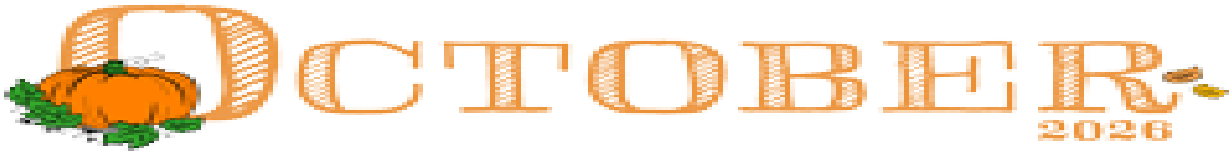

October Parish Messenger

Northland Lutheran Church

N9880 Hwy 49 Iola Wi 54945, 715-445-2956

Website northlandchurchiola.com

From the Deck of Pastor Bill

October, in the Stukenberg household, is a month of birthdays. Several of my grandkids were born in October as was my youngest son. It's also my birthday month…October 4th. October 4th is not only my birthday, but, far more special than that, it is my wife's "rebirth" day. On October 4th, 1978, while I was out, no doubt doing something stupid (I did not know Christ myself for another 18 months), Sue was attending a Bible study. At that study she learned that Jesus loved her and gave His life for her. That night, she accepted Him as her Lord and Savior. According to scripture, she was "born again".

We don't often here that phrase in the Lutheran church, but it is biblical. In fact, in His conversation with a man by the name of Nicodemus recorded in the third chapter of the gospel of John, Jesus told him, "You must be born again". Those are serious words. So serious that just a little earlier Jesus stated, "unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God". There's not a lot of room for disagreement there. It's what Jesus said. The question that needs to be addressed is this, "How does a person become "born again"?

A little later in the same chapter of John's gospel Jesus says,

"As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

Three times in that passage, Jesus mentions believing as the means to securing eternal life and twice He mentions not believing as a means to condemnation. If Jesus says that you must be born again to see the kingdom of God and also says that you must believe to have eternal life, it is logical to conclude that to be "born again," you must believe in Jesus as the one who was lifted up (died) for you. Interestingly, there is no mention of joining a church or becoming religious or even baptism, taking communion or confirmation as the means to being "born again", although all of those things are important.

Earlier in the first chapter of John's Gospel we read this about Jesus.

"He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—

Think about that…we become children of God, have the promise of eternal life and the expectation of seeing the Kingdom of God in all its glory by simply believing (trusting) that Jesus is who He says He is…Our Savior and Lord. When we do that, we are "born again". Are you believing/trusting in what Christ did for you when He was lifted up? Have you been born again?

2nd Courtney Moen, Julie Melum
4th Pastor Bill Stukenberg
5th Jared Netro, Paige Timdal
7th Daniele Oligney
14th Mason Krogwold
18th Dianne Erickson
22nd Mary Fiane, Dawn Lashua
25th Linda Moen
26th Michael Fischer
31st John Moen

OCTOBER 2025 AT A GLANCE

ALTAR GUILD: Dianne Erickson
Prayer meeting each Tuesday at 1:00pm at church
AA MEETING: Every Thursday at 7:00 PM in the church basement

October 4 SUNDAY SCHOOL will be singing in church 10:00 AM under direction of Christy Wrolstad

SUNDAY SCHOOL Potluck BRUNCH October 4 Sunday School will provide Hot Dogs & Buns and Deserts. Congregation please bring Casserole, Salads.

MEN'S MINISTRY: Sunday, October 4th following Worship?

Friday Supper Work day Starting at 9:00am The more hands we have the sooner we can get done.

LUTEFISK SUPPER OCTOBER 17TH 12:30 to 6:30 PM

We will need help October 11 to remove furniture from entry to upstairs

Cleanup October 19th 9:00 AM

CONFIRMATION each Wednesday of the month 6:00 to 7:30 PM

No CONFIRMATION October 14th

No Sunday School October 18th

COUNCIL MEETING: Sunday, October 11th following Worship

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Thursday, October 14th a

TUESDAY QUILTER'S: Tuesday, October 20th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Tuesday Quilters Sew-in October 30, October 31 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM

USHER: Bruce & Marilyn Mitchell

PROJECTOR OPERATORS:

October 4 Bruce M. October 11 Carl T.

October 18 Dale T. October 25 Kevin D.

NORWEGIAN LUTEFISK SUPPER

Saturday, October 17TH is the date of this year's Norwegian Lutefisk Supper. Bill Hahn, Diane Erickson and Carl Thompson are the co-chair people of the event. In order to continue with a successful supper, it is again necessary to have willing participation from all church members (and some who are not members). If you have questions regarding your job or are unable to work or bring your assigned items, please contact your department chairperson.

If you have questions about the Lutefisk Supper, please contact one of the Supper Chair persons.

Carl Thompson: 715-445-5617

Dianne Erickson: 715-677-4683

Bill Hahn 715-445-5253

NORWEGIAN LUTEFISK SUPPER
DATES OF IMPORTANCE

October 11th Move furniture out of Narthex.
October 16th Workday
October 17th Lutefisk Supper
October 19TH Clean-up Day

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17th

Many Volunteers will be needed to prepare for the day of the Supper. We will start on Friday, October 16th at 9:00 AM. Bring a lunch. Please join the group if you can, we need the help.

CASH DONATIONS

Monetary donations for the Norwegian Lutefisk Supper, can be made out to “Northland Church”. Checks can be sent to:

Northland Lutheran Church
N 9880 State Road 49,
Iola, WI 54945.

Please write "Lutefisk Supper", on your donation envelope or memo line on check.