

Whitnall Park Lutheran Church

5847 Lilac Lane, Hales Corners, WI 53130

(414) 425-1169

Pastor Michael Fazio

Summer Worship Services:

Sun. 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Sunday School 9:30

Office hours: Mon-Thurs 8am-1pm

Email: assistant@wplchurch.org

Website: www.wplchurch.org



A WORD FROM PASTOR FAZIO . . .

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month, October 2025 we celebrate the 508th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation that our beloved namesake, Dr. Martin Luther began with the nailing of the 95 theses to the church door of Wittenberg on October 31, 1517. Luther's theses debated and criticized the Church and the papacy but concentrated upon the selling of indulgences and doctrinal policies about purgatory, particular judgment, and the authority of the pope. This event sparked the beginning of a long and fascinating journey that has led us to become the church we are today (very simplistically speaking). In honor of this Reformation anniversary, I wanted to focus this month's article on a few of the key themes of our Lutheran understanding of the Faith. They are of course common to much of Christianity but are especially prominent in Lutheranism. In brief, they are:

Law and Gospel - In Protestant Christianity, the relationship between Law and Gospel states the distinction between the doctrines of Law, which demands obedience to God's ethical will, and Gospel, which promises the forgiveness of sins in light of the person and work of Jesus Christ, is critical. It is used as a principle of biblical interpretation and a guiding principle in sermon composition and pastoral care. Law and Gospel in essence the supersession of the Old Covenant (including traditional Jewish law) by the New Covenant and Christian theology based in the person of Jesus the Christ.

Priesthood of all believers – is a Protestant Christian doctrine stating that ordinary Christian's share a common priesthood in that they have direct access to God through their prayers without requiring a human mediator. The exact meaning of this belief and its implications vary widely among denominations. Luther's doctrine of the universal priesthood of all believers gave laypersons and the clergy equal rights and responsibilities, with only certain items (i.e. presiding over the sacraments) designated to ordained clergy.

Theology of the Cross - is a term coined by Martin Luther to refer to theology that suggests the cross as the only source of knowledge concerning who God is and how God saves. It is contrasted with the Theology of Glory which places greater emphasis on human abilities and human reason.

Simul Justus et Peccator - (Simultaneously Saint and Sinner) - means that a Christian is at the same time both righteous and a sinner. Human beings are justified by grace alone, but at the same time they will always remain sinners, even after baptism. From the perspective of God, human beings are at the same time totally sinners and totally righteous in Christ. The doctrine of "simul justus" is not an excuse for lawlessness, or a license for continued sinful conduct; rather, properly understood, it comforts the person who truly wishes to be free from sin and is aware of the inner struggle within him.

Justified by Grace Through Faith – Luther stated, "This one and firm rock, which we call the doctrine of justification, is the chief article of the whole Christian doctrine, which comprehends the understanding of all godliness." Luther explained justification this way in his Smalcald Articles: "The first and chief article is this: Jesus Christ, our God and Lord, died for our sins and was raised again for our justification (Romans 3:24-25). He alone is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29), and God has laid on Him the iniquity of us all (Isaiah 53:6). All have sinned and are justified freely, without their own works and merits, by His grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, in His blood (Romans 3:23-25). This is necessary to believe. This cannot be otherwise acquired or grasped by any work, law, or merit. Therefore, it is clear and certain that this faith alone justifies us." There are many other amazing doctrinal ideals that are found in Lutheran Christianity, these 5 are simply some of the more common examples of this God-given wisdom. The Reformation is an amazing story, and I look forward to exploring it with you as we journey through October.

God be with us all,

Pr. Michael

Seeds of Faith



"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." - Genesis 8:22

Dear WPLC Parents and Families,

The vibrant colors of fall are a beautiful reminder of God's creativity and abundance. As we enter the month of October, we are excited to continue our spiritual journey together in Sunday School. This month as we harvest our faith, we will focus on how God helps us to grow in our faith, how we can share that faith with others, and how we can be thankful for all of his gifts.

This is a wonderful season for kids to learn about the growth and harvest that happens in God's kingdom. Just as a small pumpkin seed can grow into a large, abundant harvest, our small acts of faith can produce a great and wonderful harvest for the Kingdom of God.

In thankfulness, we welcome our new children and I'm praying for each of you and your children this month. Let's make it a season of growth, gratitude, and blessing. Here is the lessons we'll be focusing on together.

October 5, 2025

Gospel Reading: Luke 17:5-10

Key Verse: "So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'" – Luke 17:10

The Point: God calls us to work even without praise.

October 12, 2025

Gospel Reading: Luke 17:11-19

Key Verse: Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. – Luke 17:15

The Point: We should respond to God's work in us with thanksgiving and praise.

October 19, 2025

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:1-8

Key Verse: Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. – Luke 18:1

The Point: We should keep praying, confident that God hears us.

October 26, 2025

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:9-14

Key Verse: "I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted." – Luke 18:14

The Point: God calls us to act with humility and avoid self-righteousness.

In His Abundant Grace,

Kathy Fazio, DCE

Church Council Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2025

ATTENDEES: Pastor Michael Fazio, Adam Fiedler, Lisa Douglas, Rachel Vick

1. **Opening Prayer** Pr. Fazio

- Pastor opened meeting in prayer @ 6:30 PM

2. **Treasurers/Finance Report** - Lisa

- Transferred money from Edward Jones account to checking account
- Financials submitted - available upon request

3. **Pastor's Report**

- Written report submitted - available upon request

4. **Christian Education Report**

- Refer to Monthly Leaf for updates and happenings

5. **Committee Reports**

a. **Endowment** - Pam/Pastor

Covering cost for Pastor and 2 members of Social Ministry Committee to attend fundraiser event for Serenity Inn

b. **Worship and Music** - Pastor

Choir has kicked-off

If you are interested in joining, reach out to Ralph or Pastor

c. **Property** - Pastor

Basement Flood Damage Repair

If you are interested in helping with repairs, reach out to Pastor or Larry Pfeil
House updates:

Replaced furnace, washer and dryer

Repaired pedestal sump pump and lawn mower tractor

d. **Social Ministry** - Adam

Refer to Yellow Pages or the Monthly Leaf for current happenings and updates

6. **Old Business**

- None

7. **New Business**

- Employee Reviews in September
- Looking for 2 members to join the Church Council

8. **Next Meeting Date:** Tuesday, Oct. 21

9. **Adjourn**

- Meeting adjourned at 7 PM with the Lord's Prayer



SOCIAL MINISTRY

October 5th coffee hour will benefit Hunger Task Force to help feed families, Children and seniors seeking assistance



Unity Lutheran Church

Take-out meal ministry: the first Wednesday of the month from 1–3 pm, to assemble bag lunches. Sign-up sheet to volunteer is on the bulletin board.

Clothing ministry (revised Sept 30th) The following donations will be accepted: men's belts, men's jeans (waist size 34 inches and lower), zip-up sweatshirts, gloves, socks, quilts, blankets, hygiene items (deodorant, foot powder, lotion, body wipes, toothpaste, and toothbrushes).

Food pantry: white rice, canned pasta/chicken/tuna, Triscuits, packs of fruit cups (apple sauce, peaches, pears), chicken soup, Knorr side dishes (rice / noodle), canned potatoes/pasta/mushrooms, olives (ripe/stuffed), condiments (ketchup/mustard/mayo). Food and clothing donations will be delivered on **Tuesday, October 14th** .

CommUNITY meal: the next hot meal is **Wednesday, October 15th** . Volunteer sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board for meal prep, meal serve, fellowship and clean-up.

Mt. Meru Premium Tanzanian coffee is available for purchase. Holiday Premium Coffee Sampler (\$20), has six sample packs (Regular, Peaberry, Hazelnut, French Vanilla, Butter Pecan, Chocolate Raspberry). The Four-Pack Holiday Sample (\$15) contains drip grinds of Regular, Decaf, Peaberry, and holiday traditions. Bags of unflavored and flavored Reg. and Decaf coffee are available for \$12. All sales help improve the lives of the coffee farmers, their families, and communities in the Mt. Meru Diocese of Tanzania.



Produce Table of excess bounty from the "farmers" in our church is winding down. Free-will offerings support Social Ministry.

Spotlight on Hunger Task Force

Hunger Task Force is Milwaukee's Free and Local food bank and Wisconsin's anti-hunger leader. HTF provides a safety net of emergency food to a network of local food pantries, shelters and meal programs and is the only food bank in Milwaukee that does not charge for food, delivery or network membership. Across all HTF programs, more than 50,000 people are being served every month. Visits to HTF's food pantry network have risen by 35% compared to this time last year. HTF ensures a healthy and nutritious supply of food within a network of nearly 200 access points for children, families and seniors in Milwaukee and the surrounding area. The HTF Farm located in Franklin harvests over 500,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables during the growing season.

Thanks to the dedication of farmers and volunteers.



WPLC Property Report – October 2025

We held our property committee meeting on September 9th to discuss our completed, current and future 2025 work to maintain our church and parsonage. Every year we identify small to large projects to keep our property in order. We also contract annually for routine maintenance of furnaces, AC units, the elevator, pest control and lawn weed control.

This spring/summer, we've completed several contracted projects including the new shingled roof, landscaping along the front of the church building and the parking lot crack repair and sealing/stripping. We also have a new concrete stoop at our back door, and the attic storage area has been decluttered and organized.

Currently we are still working on the flood damage in the church basement. We wet vacuumed out about 1 inch of water, but it damaged the lower edge of the drywall and some of the sound insulation in the back hall, all the classrooms, 3 storage rooms and the nursery. The removals are being worked on, and then we'll begin the patching process. We've been doing the work ourselves to save money and appreciate help anyone can offer (labor or donations), but it will take time to make things whole again.

The damage to our house's basement next door has been taken care of, including a new furnace, and a washer and dryer that were water damaged.

Fall Clean Up Day will be October 4th at 10 am. Please join us. We have a few things we can get done together. Bring your work gloves. Tree trimming, misc. repairs, window washing, etc.

Our next property meeting will be on **October 14th at 7:00 pm** where tasks are identified and prioritized.

Thank you,

Larry Pfeil



Monday, October 13th, 2025 ~ 3:00 pm at WPLC

Book discussion: The Book of Lost Friends by Lisa Wingate

Startling stories from actual "Lost Friends" advertisements that appeared in Southern newspapers after the Civil War, as newly freed slaves desperately searched for loved ones who had been sold away. Louisiana, 1875: Three young women set off as unwilling companions on a perilous quest: Hannie, a freed slave; Lavinia, the pampered heir to a now destitute plantation; and Juneau Jane, Lavinia's Creole half-sister. Louisiana, 1987: Amid the gnarled live oaks and run-down plantation homes lie the century-old history of three young women, a long-ago journey, and a hidden book that could change everything.



Susan Biloff, 10-01
 Samuel Cole, 10-03
 Christian Berg, 10-04
 Ryan Peters, 10-04
 Alivia Cornell, 10-07
 William Mueller, 10-09
 Corky Roe, 10-10
 Michael Stanton, 10-11
 Sandy Wiegert, 10-14
 Kay Arneson, 10-14
 Ellen King, 10-15
 Melinda Winter, 10-17
 Caleb Vick, 10-17



Joanne Baldewicz, 10-17
 Karon Hedlof, 10-17
 Barbara Meyrose-McIntyre, 10-19
 Jerry Rakow, 10-19
 Matthew Hampel, 10-20
 Jon Dietzler, 10-20
 Linda Kerr, 10-25
 Suzie Sorvick, 10-25
 Dean King, 10-26
 Charles Freier, 10-27
 Taylor Zalim, 10-27
 Joe Slieff, 10-28
 Camille Sutton, 10-28
 Morgan Johnson, 10-30

Ralph & Mary Llanas, 10-01
 Lisa & Karl Hampel, 10-01
 Matthew & Taylor Kalusche, 10-06
 Duane & Sharon Hause, 10-09
 Michelle & Dwayne Harbort, 10-09
 Robert Horcos & Marsha, 10-12
 Ken & Jane Perkl, 10-16



Ken & Kristin Hause, 10-17
 Keith & Denise Jankowski, 10-18
 Caleb & Rachel Vick, 10-19
 Kimberly & Brett Williams, 10-22
 Ronald & MaryAnn Labott, 10-27
 Jerome & Deborah Thome, 10-29

President: Adam Fiedler
 Vice Pres: Connor McMahon
 Treasurer & Finance:
 Lisa Douglas
 Secretary: Rachel Vick
 Endowment: Matt Grubis
 Council Member: Mitchell Rakow



Email: council@wplchurch.org
 Fellowship: Rev. Michael Fazio
 Property: Connor McMahon
 Director of Christian Ed:
 Kathy Fazio
 Liaison to Christian Ed: Pam Kobin
 Worship & Music: Rev. Michael Fazio

Senior Sunday—Oct. 19, 2025

On Sunday, Oct. 19th we want to honor and celebrate our senior members here at WPLC. We are grateful for their friendship, their wisdom, their faithfulness, and so much more. Let's celebrate the gift of our Seniors at WPLC! Carnations (provided by Ladies of WPLC) will be handed to them by young members of our church following both services.



AI says: "Take time to spend quality time with our seniors, offer practical help like assistance with tasks, listen to their stories and wisdom, and express your gratitude either verbally or through a note. Your sincere presence, a warm hug, or even just holding their hand during conversation can also communicate deep appreciation and connection."



Let's celebrate the beauty of God's creation with a walk through the Wehr Nature Center Park on Saturday, Oct. 11th . We will meet at church @ 9:00 am and carpool to a parking lot. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board with more information for all who are interested in enjoying the morning walk.

Pet Blessing Service

Is Saturday

at Whitnall Park



October 4th @ 9:30 am

Lutheran Church

Church Clean Up Day

Sat. Oct. 4th at 10:00 am is our cleanup day at church. If you are able to make it please come. We can use all the hands we can get. It will start right after the Pet Blessing.



Altar Flowers



Our flower calendar is posted on the bulletin board. Please select a date to place flowers on the altar in honor or memory of someone or a special event in your life. Please call the church office if you have any questions. *God Bless!*

Worship Services

Services are live streamed on YouTube. Recorded services are also available on YouTube. Worship bulletins for the most current services can be found on our website: www.wplchurch.org ~ under the publications tab.

Sunday, October 5th

*8:30 am

Assisting Minister ~
Jerrijo Cowman
Altar Guild ~ Jerrijo Cowman
Ushers ~ Dave Palmersheim
Acolyte ~ Mila Leon

*10:30 am

Assisting Minister ~
Jennine Sonntag
Altar Guild ~ Pat Suderland
Ushers ~ Jerry Rakow
Acolyte ~ Volunteer Needed

Readings:

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Psalm 37:1-9
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

Sunday, October 12th

* 8:30 am

Assisting Minister ~
Matthew Hembrook
Altar Guild ~ Linda Shea
Ushers ~ Jeff Dietz (Noah Leon)
Acolyte ~ Joe Leon

*10:30 am

Assisting Minister ~ Matt Grubis
Altar Guild ~ Carol Becwar
Ushers ~ Greg & Dorothy Saari
Acolyte ~ Ethan LeHouillier

Readings

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c
Psalm 111
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

Sunday, October 19th

*8:30 am

Assisting Minister ~ Linda Shea
Altar Guild ~ Janel Oberheu
Ushers ~ Jeff Girard
Acolyte ~ Zia Roe

*10:30 am

Assisting Minister ~ Kris Laposki
Altar Guild ~ Sandy Abraham
Ushers ~ Larry Pfeil
Acolyte ~ Ethan LeHouillier

Readings

Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 121
2 Timothy 3:14—4:5
Luke 18:1-8

Sunday, October 26th

*8:30 am

Assisting Minister ~
Marjorie Pagel
Altar Guild ~ Jerrijo Cowman
Ushers ~ Adam Fiedler
Acolyte ~ Natalie Sutton

*10:30 am

Assisting Minister ~ Meg Sutton
Altar Guild ~ Elaine Johnson
Ushers ~ Ryan Peters
Acolyte ~ Volunteer Needed

Readings

Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22
Psalm 84:1-7
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14



**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1ST**

6:30 pm Choir Practice

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2ND

6:30 pm AA Meeting

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3RD

Pastor off/Office closed

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH

9:30 am Pet Blessing

10:00 am Fall Cleanup

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

8:30 am Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship Service

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6TH

10:00 am & 6:30 pm Bible Study

7:00 pm Dartball (home)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH

9:00 am Dorcas

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8TH

6:30 pm Choir practice

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9TH

6:30 pm AA Meeting

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10TH

Pastor off/Office closed

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11TH**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12TH**

8:30 am Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship Service

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13TH

3:00 pm Book Club

7:00 pm Dartball (away)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14TH

9:00 am Dorcas

7:00 pm Property Meeting

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15TH

6:30 pm Choir Practice

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16TH

6:30 pm AA Meeting

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17TH

Pastor off/Office closed

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18TH**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19TH**

8:30 am Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship Service

*(Baptism)***MONDAY, OCTOBER 20TH**

10:00 am & 6:30 pm Bible Study

7:00 pm Dartball (home)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21ST

9:00 am Dorcas

6:30 pm Council Meeting

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22ND

6:30 pm Choir Practice

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23RD

6:30 pm AA Meeting

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

Pastor off/Office closed

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25TH**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26TH**

8:30 am Worship Service

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship Service

*(Confirmation)***MONDAY, OCTOBER 27TH**

7:00 pm Dartball (away)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28TH

9:00 am Dorcas

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29TH

6:30 pm Choir practice

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30TH

6:30 pm AA Meeting

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31ST

Pastor off/Office closed



Let us celebrate the beauty of God's creation with a walk through the **Wehr Nature Center Park on Saturday, October 11th**. We will meet at church at 9:00 am & carpool to a parking lot. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board with more information for anyone interested in enjoying the morning walk.