

Fall Newsletter

October 2026 Britton Lutheran Parish



On Rally Sunday Paul Oman joined us at First Lutheran and painted this amazing picture based on Mark 10:13,16 (“Let the little children come unto me...”) during worship. While the congregation worshipped, Oman worked on his oversized canvas. He is known for beginning his paintings upside down before eventually flipping the canvas. At the end of worship he turned the painting around to reveal the large image of Jesus surrounded by children.

The highschool woodworking class will make a frame for this and it will hang in the sanctuary.



BRITTON LUTHERAN PARISH

ONETIME BIBLE STUDY

Reformation Theme

WED OCTOBER 21 | 5:30PM-8:00PM

First Lutheran Fellowship Hall

Supper provided. No need to RSVP.



October 25 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

FL Men's Group

October 18 @ 6:00

Meeting around a campfire.
We will be starting a devotional
book on Romans.



From the Pastor...

Where do we go from here?

There's a lot of positive momentum built up in our churches right now. There was a tangible electricity in the air on Rally Sunday. We had pastor and artist Paul Omen join us for worship. There are some pictures of his work in this newsletter. What a way to start off the church-school year! The start of Sunday School, Confirmation, and JAWS has kicked us into gear in a number of ways. The women's retreat built a lot of excitement and has shown us potential for our women's ministries. Men's Group is starting some focused spiritual talk and has speakers booked for future gatherings. There's a lot of things happening, and engagement has been really good!

Roughly a month into all of this newness, we are approaching the somewhat fluid moment where all of the kick-offs and start-ups are behind us. A moment is coming in the very near future where we, as a church, are going to have to ask ourselves: "Where do we go from here?" What should we do with this momentum that's been accruing? And perhaps more reflectively, we could ask: "What is God up to here?"

As a firm believer in the Holy Spirit, I assert that this momentum has been built up for one reason and one reason only: to reveal Jesus Christ and the good news that he is currently bringing into the world. That's really what has been happening in all of our start-up and kick-off events. Christ has shown up to deliver his promises to us. That's how God has been using what we've been doing.

My prediction for what happens next in our churches is that we're going to have to rely on Jesus Christ and his promises in the days and weeks ahead. We might eventually run out of appealing events. Programs might eventually reach a point where we go into "grind-it-out" mode. There will be a Sunday soon where the egg bake and muffins of Rally Sunday will be replaced by off-brand Oreos. Paul Oman probably won't be back for a couple years, unfortunately. But the thing we will still have is the one and only thing we really need: Jesus and his promise. As long as we have that, there's hope.

Jesus has made himself the focal point throughout all of our excitement. Indeed, the central figure in Paul's painting is Jesus. It's important for the sake of our church's survival that Jesus remains the focal point moving forward, too. If he's not, then all is lost. If Jesus isn't our main point, then everything truly will fall apart. He is the one thing that can take what we have now and project it out into the future. So pray that he continues to have mercy on us and keeps showing up!

Come along for the ride, maybe even invite your family and friends. We'll continue to be blasted by the Word of Life. By HIS grace, that's where we'll go next. Amen.

Pastor Jesse

Confirmation Class

For a recent lesson on the 2nd Commandment (Exodus 20:7), the 8th grade confirmation class wrote group research papers. Each group chose a name of God to research and present. The results of their study are provided below.

“Yahweh” Research Project

by Cullen Peters, Luke Zuehlke, Abel Henning, Rylan Carlson

One name for God is Yahweh. It is the vocalization of four consonants (YHWH). It was introduced by Moses. Israel’s worship led to God getting a new name. Israel called God Yahweh. When the people found out about God, his name was then known to his people.

The following paragraph is based off of information in *“The Significance of God’s Name”* and *“Why God Reveals His Name.”* His name is not just a title. It declares what he is or says something about him. A name is something you can call someone. God’s name tells us who he is. His name is well-known. His character is described in his name.

The name “Yahweh” appears in many major literary categories of the Bible, including the Pentateuch, History, Wisdom, and Prophets. The name “Yahweh” appears in verses such as Joshua 1:9, Psalm 23:1, Micah 4:1 and Numbers 6:24–26. In Joshua 1:9, Yahweh is identified as a strong and courageous God. This means that we don’t have to be afraid of things because we have God. In Psalm 23:1, Yahweh is identified as a shepherd. This exemplifies that Jesus is our leader. In Micah 4:1, Micah describes the palace that God lives at and that we will one day go to. In Numbers 6:24–26, the Lord is blessing Israel. This exemplifies that he loves them and has their best interests in mind.

“Lord” Research Project

by Skylar Bender, Jacey Melroe, Riley Van Lith, Jaelynn Heitmann, & Cora Larson

Another name for God is the Lord. In many cases Lord or “the Lord” is a title of honor and majesty used in addressing God. Other ways to say the Lord in different languages are Adon and Yahweh. For Christians, there is only one God – the Father – and one Lord – Jesus Christ.

The following observations are based on these two articles: “Why is God’s Name Important?” and “The Significance of God’s Name.” God’s name is more than just a title. His name declares who he is. God’s name tells who he is and what he does. God’s name has meaning to it. God’s name tells us who he is. He has a well-known name. His name indicates what he does.

The name Lord appears in many major categories of the Bible, including the Pentateuch, History, Wisdom, Prophets, Gospels, Epistles, and Apocalyptic. The word Lord appears in verses such as Philippians 4:4, Revelation 22:21, John 20:27, & Psalm 23:1. In Philippians 4:4, the Lord is being attached to rejoicing. This means that the name Lord is attached to hope. In Revelation 22:21, the Lord is attached to grace. In John 20:27–28, the Lord is telling Thomas “do not disbelieve but believe.” This is the Lord telling us to believe and trust in him. In Psalm 23:1, the Lord is identified as a shepherd.

Lake City Lutheran Parish Happenings

What's new at Lake City?

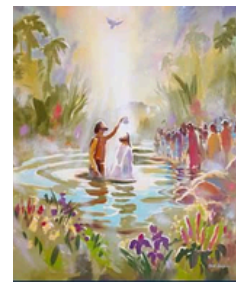
- We made a list to keep all informed and up to date
- We updated the church directory; Thank you Jan Thayer for your work with this project! Please let the office know of any additions or corrections
- We updated our Constitution to change the annual meeting designation of the month of January to yearly with no specified month of the year for an annual meeting to be held; Thank you Gail O'Brien for retyping our constitution from scratch-it was quite the undertaking but we now have a digital copy to last forever!
- We adopted the Parish Background check policy
- New open narthex in the church with wheelchair seating available
- New carpet for the stairs to the basement
- New church window reframing/refurbishing is underway
- New fellowship hall noise control panels with more planned in the future: Thank you Jody Breker for her artistic work to make them decorative!
- We accepted the Background check policy

What's coming?

- Steeple project; we will update the sign located on the southeast corner of the property with a structure that will look like a steeple with signage for our congregation; our original bell from the steeple will move to the new location
 - A generous donation was given to put towards an updated sound system for the church and for pew cushions; We are so appreciative!
- Our next service will be Good Friday service in 2027.
- Have a wonderful 2026 and see you all in 2027!**



Third Grade Sunday School students received their bibles during worship on Rally Sunday.



Paul Oman shared his ministry, *Drawn to the Word* first during worship and then through a painting class that afternoon. Kaylee Carlson created this sheet for all the kids to color.





Middle School Girls Bible Study

The JH girls Bible Study is led by the high school girls. Next meeting will be Oct 18 at 11:00am.. All middle school girls are welcome.



**JAWS
BYTES**

JAWS, led by Kari Feldhaus, have been busy this fall. They have participated in ARK (Acts of Random Kindness); washing windshields, decorating sidewalks, delivering flowers and cards to Spruce Court and Wheatcrest Hills.





Barbara Ann Wade
passed away
September 19, 2026
at Avera McKennan
in Sioux Falls, SD at
the age of 80.
Her funeral was
September 26 at
First Lutheran.

Seasons of Life Women's Retreat



Thanks to all who helped with the Women's Retreat!
Faith was certainly celebrated through all the stages of life .
Janine Rew-Werling brought a powerful message and Peder
Gulleson provided spirited music.



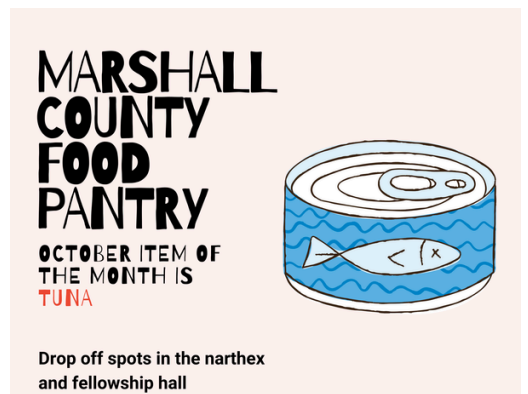
Tommy Holtquist
Wayne and DeeAnn Suther
Thomas and Marylee Melius (LC)
Help welcome them to our
church family!



Patty Swenson
VBS Fund
Family and Friends

Allan Johnson
Endowment Fund
Walt and Patty Roehr
Undesignated
Mavis Gunderson

Wayne Buhl
Endowment Fund
Kent and Sara Holland
Walt and Patty Roehr
Al and Marlene Sime
Undesignated
David and Gretchen Christenson
Joel and Karen Erickson
Dennis and Jane Mattson





1st Grade
 Gray Phillips
 Lola Emery
 Grace Vrchota
 Avery Saker
 Halle Pierson
 Madison Erickson
 Katelyn Christenson
 Ava Raabe
 Rocky Hrabik
 Brooks Hastings
 Leah Rabenberg
 Benson Warner
 Onyx Stelzer
 Berkley Zuehlke
 McCoy Suther
 Corbett Winburn



2nd Grade
 Waylon Bremmon
 Cohen Roney
 Waverly Hagen
 Merrik Peters
 Declan Parrow
 Maidlyn Greeno



3rd Grade
 Milo Suther
 Jaxen Melroe
 Logan Landreth
 Tre Hrabik
 Jase VanLith
 Emily Christenson
 Jerika Zuehlke
 Haidyn Brooks
 Emma Vrchota
 Weston Hastings
 Sutton Collins-Miles
 Keegan Collins-Miles
 Brynlee Peters
 Wren Waletich
 Brielle Olson



4th Grade
 Corinn Heitmann
 Abby Erickson
 Ariyah Saker
 Zach Vrchota
 Brek Stelzer
 Tucker Olson
 Everett Winburn



5th Grade

Ava Larson
Brees Phillips
Layla Landreth
Alice Rabenberg
Zoey Block
James Raabe
Izzy Stiegelmeier
Sadie Mills
Rhyker Bender
Corvin Schmieg
Rylan Bremmon
Gage Beck

6th Grade

Hayden Peters
Sophia Erickson
Tyler Wurst
Reeve Knecht
Jase Stelzer
Wynn Mattson
Weston Hastings
Lukas Knudson

Kindergarten

Ivey Roney
Beckett Peters
Landree Hagen
Isla Peters
Mick Carson
Kaden Olson
Layton Carlson
Addilyn Jones
Collin Stiegelmeier

Preschool

Reya Stezer
Wiley Warner
Aletta Winburn
Truett Brooks
Briggs Hrabik
Rhett Krutsinger
Hank Pierson
Milo Carson
Flynn Hagen

Sunday School

began Sept 13 -
Rally Sunday. We have a
great group
teachers leading these
children.

They will share their music
on Oct 4 during Worship.

Looking ahead-
Christmas Programs
Preschool - 2nd Grade

December 13

Grades 3-6

December 20



Puzzle

NAMES OF GOD

Every name of God tells us something about his power, love and care for his people. Use the Scripture clues to uncover just some of these special names.

F _____ (Matthew 6:9)

A _____ and O _____ (Revelation 1:8)

I A _____ (Exodus 3:14)

Y _____ (Exodus 6:2-3)

G _____ M _____ H _____ (Genesis 14:18)

G _____ A _____ (Genesis 17:1)

R _____ (Psalm 18:2)

J _____ (Psalm 75:7)

F _____ (Psalm 18:2)

H _____ O _____ (Isaiah 40:25)

Key: Father, Alpha and Omega, I AM, Yahweh, God Most High, Mighty, Rock, Judge, Fortress, Holy One