

Grace Lutheran Church

239 E North St
Hastings MI 49058



Website: www.grace-hastings.org
Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-ELCA Hastings, MI
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 2:00 pm-6:00 pm

Phone: (269) 945-9414
(269) 945-2645

Pastor Ken Scheck II
Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music
October 25, 2026

Reformation Day

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The color for Reformation day is red, which represents the fire of the Holy Spirit. Luther's Rose, a primary emblem of the Lutheran church, is comprised of the following: a black cross, for faith in Christ crucified; the red heart, for faith in the Savior; the white rose, to show that faith causes joy, consolation and peace; the blue sky, symbolizing that such joy of faith in the Spirit is the beginning of the heavenly joy to come; and the golden ring surrounding all, to signify the endless bliss that heaven will bring.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Welcome Gathering Music

Arise in body or Spirit

Confession and Forgiveness

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

☞ **Amen.**

☞ Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

☞ Merciful and loving God,

☞ **we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.**

☞ Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

You who were lost have been found.

In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

☞ **Amen.**

Gathering Song

A Mighty Fortress

ELW 505

Greeting

The pastor and the assembly greet each other.

- ☐ The love of God, made known in Christ Jesus our Lord and poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- ☑ **And also with you.**

Song of Praise

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

ELW 763



- 1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
- 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring - ing.
- 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
- 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Prayer of the Day

- ☐ Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age.
- ☑ **Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**
- Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

📖 A reading from **Jeremiah**.

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

📖 Word of God, word of life.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46



Refrain



The LORD of hosts is with us; the



God of Ja - cob is our strong - hold.

¹ God is our ref- uge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

³ **though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High. ☩**

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶ The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.

⁸ **Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up- on the earth;**

⁹ **behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the shields with fire. ☩**

¹⁰ "Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold. ☩

Second Reading

Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

📖 A reading from **Romans**.

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

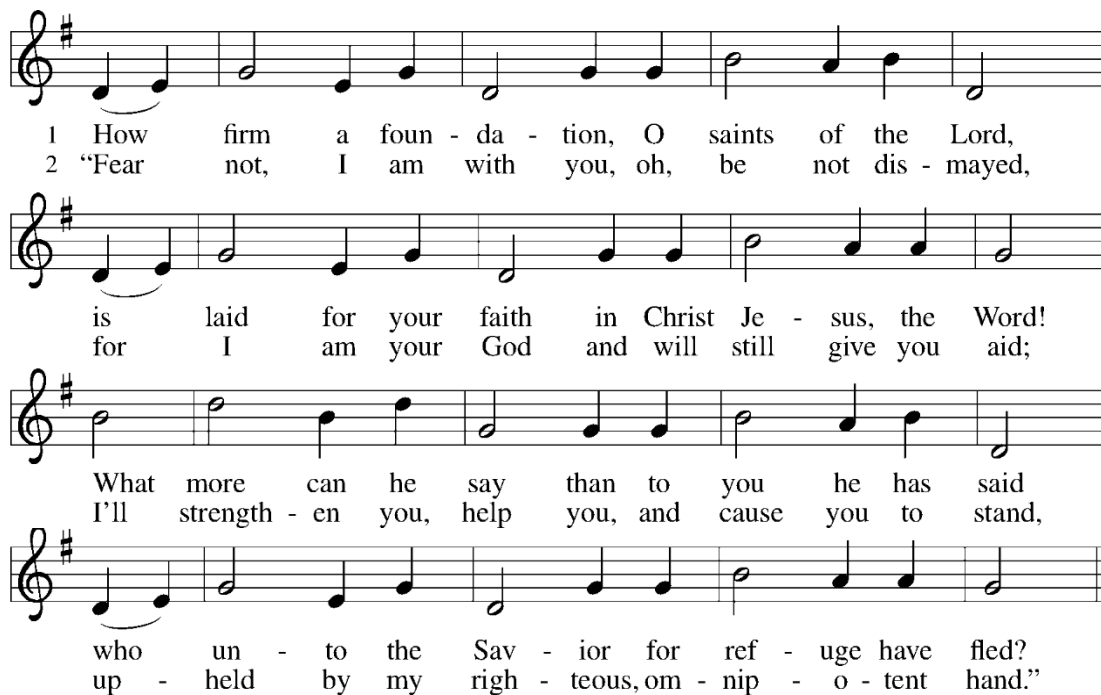
²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

📖 Word of God, word of life.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

Arise in body or spirit.



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."

Gospel Reading

John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

☐ The Holy Gospel according to **John**.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³ They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Children's Time

All children [including infants] and youth who desire to come forward for the children's sermon are welcomed and encouraged to do so. Parents/caregivers are welcome to accompany their child during the children's message. There may be a time of dance and celebration that is offered.

Message

Please arise in body or spirit.

Song of the Day

Built on a Rock

ELW 652

Please sit or kneel.

Prayers

*We pray the prayer response after each petition. You will hear, **God of Grace**, The assembly sings:*

ACS 1035



Though the earth shall change, though the moun-tains trem-ble,



though the wa - ters rage, you, God, are here.



Though the na - tions war, though the peo - ples bat - tle,



though the em - pire fal - ters, we will not fear.

A Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

A As we celebrate Reformation Sunday, we remember the witness of Martin Luther and the reformers of the church in every generation. Empower us to continue the work of reform and renewal in our own day. Bless our leaders and partners, *including Bishops Yehiel and Julie, Assistants Scott and Kate, our synod companion St. Peter Lutheran Church in Battle Creek; Nashville United Methodist Church; Orangeville Baptist Church in Plainwell; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* God of Grace,

G *(sung response)*

A We pray for the healing of natural places despoiled by pollution and human greed. Give all living creatures access to safe land, water, and air. God of Grace,

C *(sung response)*

A We pray for our criminal justice systems and all those whose lives are affected by them. Give wisdom and discernment to police, probation officers, judges, and attorneys; give courage and peace to prisoners and the formerly incarcerated. Be with those who safeguard the world, including *Parker Stancil (Freedlund), Cody and Myrina Crawford (Clements), Cynthia Rudesill (Hansen), Joel Taggart (Varkula), Seth Domke (Domke), Hudson Schick (Markwart) and Leopold Schick (Markwart)*. God of Grace,

C *(sung response)*

A We ask your blessing upon all people who have been harmed by the church and its leaders, that the truth may make them free. We pray for the relief of all those who are sick or suffering, especially *Jennie Anderson, Vickey Argo, Bob Bolton, Frank Bolton, Chris Bush, John Charles, Cherie Clements, Kay Corrigan, Byron Cramsie, Kim Domke, Celina Eichler, Greg Franks, Melanie Franks, Lisa Golnek, Larry Griswold, Bill Halstead, Amy Hansen, Aurora Hawkins, Jamie Heise (pregnancy), Walker Heise, Autum Henion, Christine Jenkins, Joy Jenks, Martha Klenk, Gabby Kriebiehl, Ricky Long, Joe Longcor, Ed Markwart, Cathy Martell, Larry Maupin, Dick Melcher, Carrie Miller, Virginia Moomey, Jody Neagle, Corey Normandin, Bob Power, Lincoln Osborn, Samantha Replogle, Steve Sensiba, Rob Smelker, Payton Stancil, Kathy Surratt, Gary Teegardin, Al Throop, Claudia Throop, Linda Trongo, George Ulrich Jr., Jeanette Ulrich, Ron Waege, and Clyde Watson Jr.* Be our stronghold at all times. God of Grace,

C *(sung response)*

A We give thanks for those exploring or returning to a life of faith. Encourage and guide them, that they may find their hope in you. God of Grace,

C *(sung response)*

Here other intersessions may be offered.

A With gratitude, we remember those disciples who paved the way for us and all of our beloved dead. God of Grace,

C *(sung response)*

P Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Please arise in body or spirit.

Sharing the Peace of God

P The peace of Christ be with you.

C **And also with you.**

(We share the peace of Christ with one another.)

Offering Song

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

ELW 523

Refrain / Estribillo

Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the
feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is
wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.

1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -
2 God in - vites all the poor and hun - gry to the
3 May we build such a place a - mong us where all

mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm
ban - quet of jus - tice and good where the har - vest will not be
peo - ple are e - qual in love. God has called us to work to -

Refrain / Estribillo
walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.
hoard - ed so that no one will lack for food.
geth - er and to share ev - 'ry - thing we have.

Offering Prayer

- Ⓐ Let us pray . . . Blessed are you, O God, for the greening earth given for all, for the talents we are given to share, and for this bread and wine.
- ☑ Transform us to be the body of Christ, that, feasting on this food and drink, our lives may reflect your generosity; through Christ our Lord. Amen

Great Thanksgiving

- Ⓟ The Lord be with you.
- ☑ And also with you.
- Ⓟ Lift up your hearts.
- ☑ We lift them to the Lord.
- Ⓟ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- ☑ It is right to give our thanks and praise.

- It is indeed our duty and delight that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

ELW 525



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
 You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more

än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
 than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.

Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
 Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here

väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
 to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
 You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,

du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
 you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!

Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
 Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!

ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
 Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

Table Prayer

- ☞ Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

- ☞ **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

- ☞ Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught:

☞ **Our Father in heaven, holy be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

- ☞ Taste and see that the Lord is good.

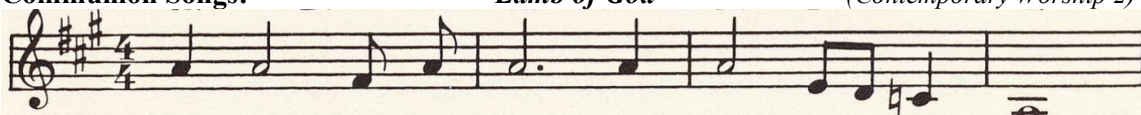
- ☞ **Thanks be to God!**

Please be seated.

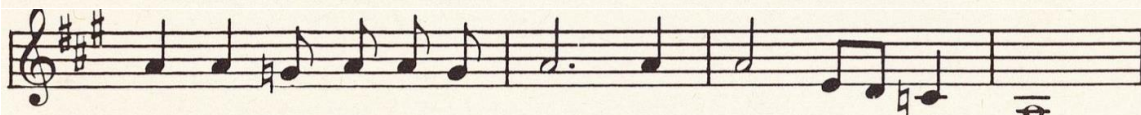
Communion Songs:

Lamb of God

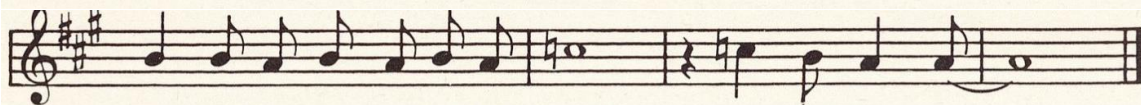
(Contemporary Worship 2)



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear-er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re-deem-er of the world: give us your peace.

Drawn to the Light
Thy Strong Word

ELW 593
ELW 511

Prayer after Communion

- A** Let us pray . . . Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love.
- C** Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. Amen.

Mission Minutes

Arise in body or spirit

Blessing

- P** God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Sending Song

The Church of Christ in Every Age

ELW729

Sending

- A** Go in peace. Christ is sending you.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Postlude

9:30 am

Assisting Minister – Mark Anton

Lector – Amy Poholski

Musician – Cindy Olson

Cantor – Anna Scheck

Cup Bearer - Phil Poholski

Usher – Doug Neeb

Pastor – Ken Scheck

Fellowship Hour – Come eat Paul Kuhlman's cookies at the Heritage Meal

Always Reforming

A core teaching for Martin Luther and other church reformers in the sixteenth century was that God grants us salvation not because of our good works but by God's grace through faith. Our good works flow out as our response to God's great gift.

The work begun by Luther and others has continued through the years. The church in North America may appear to be in decline today, but do not lose heart. The church is always in the process of reformation, and the Holy Spirit is always at work in the church.

The church's mission to bring good news to all also continues. Out of gratitude for God's gifts to us, we go out to proclaim the gospel, work for justice and peace, and love our neighbors in all parts of the world. For some, good news comes in the form of word and sacrament. For others, good news is food, clothing, housing, advocacy, disaster relief, caring conversations, and much more. Wherever we go, we meet people where they're at.

On this Reformation Day, take time to pray for the church, for its ongoing reformation, for the healing of divisions, for the renewal of faith and mission, and for the strength to persevere in these efforts. How might you or your congregation support or participate in this important work?

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Brown Bag Bible Study is in the middle of a real cliff hanger. Join us **Thursdays from noon to 1pm at church** as we discuss the final message from Jesus in the book of Revelation. Communion is offered before each study begins.

The next Red Cross Blood Drive is tomorrow, 10am – 4pm. The theme is Halloween Special: Let's Get Batty. If you would like to contribute refreshments for the donators, please see the list of needs on the signup list on the bulletin board.

Trunk - or – treat Join us in sharing the fun, **on October 31**, by handing out candy and some good cheer for this annual event 5:00 until 7:00 pm. Doors open at 4 pm for decorating. Please bring your candy and place it on the table in the Gathering Area.

A Game Day is scheduled for Sunday, November 15 after the worship service. Some games are provided but bring one along! Round up a group for cards - card table and chairs available. Hope to see you there!

The **Hand2Hand Program** helps to provide needs for 76 local students each weekend. **The foods being collected are:** Microwave popcorn, Protein bars, Trail mix, Raisins, Slim Jims, Individual cereal & oatmeal, Cheez-its, Fruit snacks, Fruit cups, Individual Applesauce, Mac 'N Cheese Cups or boxes, Ramen Noodles, Granola bars, and Cereal bars. **Any amount of any of these items is greatly appreciated.** This list is expected to remain pretty much the same throughout the school year. We will know soon how many students are in need. These food items help students who may otherwise be HUNGRY during the weekend when not receiving meals at the schools. **Items are due next Sunday, November 1st. Thank You!!** - Outreach Committee

“God’s Creation” 2027 wall calendars are available for \$10 each. (Get yours soon – when they’re gone, they’re gone.)

Parish Administrator Cindy Olson’s office hours are **10 am to 2:30 pm Mon – Wed.**
Pastor Ken’s office hours are 10 am to 12 noon Mon & Wed.

Welcome to worship today! We are thrilled that you are here. We hope you find what we have found - a loving Jesus who welcomes all. No matter your background or faith tradition, you will find that Grace Lutheran Church is a place that is full of love, care, and support. Today we celebrate the reformation, and we celebrate that God protects and guides us. Let us always celebrate God’s gift of grace, forgiveness and love.

Please use this QR
Code to access
online giving.



Stewardship Information

Attendance: 32 Views: 218
Weekly Giving: \$870.00 Budget Amount: \$4,363.00

Offerings received to date through October 11	\$ 49,111.17
Offerings received on October 18	+ \$ 870.00
Year to date total offerings (<i>fiscal year</i>)	\$ 49,981.17

Non-Budget (Grace Projects): \$250.00

The Annual Heritage Meal is TODAY after the service. Hope to see you there!!

It’s time for a new photo directory! Plans are made for a photographer to be at Grace after church **next Sunday, November 1st.** (Backup date: November 22nd) A directory will be created from these pictures and available for purchase, as desired. More information to come!

The nursery is available weekly during the worship service. Our Attendant is Aurora Hawkins.

Pasty Sale November 7: Unbaked \$7.00 & Baked \$8.00. Dough making is Wednesday, November 4. Signup sheets for helping and ordering are on the bulletin board.

Women of Faith (WOF) meets on Tuesdays from 11am – noon. We have started a new Bible Study: Spiritual Gifts. All women are welcome.

Brown Bag Bible Study is on Thursdays, Noon – 1pm. Wow! What an ending to Revelation: God Triumphs – Hallelujah! Come join us as we study the first book of the Bible: Genesis. Remember communion is offered before the study begins.

AED Training is being offered on **November 2 at 6:00 pm.** If you are interested in learning how to use this saving device, please sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Area.