



Dear Friends in Christ,

I love the fall. I love the crisp air and the fiery autumn colors. And October brings two of my favorite celebrations--Reformation Day and Halloween! Yeah, I know, a lot of folks think it's a little weird--a Pastor who loves Halloween. Well, I've said it before, and I'll say it again:

Halloween is an awesome opportunity to stare down darkness and evil. To make fun of all that scares us, terrors imagined and real, and even to laugh in the face of death. We get do this because we are Christians. We know the power of Christ, his power over all the forces of sin and death--conquered through his glorious resurrection. We know that if we believe in Christ, he will lead us into eternal life. We have nothing to fear. So bring on the ghosts and goblins and spooky devil masks!



On Reformation Day, we remember how Martin Luther, a young monk, simply wouldn't sit idly by, watching while his beloved church grew corrupt. We celebrate how he stood up, spoke out against evil and the abuses of the church, nailed those 95 Theses to the doors at Wittenberg (on October 31st), and changed the world. We give thanks for his bold witness to the true faith--that we are saved by grace through faith in Christ, not works. In Luther's day (16th century), devils and demons were more immediate to folks than they are to us today. Think of Luther's line in his famous hymn 'A Mighty Fortress is our God': *Though hordes of devils fill the land, all threatening to devour us, we tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot overpower us.* (great words to sing on Reformation Day or Halloween!). So, maybe you're not looking over your shoulder for the

demon horde, and maybe the idea of the devil doesn't scare you the way it did a 16th-century monk, but I think we can all agree, evil and darkness are at work in our world--watch the News tonight, you can't miss the signs. So, to bolster our spirits and to remind us that in Christ, we can stand up to evil and laugh in the face of darkness and death, I offer you Martin Luther's Guide to keeping the devil and his forces at bay:

## 7 Ways to Drive Away the Devil and Keep Him Away (per Martin Luther)

### 1. **Laugh out loud**

Laughter is abhorrent to the devil and should be indulged in frequently.

### 2. **Make the sign of the cross**

The devil hates the cross because that is where God's love for you is most evident.

### 3. **Seek the company of other believers**

Attend worship, go to bible study, form a prayer team, host a dinner party... Solitude can provide the devil an opportunity to darken your heart.

### 4. **Serve those who have less than you**

Volunteer your time and resources to help those less fortunate than you. The devil is thwarted by the love of Christ in action.

### 5. **Confess your sins**

The devil is attracted to a guilty conscience. Confession clears the conscience and emboldens the believer.

### 6. **Break wind** (yup, that's what Luther said)

The devil (along with anyone else in the room) will leave you alone.

### 7. **Consider what you might be doing to invite the devil into your life**

We invite the devil into our lives when our actions and values no longer center on Christ.

*(‘7 Ways to Drive Away the Devil,’ The Lutheran Handbook: Here We Stand)*

Blessings and peace to you in this special season.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Diane

# Special Worship

## Reformation Sunday



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28<sup>th</sup> – 9:30am**

Special worship service to remember to celebrate the Reformation and to give thanks for the witness of Martin Luther, who's dedication to sharing the truth of God's grace changed the world!

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4<sup>th</sup> – 9:30am**

Special worship service to celebrate the Communion of Saints: all believers from every time and place who are one in Christ Jesus. Also a day to remember the saints we have known, who have passed into God's nearer presence. We'll remember them with a memorial candle lighting.

## ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY



## *Thanksgiving and Consecration Sunday*

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25<sup>th</sup> – 9:30am**

A special Thanksgiving worship service to give thanks to the Lord for the many blessings we receive every day. It's also Consecration Sunday. Members are asked to bring to church with them their completed annual giving pledge cards to present the Lord as an offering of Thanksgiving. There will be a Potluck luncheon after worship. Please bring a dish to share!

# A Note from the Worship and Music Team



On behalf of Grace Lutheran Church, the Worship and Music Team offers its grateful thanks to Mr. David Doolittle for his year of service to Grace as our Interim Music Minister. Thank you for sharing your excellent skills on the organ, and helping us raise up our praise to the Lord through beautiful song.

This month, we welcome our new Music Minister, Mr. Andrew Dixon. Andrew (Andy to his friends) is originally from the UK and has served as organist and choirmaster in churches throughout England, and in Scotland. He is passionate about music and the faith of the church. He composes and arranges liturgical music and has sung in various choirs.

Outside of church life, he earned a D.Phil (Ph.D) in Applied Maths from the University of St. Andrews, has worked as a Scientific Civil Servant in the UK, and held posts there with the National Grid Headquarters and the National Electricity Control Center. He's currently working to meet his publisher's deadline to finish authoring a book (that sounds really technical). He's also a voracious reader, with a deep interest in astronomy, biblical history, and theology.



Welcome, Andy! We look forward to working and worshiping together with you.





# GREEN BEANS!



We're collecting green beans for the Ecumenical Food Bank's Thanksgiving baskets, that will be distributed to hundreds of our neighbors in need. Please bring your green bean donations to church with you on Sundays throughout October. Help us reach our goal of 450 cans of green beans. God bless you for your generosity!



## Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2:00pm.

We're walking a 1 mile loop around town to raise awareness and funds to support the Ecumenical Food Bank here in Naugatuck, and to help the efforts of Church World Service, fighting hunger around the world. Come walk with us! **Registration at 1:30pm** at the Naugatuck Town Green the day of the walk.

CROP Hunger Walks help to support the overall work of Church World Service, particularly grassroots development efforts around the world. In addition, our local CROP Hunger Walk will donate 25% of the funds it raises to the Ecumenical Food bank of Naugatuck. CROP Hunger Walks help to provide food and water, as well as resources that empower people to meet their own needs. From seeds and tools to wells and water systems, the key is people working together to identify their own development priorities, their strengths and their needs.

**For more information, and to sign up,** visit <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/naugatuckct>

## Some Highlights from the September Congregational Council Meeting



**Sale of Properties:** We have received an offer on the Coen St. properties for our asking price, \$775,000. Council recommends that we accept the offer, contingent upon the purchasers renting the church and office building to us for a period of one year. There will be a congregational meeting to discuss and vote on this recommendation after worship on October 14<sup>th</sup>. All members are encouraged to attend.

**Property:** Most property issues will be tabled, pending the outcome of the vote on October 14<sup>th</sup>. For safety and security of our congregation, the maintenance of the tree in the parking lot, and the re-keying of doors will be addressed.

**Vision & Mission:** The team attended a very productive Forward Leadership workshop on building relationships with in the congregation and with the surrounding community. The learning obtained, in connection with our CAT-Scan results, will be vital in realizing our mission. The Vision and Mission team will be presenting info and inviting the congregation's participation in the very near future. Please take part! "

**Learning Team:** A special 6-week Bible Study on the Psalms begins Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.



October 01 – Joey Chesnas Jr.  
October 04 – Nancy Goudreau  
October 07 – Deb Diamante  
October 07 – Mildred Minervini  
October 11 – Allan Wood

October 14 – Louis Glick  
October 20 – Bennett Krueger  
October 22 – Abigail Bennett  
October 26 – Robin Bennett  
October 28 – Mary Schmelcke



October 24 – Deborah & Mark McMahon

*If you don't see your birthday or anniversary,  
please let the church office know, so we can add you to the list.*



## **SALEM COMMUNITY CHILD CARE CENTER**

A Ministry of Grace Lutheran Church

### *Some highlights from September:*

- Enrollment currently includes 17 Before School children, 19 After School children, and 10 Pre School (6 full-time, 4 part-time) children.
- Now families can make tuition payments with credit/debit cards through a payment system called Square.
- A visit to the Children's Library has been scheduled weekly.
- The Lions Club is coming to perform vision screening on children with signed release forms.
- An APP has been setup for parents to observe and access the Preschool classroom.
- Parents are kept informed by memo and by postings on the SCCCC Parent Board about community services: Food Bank, monthly NEON dinners (no charge) winter coats and Thanksgiving turkeys available through United Way or St. Michael's Church, and other outreach organizations.

Many thanks to Director Vera Prandauti and the teachers and staff of SCCCC for their hard work and innovation in providing the best possible care and learning environment for children and families in our community



# OCTOBER WORSHIP HELPERS

	<b>October 7</b>	<b>October 14</b>	<b>October 21</b>	<b>October 28</b>
<b>GREETERS</b>	Charlotte Freer	Budge Gabrielson	Terri & Pete Meleschnig	Carol & Arnie Wallas
<b>READERS</b>	Lisa DeBarba Deborah McMahon	Sharon Kosko Mary Schmelcke	Jen Amodeo Lauren Burger	Pete Diamante Carolyn Raming
<b>USHERS</b>	Bob Burger Mike Hines	Patrick McMahon Gerhard Roland	Beryl Montville Karen Reisinger	David Frennesson Robert Frennesson
<b>WORSHIP ASSISTANT</b>	Shirley Baillargeon	Karen Reisinger	David Frennesson	Lisa DeBarba
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Gabriel Diamante	Annaliese Baillargeon	Robert Frennesson	Ben Meleschnig
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Deb Diamante	Sharon O'Donnell	Sharon O'Donnell	Carolyn Burger

## FELLOWSHIP FOR OCTOBER

**October 07** – Lisa DeBarba & Charmaine Lawton

**October 14** – Council

**October 21** – Sharon & Ted Kosko

**October 28** – Margaret Bender & Karen Reisinger



We greatly appreciate the times when folks find their own replacements. Please let the office know so we put the correct names in the bulletin insert.

If for some reason you cannot find a replacement, please email or call the office. Thank you.

## PRAYER LIST

*Please hold in prayer your brothers and sisters in Christ, especially:*



Jacqueline Mezick, Adam Wood, Jenn Wood and Brady Wood, John Karlak, Rhonda, Jane Strunck and Jim Baillargeon.



*If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact the church office.  
Also, there is a prayer request sheet in the church entryway.*

*If you want us to continue praying for someone beyond the month, just let us know.*

## Remembering Friends & Family

Addresses are listed below for our members who are currently unable to attend services.  
A card or note is always welcome.

### **Betsy Robb**

500 Woodside Ave, Middlebury, 06762

### **Michael Roland**

The Village at East Farms  
180 Scott Rd, Room #154  
Waterbury, 06705

### **Allan Johnson**

40 Lorann Dr, Naugatuck, 06770

### **Lindy Parson**

366 Millville Ave, Naugatuck, 06770

### **Mildred Evenson**

75 Trowbridge Place,  
Naugatuck, 06770

### **Dorothy Fritz**

Southbury Lutheran Home  
990 Main St. N, Southbury, 06488

### **Anita Peterson**

Apple Rehab  
35 Bunker Hill Rd, Watertown, 06795

**Thank You For Caring!**

**NEWSLETTER** 

Reminder: October newsletter articles and announcements must be in no later than October 15th. Thank you!

# OCTOBER 2018 CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
	Calvary in Sanctuary 6:30-8pm  Boy Scouts in Hall 7pm – 9pm		Overeaters Anonymous 12pm	Bible Study Special Series The Psalms 7pm  AA 8pm		Overeaters Anonymous 11pm
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
8:45am Choir Practice  9:30am Worship  Sunday School 10:45	Calvary in Sanctuary 6:30-8pm  Boy Scouts in Hall 7pm – 9pm		Overeaters Anonymous 12pm	Bible Study Special Series The Psalms 7pm  AA 8pm		Overeaters Anonymous 11pm
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
8:45am Choir Practice  9:30am Worship  Sunday School 10:45	Calvary in Sanctuary 6:30-8pm  Boy Scouts in Hall 7pm – 9pm		Overeaters Anonymous 12pm	Bible Study Special Series The Psalms 7pm  AA 8pm		Overeaters Anonymous 11pm
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
8:45am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship  Sunday School 10:45  Crop Hunger Walk 2pm Naugatuck Town Green	Calvary in Sanctuary 6:30-8pm  Boy Scouts in Hall 7pm – 9pm		Overeaters Anonymous 12pm	Bible Study Special Series The Psalms 7pm  AA 8pm		Overeaters Anonymous 11pm
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			
8:45am Choir Practice  Reformation Sunday 9:30am Worship  Sunday School 10:45	Calvary in Sanctuary 6:30-8pm  Boy Scouts in Hall 7pm – 9pm		Overeaters Anonymous 12pm			



**Grace Lutheran Church**  
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