



RISEN CHRIST
Lutheran Church & School

October CrossTalk

**“...may the Lord make you
increase and abound in love
for one another and for all,
as we do for you.”**

1 Thess 3:12 ESV



Board of Directors

President	John Bacevic
Vice President	Becky Krieger
Secretary	Bethany Viken
Treasurer	Sarah Bussell
Member-At-Large	Sandi Click
Elder Rep.	Gene Baumgardner

Ministry Team Leaders

Day School	Rebecca Reid
Outreach	Greg & Chandra Shrader
Promotions	Brenda Montecalvo
Business Manager	Steve Rutledge
Stewardship	<i>Help Needed</i>

School Board

President	Jim Brueggeman
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Other Volunteers

Food Pantry	Greg Shrader
Trustees	Paul Bok
Financial Secretary	Steve Rutledge
Praise Team Leader	Bethany Viken

Risen Christ Lutheran Church and School

41 E Possum Road. Springfield, Oh 45502
(937) 323-3688 www.risenchristlcms.org
Sunday Services 10am

Contemporary and Traditional Services
(Week 1 & 3) (Week 2 & 4)

Church Office Staff

Pastor

Brad Viken

Office Manager

Bethany Viken

Elders

David Arnold

Gene Baumgardner

Chuck Bern

Rob Hunt

CrossTalk Publisher

Bethany Viken

School Staff

Administrator

Rebecca Reid

Dir. Of Records

Kathy Ackley

Special Ed Director

Brittany Morgan

Preschool

Karen Dunn

Corrine Brookins

Preschool Director/

Kindergarten

Megan Ramsey

1st Grade Teacher

Deb Rutledge

2nd Grade Teacher

Dawn Wells-Kitt

3rd Grade

Joetta Garberich

4th Grade

Korie Near

5/6/7th Grade

Jeff Parks

Mike Garberich

Martha Werner-Brown

School Support Staff

Kelli Cole

Sarah Leighley

Lisa Mulkey

Betty Ward

Andrew Kiple

Bethany Viken



RISEN CHRIST

Lutheran Church & School

Risen Christ Lutheran Church Mission Statement

As God's church in this place, our mission is to enrich and renew lives by bringing Christ to the community.

Risen Christ Lutheran School Mission Statement

We support the belief that children are the precious gift from God. Our mission is to provide, together with families, a high-quality education for the whole child within a loving, Christ-centered environment.

Risen Christ Lutheran School Vision Statement

The vision of RCLS is that each student will: possess a life-long love of learning, possess a deep love for God, and possess a habit of prayer, possess a strong sense of responsibility and integrity, possess a respect for inherent value of every person, possess a curious mind open to new ideas, and possess a love and respect for life.

Pastor Bradley's Mission Statement

I have been created to let God's Holy Spirit use my life experiences, my unique style, humor, and personality, and my love of Christ to lead others to know and trust the loving embrace of Jesus.

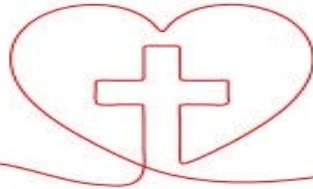
The Church's Mission:

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. *Matt 28:19-20 ESV*

October is Pastor Appreciation Month.

Thank you, Pastor Brad, for all you do to serve our church
and our community.

God blesses us through you, and we pray we bless you, too!



Why, Pastor, Why

By Richard Vincent Rose



As I see you standing there behind the pulpit reading from God's Word
I think back to all those wonderful, blessed sermons from you that I've heard.

No, there's no secret why God brought you out
Oh, the many times your joy has made me shout!!!
You see, Pastor, there was a reason that it was you that God chose
Not your good looks, perfect hair, and stylish clothes.

No, Pastor, the reason that God reached down His hand and
Saved you let there be no doubt!
The reason God chose you is because He knows how you would turn out!
The reason, Pastor, that you mean so much to me is that when I look at
You it's Jesus I see.

For in your footsteps I so gratefully tread
Because I know that in following you I am following God.

ELDERS' REPORT PT 1

In October, our thoughts turn to Trick or Treat, costumes and scary movies. Here's a meditation from Lutheran Hour Ministries by Dr. Kari Vo that fits into that October theme.

CREEPY, BUT IN A GOOD WAY

Malachi 4:1-3 – For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear My Name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

I confess, I find this chapter of Malachi pretty disturbing. The imagery is creepy - ashes, leaping calves, treading down the wicked. True, we're talking about the ashes of brush and grass left after a wildfire has passed through - but still, it bugs me. I want to turn the page and get right into the book of Matthew, with its sweet, comforting Gospel.

And yet if I do that, I miss something. God may be using scary language, but the subject He's addressing is deeply horrible as well. He's talking about human evil - about people who are arrogant and who harm others, about people who never repent and never quit. And He compares their victims to calves kept penned up in a stall - and if you look through the rest of the Bible, you can figure out just why those calves were in a stall - they were being fattened for slaughter. Creepy??? You bet.

Human evil is like that. And the worst of it is, it keeps coming back again and again and again. No sooner do we have "the war to end all wars," when another one gets started. "Never again!" the Holocaust, educators say - and yet neo-Nazis are a real threat, and genocide keeps happening around the world. It's like the California hills after a wildfire - the ground is clear for a season, but the fire never reached the roots underground and by spring the brush is up and growing again.



ELDERS' REPORT PT 2

Against all of this God gives us a promise: "The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch." God will put an end to all evil, and God's cleansing fire will reach the whole wicked plant – not just the branches, but the roots hiding below the ground. The prisoners destined for slaughter will go free. And "the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings."

Who is this *sun of righteousness*? This is our Lord Jesus Christ. Human evil will not darken the world forever. God has already pierced through the darkness and smoke by being born into our human race as a tiny baby, Jesus. He has lived among us, worked, served, cared and suffered for us. And He has destroyed the powers of death and evil by His own death and resurrection.

For all of us who trust in Jesus, THERE IS HOPE! In spite of the evil we still live with, an end is coming. The day will dawn when we will know to the full the wonderful freedom of the children of God and we will celebrate in the light of our Savior, Jesus. Evil will be gone. Jesus will remain. Thank God!

THE PRAYER: Dear Father, please bring that day quickly when death and evil will be no more, and we will rejoice in Jesus' light. Amen.

Reflection Question: What ongoing evils bother you most at this time? How do you trust in Jesus for help?

As you continue to study God's Holy Word, may you be blessed with its message of Hope, even in this scary, creepy month of October.

Blessings,
Gene





RISEN CHRIST
Lutheran Church



The President's Corner

Congregation Meetings

Sunday October 5th

- Church Board approved new school building pending congregation approval
- Discuss and review Phase one plans to add six classrooms to school building
- Review option to add Phase two - gymnasium
- Architect paid by school to design classrooms and gymnasium
- Discuss fundraising and financial considerations
- Grant applications
- School parent participation at Risen Christ
- Approval to proceed based on raising necessary funds
- School to fund entire project

Sunday November 16th

- Present 2026 Budget for approval
- Review BOD and Ministry Team 2025 accomplishments and 2026 goals
- Elections
 - *President
 - *Board Secretary
 - *Elders
 - *School Board
- Other

Board of Directors

This is a busy time of year with many important church events scheduled to develop programs designed to bring Christ to our community. The school building addition program certainly meets this goal. Our school has accomplished a reputation of being a top educational resource for the greater Springfield area. Adding 7th, and next year 8th grade places Risen Christ Lutheran School in a unique position to better serve students in a religious environment so needed during these unsettling times.

Our School Board has been working over the last year to develop a building plan that meets the requirements of the church while increasing student opportunities. Under Jim Brueggeman's great School Board leadership this plan has many facets addressing both church and school growth. I encourage you to attend the Congregation meeting October 5th to learn details of our service to the community and vote to approve. Address questions or comments to Jim.

Yours in Christ,
John Bacevic

president@risenchristlcms.org

937-882-4023

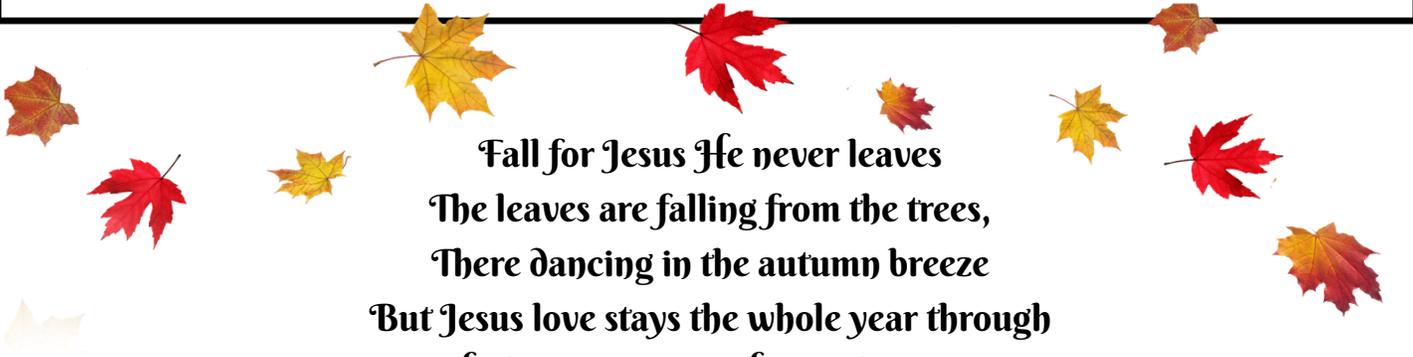


Connection Report

The grass withers and flowers fade, but the word of our God, stands forever. *Isaiah 40: 8*

Sunday October 12 is LWML Sunday so watch for the ladies in **purple**. There will be mite offering during the service so bring your coins!

On Saturday October 18, 2025 LWML Miami Valley Zone Christian Life Retreat at Bethlehem Lutheran Church Fairborn. Pastor England will lead the Bible study "Sitting at the Feet of Jesus" - watch for flyers for more information.



Fall for Jesus He never leaves
The leaves are falling from the trees,
There dancing in the autumn breeze
But Jesus love stays the whole year through
His love is strong. His word is true

The weather changes skies turn gray
But Jesus love won't go away.
He stays the same both night and day
He always with us when we pray

The wind may blow the season go,
But Jesus love will always show
He holds us close and helps us stand
Our lives are safe within His hand.

So when you see the falling leaves,
Remember this He never leaves!

Fall for Jesus trust and say,
I will Follow Him every day.



In September, we served 53 families—that's 143 individuals—that's 106 bags of food! That's a 40% increase from August!

We would like to give a huge thank you to the kids from RCLS—thank you for all of your help (including more kids not pictured here).

We are requesting Mac & Cheese for the month of October. Thank you to the congregation for all of your donations and your assistance.

RCLC Food Pantry



Young Adult Ministry

(October 2025 Update)

We are continuing our **Weekly Wednesday** study on World Religions and their associated philosophies. We just finished up the introductions and are about to dig deep. Even if you missed the first two introductory weeks, they is still much to learn! We begin promptly at 7:00pm. Along with the conversation, the fresh cookies are pretty yummy too!

Our next **Sunday Food & Fun** will be a bonfire at the Montecalvo's house near Cedarville beginning at 2:00 PM on October 12th. There will be hot dogs, chili, and s'mores... along with the frivolity that a cookout brings. Further information and a map will be provided later. As always, plan on attending and bring your friends. There will be plenty of food for everyone.





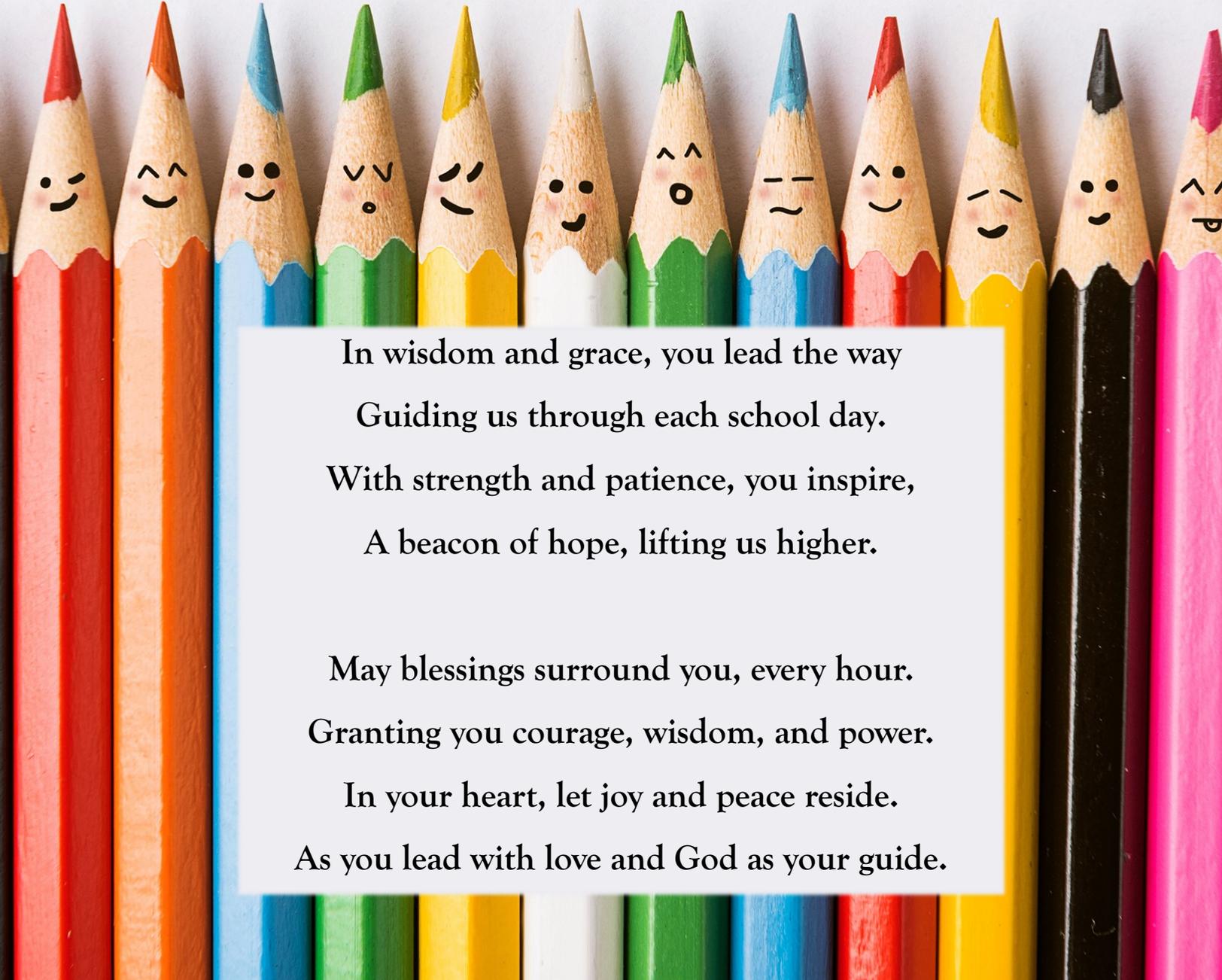
The RCLS 6th Graders are putting the final touches on the hopscotch game that they will gift to younger students in the school. The game includes verses from the psalms that express emotions that lead us to pray and verses that express the praise in our hearts when God answers prayers.

He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.

Colossians 1:28-29 NIV

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL
PRINCIPAL'S APPRECIATION MONTH.

THANK YOU MRS. REID FOR ALL YOU DO!

A row of colorful pencils with faces. The pencils are in various colors: red, orange, blue, green, yellow, white, green, blue, red, yellow, black, and pink. Each pencil has a simple face drawn on its eraser end, with different expressions like smiling, neutral, or surprised. The pencils are standing upright and are slightly out of focus towards the ends.

In wisdom and grace, you lead the way
Guiding us through each school day.
With strength and patience, you inspire,
A beacon of hope, lifting us higher.

May blessings surround you, every hour.
Granting you courage, wisdom, and power.
In your heart, let joy and peace reside.
As you lead with love and God as your guide.

RISEN CHRIST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OCTOBER MINISTRY OF THE MONTH

“The Board of Directors shall be the operating authority of the congregation and, by delegation of authority from the Voters Assembly, is responsible to administer all the congregation’s affairs as outlined in the Bylaws and as provided for in Paragraph A above including but not limited to:

1. Purchase or selling church property or buildings valued at less than 10% of the annual operating budget.
2. Developing and submitting congregational operating policies to the Voters Assembly.
3. Developing and submitting ministry and financial plans to the Voters Assembly.”

Article VI, Paragraph B of the RCLC Constitution

“The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers of the Church (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer), one or more Members-at-Large, Business Manager and Head Elder. The Pastor attends meetings as a non-voting member.”

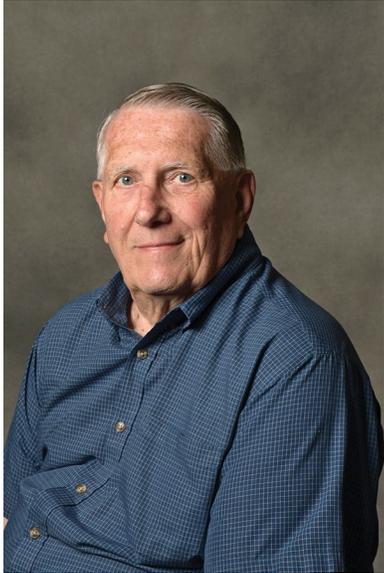
From Article 8 of the Bylaws of the RCLC Constitution

On the next few pages, you will find out a little more about what our BOD does (based on the Bylaws of the Risen Christ Constitution), but feel free to speak with any member of the Board for any questions, comments, and/or concerns.

The BOD meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7pm.

Thank you BOD for all you do!

RISEN CHRIST BOARD OF DIRECTORS



John Bacevic Jr.—President:

[The President shall]: A.) Preside over all meetings of the Voters Assembly and the members of the BOD. B.) Appoint any necessary short-term task forces, teams or committees in consultation with the BOD. C.) Ensure the Constitution and Bylaws are followed. D.) Perform the general duties as are common for the office, including such additional duties as may be directed by the Voters Assembly from time to time. E.) Participate in the annual performance review of all Called Workers, in conjunction with the Board of Elders.



Becky Krieger — Vice-President (VP):

[The VP shall]: A.) Perform all duties of the President in the latter's absence and such other additional duties which may be directed by the Voters Assembly or by the President from time to time. B.) Chair and appoint a Nominating Committee with the advice and consent of the BOD. C.) Shall act as Parliamentarian for the BOD.



Sarah Bussell — Treasurer:

[The Treasurer shall]: A.) Ensure accurate records of all receipts and disbursements are kept and preserved and submit a written report of them (1) at each regular Voters Assembly (2) monthly to BOD and all Ministry Team Leaders. B.) Ensure accuracy and propriety of all financial transactions of the congregation.

RISEN CHRIST BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Bethany Viken — Secretary:

A.) The duties [of the Secretary] shall be those commonly required of that office, especially the keeping and preserving of accurate records of all Voting members, meeting attendance, Voters Assembly meetings and handling such correspondence as the congregation may require. B.) Keep minutes of all BOD meetings.



Gene Baumgardner — Head Elder:

The Head Elder attends church BOD meetings. The Head Elder is a BOD voting member.



Sandi Click — Member-at-Large:

At least one, and at most three, voting Member-at-Large positions will be elected by the Voters Assembly.

****The Member-at-Large will:**

*Provide strategic input to fulfill church mission and vision
Communicate congregation concerns, ideas and issues
Represent members on all church interests*

**** Not from the Constitution, but from the job description given to the Member-at-Large**

RISEN CHRIST BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Steve Rutledge — Business Manager:

The BOD shall appoint a Business Manager for the congregation who is responsible for all secular affairs of the congregation including, but not limited to, financial, property, and personnel management. The Business Manager shall:

1. With the assistance of the elected Treasurer, ensure the financial integrity of the congregation.
2. Lead the preparation of the annual ministry budget and report the final proposed budget to the BOD
3. Ensure that all church property is maintained in good order and repair.
4. Appoint a team to audit the year-end financial review.
5. Ensure the hiring and discharge of non-called workers is done according to church policy and State law.
6. Ensure annual performance appraisals on all salaried workers are completed in time for annual salary review.
7. Along with the called worker or salaried employee's supervisor, conduct an annual salary review in time for inclusion in the annual budget submittal.
8. Attend church BOD meetings. Business Manager will have BOD voting privileges only when a member of the Risen Christ congregation.

*President, VP, Secretary, Treasurer & Member-at-Large information in Article 8 of Bylaws.
Head Elder information in Article 17 of Bylaws (number 7).
Business Manager information in Article 15 of Bylaws.*

Copies of the Constitution and Bylaws are in the Church Office and will be made available to the church membership upon request.

ESV Scripture for October

Verse of the Month

“...may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you.”

1 Thessalonians 3:12 ESV

<u>October 5</u> 17th Sun after Pentecost	<u>October 12</u> 18th Sun after Pentecost
First Reading: Hab 1:1-4; 2:1-4	First Reading: Rith 1:1-19a
Epistle Reading: 2 Tim 1:1-14	Epistle Reading: 2 Tim 2:1-13
Gospel Reading: Luke 17:1-10	Gospel Reading Luke 17:11-19
<u>October 19</u> 19th Sun after Pentecost	<u>October 26</u> Reformation Sunday
First Reading: Gen 32:22-30	First Reading: Rev 14:6-7
Epistle Reading: 2 Tim 3:14-4:5	Epistle Reading: Rom 3:19-28
Gospel Reading: Luke 18:1-8	Gospel Reading: Matt 11:12-19/ John 8:31-36



3	Gabriel Kaiser
3	Matthew Rutledge
4	Ben McKee
4	Jody Rizzotte
9	Jim Mote
9	Jeff Parks
11	Kole Vollrath
14	Kaiden Davis
18	Dylan Ackley
20	Jim Brueggeman
26	Deb Rutledge
30	Beryl Boggess



7	Elaina Buck
7	Kylee Schafer
7	Noah Schafer
9	Chris Heilmann
9	Kyle Heilmann
9	Veronica Heilmann
11	Sharon Heilmann
15	Paul Bok
27	Susan Motter
30	Cora Wells-Kitt
30	Lily Wells-Kitt



		Years
10/6	Bill & Beth Ervin	24
10/14	Jeff & Caitlin Parks	7
10/17	Paul & Linda Bok	33
10/20	Jeff & Linda Kaiser	35
10/30	Danny & Sandi Click	27

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Positive Attitude Month

National Fire Prevention Month

National Women's Small Business Month

- 1 Coffee with a Cop Day
- 2 National Custodial Worker's Recognition Day
- 5 Do Something Nice Day
- 12 National Farmers Day
- 13 Clergy Appreciation Day
- Navy Birthday
- 15 National Pregnancy & Infant Loss Awareness Day
- 31 Halloween
- Reformation Day



PREGNANCY & INFANT LOSS
Awareness Month
October

