

Briefings

Pilot Knob Lutheran Church

October 2021

Volume 138

Holidays are to be enjoyable days of the year that celebrate important occasions with friends and family, and to eat and enjoy being together.

The word “holiday” came from holy day. Holy means to be set apart or separated from something. So, a holiday is a special day when work is suspended and our focus is on the meaning and celebration of that special day. Thanksgiving is when we give thanks and express appreciation to God for all we have. Christmas is focused on God coming to earth to destroy Satan and his work, overcome eternal death and rescue us from hell. Easter, we remember and rejoice in Jesus’ resurrection: a guarantee we will be raised to eternal life. Fourth of July we celebrate our independence from Great Britain. Halloween the focus is on witches, demons, Satan, death and evil.

Halloween dates back two-thousand years to the Celtic people in what is today the United Kingdom, Ireland, and Northern France, celebrating the beginning of winter: a dark, cold time of the year often associated with human death. The tradition began with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain (sow-en) when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honor all saints. Not long after, All Saints Day included some of the traditions of Samhain. The evening before was known as All Hallows Eve, and later Halloween.

Celts believed that on the night before the new year, the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead became blurred. On the night of October 31, they celebrated Samhain, when it was believed that the ghosts of the dead returned to earth. They believed that the dead could walk and visit among the living so some of the people wore ghoulish costumes so that wandering spirits would mistake them for one of their own and leave them alone. Others offered sweet treats to the deceased spirits to appease them. In addition to causing trouble and damaging crops, Celts thought that the presence of the otherworldly spirits made it easier for the Druids, or Celtic priests, to make predictions about the future. To commemorate the event, Druids built huge sacred bonfires, where the people gathered to burn crops and animals as sacrifices to the Celtic gods.

May 13, 609 A.D. Pope Boniface IV dedicated the Pantheon in Rome in honor of all Christian martyrs, and the catholic feast of All Martyrs Day or All Saints’ Day was established in the Western church. It was later changed to November 1.

We can clearly see how Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter have nothing in common with Halloween. Should Halloween be recognized and celebrated by honoring Satan, demons and the like in any manner? Is it necessary to recognize Halloween as a holiday? If not, what will our children miss out on? If it is, how will it be recognized and what will we be teaching them? Halloween can be celebrated at either extreme, somewhere in the middle, or not at all.



Pilot Knob Lutheran Church
2391 330th St
Forest City IA 50436



October 2021

Dear Friends

Blessings to you all

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. I feel like our tiny country church is very blessed to have Pastor Bob along with Barb as our pastor. Take a moment during this month to let our Pastor know that you appreciate what he does for you, your family and our congregation.

I also want to give a huge shout out to our Parish Council. There is a lot on our agenda and we are tackling each item as best we can. One of those giant items is the cemetery across the street. Most of the trees are overgrown, the brush has grown into the fence and some of the challenge lies in knowing where the church property stops and the neighbors starts, what the rules are when it comes to cemetery funds, and also make sure we are making decisions that will stand the test of time. A special thank you to Denny, Matt and John – the members of the Cemetery Committee – who have shared their expertise to educate us.

In other areas – Val and Sheryl continue to help us work on our music. We are still waiting for the piano to be fixed and all the sound system upgrades to be completed. We have also noticed that the kitchen walls could use a little TLC. We are looking at painting the kitchen and adding a back splash. Have you noticed the new blind in the kitchen? It looks so nice. Thank you, Greg, for putting it up for us.

Welcome to our newest members Jeff & Donna Edelen and Amanda & Cambrie Cink. Sunday School is in underway that's to our great slate of teachers. If you have suggestions for the council or things you would like to see please let myself know or reach out to Pastor Bob or another council member. Wishing all our farmers a safe and bountiful Harvest season. Thank you for all you do to help our church run smoothly. We could not do what we do without you.

Cathy Caldwell

Council Chairperson



October Sermons/Scriptures

■ October 3, 2021

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Morning Worship Service and Holy Communion

Sermon: The Sleep That Changed the World

OT Lesson: Genesis 2:18-25

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 2:1-13, 14-18

Gospel Lesson: Mark 10:2-16

■ October 10, 2021

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Morning Worship Service

Sermon: Seek God and Live

OT Lesson: Amos 5:6-15

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 3:12-19

Gospel Lesson: Mark 10:17-22

■ October 17, 2021

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Morning Worship Service

Sermon: Wealth & Poverty, Only God Saves

OT Lesson: Ecclesiastes 5:10-20

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 4:1-16

Gospel Lesson: Mark 10:23-31

■ October 24, 2021

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Morning Worship Service

Sermon: One Vision

OT Lesson: Jeremiah 31:7-9

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 7:23-28

Gospel Lesson: Mark 10:46-52

■ October 31, 2021

Reformation Sunday

Morning Worship Service

Sermon: All Hallows Eve

OT Lesson: Deuteronomy 18:9-13

Epistle Lesson: Romans 3:19-28

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 11:12-19





Welcome New Members

Jeff & Donna Fdalen

Amanda & Cambrie Link



OCTOBER IS
RESPECT LIFE MONTH
Practice the Stewardship of Life!

Did you know you can tithe to the church directly from you bank account? Go to the church website www.pilotknob.org and click on Donations on the top right corner. You may want to let our Treasurer, Angie Lawrence, know if you do a weekly or monthly amount so she can track for your annual contributions. It is very easy to use.



*We Give...
Because God Gave First*

Harvest Prayer

Father, as we celebrate this season of thanksgiving We give thanks for the blessings of food, provision and nourishment. Please grow in us a harvest for the word.

Come sew a seed of hope within our souls Lord, that we might yield goodness, patience and kindness in abundance.

Sew a seed of peace in our lives Lord, that we might bear the fruits of forgiveness, compassion and righteousness.

Come sow a seed of love in our hearts Lord, that others would reap the blessings of family, friendship and community.

May each seed of hope, peace and love grow within us into a harvest that can be feasted on by all.

Amen.

We are looking for
volunteers
to operate the
computer Sunday
mornings.
If you are interested,
please let Pastor Bob
know.

October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Communion Sunday Greeters: Tony/Lvdia Reader: Shelly	4	5	6 Confirmation-TBD	7 Quilting- 10am Bday: Angie Lawrence	8	9
10 Greeters: Jim/Kavla Reader: Don	11	12 Bday: Devon Snitzer	13 Confirmation-TBD Deacons Mtg: 5:45pm Council: 6:30pm Bday: Ella Stensrud	14	15	16
17 Greeters: Billy/Ancie Reader: Nick	18	19 Women of Life Bible Study- 2pm	20	21 Quilting- 10am	22 Bday: Burt Pederson	23 Bday: Derek Jordan
24 Greeters: Jesse/Rachel Reader: Jeff	25	26	27	28	29	30 Bday: Tristan Koopman
31 Greeters: John/Shelly Reader: Bobbi						