) lordoflife_memphis



Scan the QR code to download and get started using our app. You can access the same information online:

<https://lordoflifememphis.churchcenter.com>

Lord of Life Lutheran Church
6865 Poplar Pike
Memphis, TN 38119
(901) 754-0669

lordoflife@bellsouth.net

Lord of Life Family,

Over the past several weeks, many of you participated in our congregational survey, and I want to thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts, hopes, and concerns. Your responses were thoughtful, honest, and full of love for this church. I am grateful for your openness.

I want to share with you a summary of what we learned — not as a report from a committee, but as a reflection of who we are and where God is leading us.

First, the survey revealed our greatest strength: We are a family. Over and over again, you described LOL as warm, welcoming, caring, and deeply connected. You spoke of friendships, support, fellowship, and the joy of being known. This is a gift from God, and it is something many churches long for but never find. This is something to cherish, protect, and extend to others.

You also shared that LOL is centered on Jesus and grounded in Scripture. You value biblical preaching, faithful teaching, and a focus on God's kingdom rather than politics or distractions. This is a great foundation for everything we do, and I am grateful that we share this commitment.

Many of you expressed hope — hope in the changes taking place, hope in clearer communication, hope in renewed direction, and hope in what God is doing among us. That hope is a sign that the Spirit is at work here.

You also celebrated our heart for mission — both local and global. From Guatemala to Jacob's Ladder to caring for one another, you see mission as part of our identity.

The survey also showed areas where we need to grow. You spoke clearly about the desire for more outreach, more young families, stronger youth and children's ministries, better communication, unity, shared leadership, and improvements in worship and music. You also mentioned practical needs like updating the building and reducing clutter.

None of these concerns should be discouraging. In fact, they show a church that wants to grow, wants to reach people, wants to deepen its worship, and wants to follow Jesus faithfully. These are signs of health, not weakness.

In the coming weeks, the council and I will share a plan shaped directly from your responses — a plan that honors our strengths, addresses our needs, and helps us move forward together in mission. My prayer is that we will continue to grow as a Christ-centered family, welcoming our neighbors, raising up the next generation, and serving our community with joy.

Thank you for your honesty, your love, and your commitment to this church. I am grateful to be your pastor, and I am excited for what God has ahead.

Your brother in Christ,
Pastor Wes



6865 Poplar Pike

Memphis TN 38119

