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Messenger

JACKSON PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

ELCA
4535 W Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee WI 53219



OCTOBER 2026

PASTOR FRED THOMAS-BREITFELD

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00 AM
2ND & 4TH SATURDAY OF MONTH
4:00 PM

CONTACT INFORMATION

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FACEBOOK
JACKSON PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
ELCA

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the month of October! Fall weather! Football, baseball, and basketball all converge!
It is sports overload! It is a month of contrasts - there can be beautiful, warm, sunny days. And very dreary ones, filled with clouds and rain and chilly temperatures. And it can SNOW! Remember Halloween weekend a few years ago!?!? And so much happens in these 31 days that mark the month of October.

Of those 31 days in October, which day gets the most attention? I would like to say it is Reformation Day (or October 31), the Birthday of our Lutheran faith tradition, but I know that is not the case! The date that gets the most attention IS October 31, but NOT because it is Reformation Day! No, because it is Halloween! It has turned into a huge retail moneymaker! The Halloween Costume stores start opening up in August! Rows and rows of Halloween candy appear in our grocery stores. Halloween decorations adorn our front lawns - giving Christmas decorations a run for their money! And the question asked of every child is: What do you want to be for Halloween?

What do you want to be? Or, who do you want to be? Let's put that question into our faith perspective. We SAY we are believers in Jesus Christ. We even confess that each Sunday in the words of the Creed. The more difficult question for us is: Do our lives reflect that belief? Would someone be able to identify us as a believer? Do our actions portray the life of a believer? Are we filled with love and grace and compassion? Do we see the needs of others and seek to address them? Does our speech reflect the one in whom we believe? Is it filled with kindness and understanding? Or is our speech one of a demeaning and derogatory manner? Are we ready to help, and not to hinder? Living a life as a follower of Jesus is not always easy and sometimes we fall short. Yes, the question is: Who do we want to be? Even when we fall short, are we willing to get back up, ask God for forgiveness, and with new resolve continue our journey of faith.

Our contemporary culture will focus on October 31 as Halloween. But as Lutheran Christian believers, let us also focus on October 31 as Reformation Day, for it reminds us of the great God of Grace that we SAY we believe in and offers the opportunity to renew our desire to more faithfully follow our Savior. When asked the question, "who do you want to be?" Let us all answer **- I want to be a believer in Jesus Christ!**

Pastor Fred

MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE

Thank you to all of you who have contributed to our $5,000 Matching Gift Challenge! We are getting close to our goal and YOU can help us reach it! Remember, these gifts need to be above and beyond our regular giving! Otherwise, there is not an actual increase in our giving income. Use your "Improvement Fund envelope or pick one up at church, or simply mark "Improvement Fund' on any envelope you have.
We are grateful for all of your gifts!

FAITH IN ACTION AT JPLC



LIVE NATIVITY- SAVE THE DATE!
SATURDAY DECEMBER 12TH 2-4 PM

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

It is never too early to plan! And really, it is only two months away! Plan now on ways you can volunteer to help! And ALL of us can begin getting the word out to our friends and neighbors and inviting them to come and enjoy the fun!

We particularly need:

- Cookies, Cookies, Cookies! We will once again have a Christmas Cookie Sale and we will need bakers!
- 1-2 people to help pack cookie packages on Friday 12/11
- 1-2 people to help with refreshments during the Live Nativity
- 1-2 people to help with clean-up and moving tables

Please contact either Pastor Fred, Theresa Perry or Gale Kramer if you can give us a hand!

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS
SERVICE SUNDAY OCTOBER 18TH

We invite you to stay after the Service to help in our Service to others! A variety of tasks will be available:

- Making sandwiches for the Guest House homeless shelter
- Making cards for our friends at our Partner Parish in Tanzania, Makimura Lutheran Church
- Cleaning projects around the church
  the refrigerator in the kitchen
  the recycle containers
  the floor underneath the pews.

All tasks should be done in less than an hour! And a light lunch will give you energy to complete them!



STEPHANIE SCHIMMELS MEMORIAL
SHOEBOX SUNDAY IN DECEMBER



Our Sunday School students will be collecting small inexpensive gifts for the needy moms, children and babies at Hope House; a homeless shelter on the near south side of Milwaukee. Personal hygeine items for kids and moms like shampoo, soap, lotion, combs, lip balm, toothbrushes and toothpaste, socks, footies, hats and mittens are needed. Examples of fun items include card games, play-doh, coloring books with crayons, story books, stuffed animals, matchbox cars, jewlery, hair accessories, etc. Please note that all items should be small enough to fit in an average sized shoebox. Our students will be busy decorating the shoeboxes in November and then packing them on December 6th. **All dontated items must be in the Sunday school office ON or before Sunday, December 6th.**

In honor of Stephanie Schimmels, who in the past was our biggest contributor, let's make this one of our best Shoebox Sundays!!



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

7	Fay Bonifield
9	Leighton Meeker
12	Kate Stuewe
13	Kali Jacobi
16	Nancy Bernstein
16	Marie Fox
16	Theresa Perry
26	Diane Kestner
28	Doug Ruesch
29	Kim Phillip
30	Ken Frodemann
30	Laurie Phillip

Please pray for healing for:

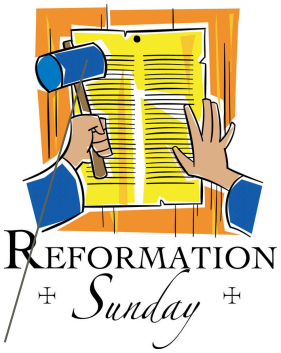
Kaye
Lloyd
Peggy
Iris
Liz
Ron
Don
Cindy







Sunday, October 25 - REFORMATION SUNDAY!



This is the Birthday of our Lutheran tradition! It commemorates the action of Martin Luther who nailed the 95 Thesis on the Church door in Wittenburg, Germany on October 31, 1517. It was an action that shook the whole world and eventually led to the establishment of Protestant Churches.

RED is the color of the Day! Wear something red!



ALL SAINTS' DAY

NOVEMBER 1st

We will again remember and honor our dear departed loved ones in a number of ways. We will come forward to light a candle in their honor as part of the Worship Service, and prayers will be said for all of them. You also are invited to bring in a picture of your loved one who has passed to be part of a display of these saints in the Narthex. It will be left up for the following week as well so we may pay proper tribute to them.

Also please remember it is the end of Daylight Savings time so please turn your clocks BACK one hour before going to bed!

We will again be providing Thanksgiving Food Baskets for families in need in our neighborhood. Please help us provide:

- Mashed Potato Box Mix
- Stuffing Box Mix
- Money to buy Turkeys
- Pies (frozen)
- Rolls
- Turkey Gravy
- Cranberry Sauce
- Canned Vegetables



Please bring in all donations to Church by Sunday, November 22nd. Thank you for supporting this community ministry.

Wreath and Poinsettia Sale

We will be taking orders for wreaths in October, and taking orders for Poinsettia plants in November. The wreaths will be delivered the week before Thanksgiving and the Poinsettias will be available after the Christmas Eve Worship Service. All orders will be through Shady Lane Greenhouse.



