

The mini Epistle

September 2026 Highlights

9/6 **Labor Day Weekend**

Pentecost 15 – Holy Communion 8:30 & 11:00 AM
9:45 AM – Sunday School for all ages!

9/12 – 8:30 AM - Men's Breakfast and Bible Study



9/13 **Pentecost 16** – **Holy Cross Week**

8:30 & 11:00 AM Praise Service
9:45 AM – Rally Day!
12:15 PM – Church Picnic



9/17-20 – Priority One Men's Retreat at Lake Champion



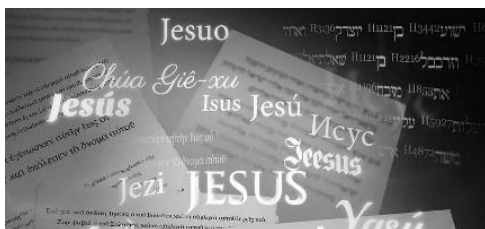
9/20 **Pentecost 17** – Holy Communion 8:30 & 11:00 AM

9:45 AM – Sunday School for all ages!
12:15 PM Discipleship Group & Luncheon

9/22 – 7 PM Discipleship Group

9/23 – 10 AM Discipleship Group

9/26 – 2:30 PM Hanover Township's America250 Celebration
Come look for our church booth in the vendor section!



9/27 **Pentecost 18** – **Bible Translation Sunday**

8:30 & 11:00 AM Mission Service
9:45 – Sunday School for all ages!



Dart Baseball Season
resumes Monday nights
beginning September 14th.



**Interested in playing? See
Lyn or Jan Stryker for more
information.**

September Events



**Fall Sunday School
kicks off Sunday,
September 13th.**

Choo-choo-choose to be there!



EVERYONE'S INVITED!

**Bring a favorite dish to share
CHURCH PICNIC**



**after the 11AM service on
Sunday, September 13th.**

**Anyone up for a Cornhole
Tournament?**

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

1 – Savannah Callahan	20 – Bob Kincaid
4 – Charlotte Gross	23 – Rodney Brown Ervin Kistler
7 – Eileen “Mei-Mei” Dunn	24 – Jim Femister
11 – Amanda Wechsler	29 – Annalise Lucero
15 – Elijah Quan	26 – Maura Majczan
17 – Joel Gross	29 – Adela Zeiner
18 – Nancy Bruch	30 – Brielle Peters
19 – Claire Farkas	

ANNIVERSARIES

Lizbeth & Luciano Lucero
9/30/2018

John & Lisa Wechsler –
9/30/1995

*You can hear our birthdays
announced on WAEB
790AM at 6:55AM and
8:15AM weekdays.*

*Happy Heavenly Birthday
to Sally Lerch,
9/21/36-1/2/26*

Fall Discipleship Groups

Like last year, instead of our usual Fall Bible Studies we will have Discipleship Groups to help us grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. This year our theme is “**Prayer: The Heart of Discipleship.**” Martin Luther said, “To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.” Prayer is the natural response to God as we hear Him speak through His Word. It is sharing our heart with the One Who longs for our companionship and Who cares about our concerns. Luther also said, “No one can believe how powerful prayer is and what it can effect, except those who have learned it by experience.

Do you want to experience God’s power at work in your life? Sign up on the bulletin board for one of our groups which will meet every other week on Sunday afternoons (12 noon with lunch), Tuesday evenings (6:30 PM) or Wednesday mornings (10 AM with refreshments) starting soon.

Men’s Weekend at Lake Champion

Join Pastor David and Mitch Zahnow for a great weekend of recreation, fellowship and teaching, September 17-20. We will leave Thursday evening and get back Sunday morning. Scholarships for first-time attendees are available. Talk to Mitch or Pastor for details. Go to lv.priorityone.org/lake-champion for more information/registration.

Scripture Memory in 2026

The following memory verses are suggested from the LCMS website. According to Chaplain Sean Daenzer, Director of Worship, these verses are chosen in part because “they are beautiful and worthy of repeating often.” For more information about memorizing Scripture, see the booklet *How to Memorize Scripture for Life*, by Andrew M. Davis.

Week of

9/6/26: **Jude 24-25** – *To Him Who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power, and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.*

9/13/26: **Psalm 143:8** – *Let the morning bring me word of Your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in You. Show me the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul.*

9/20/26: **Nahum 1:7** – *The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him....*

9/27/26: **Psalm 91:11-12** – *For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; They will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.*

September 2026 Reformation Bible Reading Plan

If you are reading through the Bible this year, copies of the plan are available in the Gathering Place. The plan may be downloaded here: <https://michigandistrict.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Reformation-Reading-Plan-Printable.pdf>

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| ☐ 1: Proverbs 17
Psalm 107 | ☐ 8: Proverbs 18
Psalm 108 | ☐ 15: Proverbs 19
Psalm 109 | ☐ 23: Catch Up Day |
| ☐ 2: Catch Up Day | ☐ 9: Catch Up Day | ☐ 16: Catch Up Day | ☐ 24: Col. 1:1-14
Job 19-21 |
| ☐ 3: I Cor. 14
Ezra 1-2 | ☐ 10: II Cor. 2:12-3:18
Neh. 6-7 | ☐ 17: II Cor. 11
Job 4-5 | ☐ 25: Col. 1:15-2:23
Job 22-24 |
| ☐ 4: I Cor. 15:1-34
Ezra 3-6 | ☐ 11: II Cor. 4:1-6:2
Neh. 8 | ☐ 18: II Cor. 12-13
Job 6-8 | ☐ 26: Col. 3-4
Job 25-28 |
| ☐ 5: I Cor. 15:35-58
Ezra 7-8 | ☐ 12: II Cor. 6:-7:16
Neh. 9-11 | ☐ 19: Philippians 1
Job 9-11 | ☐ 27: I Thess. 1
Job 29-31 |
| ☐ 6: I Cor. 16
Ezra 9-10 | ☐ 13: II Cor. 8-9
Neh. 12-13 | ☐ 20: Philippians 2
Job 12-15 | ☐ 28: I Thess. 2-3
Job 32-33 |
| ☐ 7: II Cor. 1:1-2:11
Neh. 1-5 | ☐ 14: II Cor. 10
Job 1-3 | ☐ 21: Philip. 3-4
Job 16-18 | ☐ 29 Prov. 21:1-22
Psalm 114-116 |
| | | ☐ 22: Proverbs 20
Ps. 110-113 | ☐ 30: Catch Up Day |



Freedom 250

America's 250th Anniversary **Celebrating our Christian Heritage**

George Washington's Inaugural Bible has been borrowed by several presidents for their inaugural ceremonies: Warren Harding, Dwight Eisenhower, Jimmy Carter, and George H. W. Bush. (George W. Bush decided not to use it when rain threatened his celebration.)

This historic Bible is carefully preserved but there was one time when Washington's Bible faced the prospect of destruction. It was on loan to the historic Fraunces Tavern Museum in lower Manhattan when on [September 11](#), 2001 terrorists destroyed the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center.

After the disaster, the area was roped off as rescue workers searched for survivors but on [September 13](#), police officers accompanied the custodians of the Bible and entered the building where the Bible was on display. Even though the air was still thick with dust and smoke, and rubble was all around, the building itself seemed unharmed and Washington's Inaugural Bible was untouched.

For centuries critics have tried to ban, burn, or bar it, but the Bible endures. Patrick Henry once said, "The Bible...is a book worth more than all the other books that were ever printed."



Facts
taken
from
*100 Bible
Verses
that
Made
America*
by
Robert J.
Morgan.
Picture
in public
domain.

Gala of Hope

Registration is open for Bright Hope's annual fundraising Gala of Hope.

Come hear firsthand how your donations helped save lives and restore wholeness to clients, and enjoy keynote speaker and comedian Gordon Douglas.

The event takes place on October 1, 2026, but space is limited.

Tickets are \$50.

Register at

<https://brighthopepartners.org/gala-of-hope/>

Cookies to College!

Over 20 boxes of **delicious cookies** will be sent to **15** different schools and the military. Pray that these **help open doors of good will** among students.

For monetary donations use the cookie jar or mark your church envelope "Cookies".

The packages will be packed on 10/16 and blessed that Sunday.

Save the Date

Reformation Sunday

will be observed

October 25th.

Remember to

wear red!



Trick or Treat Night!



Join Pastor David and Karen to hand out **treats** from the church, **Friday, October 20** beginning at **6PM**. We hope to meet our neighbors and **tell them about our Fall Fest in November.**

Council Actions, August 2026

- ✚ Please thank **Lisa Wechsler** for her 19+ years of service to Holy Cross. Lisa is retiring from her position as bookkeeper effective October 1, 2026.
- ✚ Please pray about serving on Council. The **Nominations** Committee will be meeting soon.
- ✚ All committees – please have **budget information** to Lisa by August 30, 2026
- ✚ The **baptism** of Isabela Zeiner was approved, and was held on August 23, 2026.

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THUR.	FRI.	SAT.
30 Pentecost 14 8:30A Communion 9:45A 5 th Sunday Brunch 10:45A Praise Time 11A Communion	31 7P Scouts (TR)	SEPT. 1 7P Property (Ofc) 7P Scouts (YR)	2 12:30P Rescue Bears (ASSR) 7:30P AA (TR)	3 12N AA (TR)	4 10A Bulletins	5 Labor Day Weekend 7:30P AA (TR)
6 Pentecost 15 8:30A Communion 9:45A Sunday School 11A Communion	7 Labor Day 7P Scouts (TR)	8 4P Worship & Music (Ofc) 6:30P Colonial Quilters (FH) 7P Scouts (YR)	9 9A Preschool 12:30P Rescue Bears (ASSR) 6P Outreach & Publicity (ASSR) 7:30P AA (TR)	10 9A Preschool 12N AA (TR)	11 10A Bulletins	12 9A Material Girls (ASSR) 8:30A Men's Breakfast & Bible Study (ASSR) 7:30P AA (TR)
13 Pentecost 16 8:30A Praise Service 9:45A Rally Day!!! 11A Praise Service 12:15P Church Picnic	14 Holy Cross Day 7P Darts v. College Hill (FH) 7P Scouts (TR)	Newsletter Deadline 9A Preschool 6P Finance/ Stewardship 7P Scouts (YR)	16 9A Preschool 11A Benevolence 12:30P Rescue Bears (ASSR) 4P Outreach & Publicity (ASSR) 6:30P Church Council 7:30P AA (TR)	17 9A Preschool 12N AA (TR) Priority One	18 FH Reserved 10A Bulletin Men's Retreat	19 FH Reserved @Lake Champion →→ 7:30P AA (TR)
20 Pentecost 17 8:30A Communion 9:45A Sunday School 11A Communion 12:15 Discipleship Group & Lunch (End Men's Retreat)	21 7P Dart Baseball @ East Hills 7P Scouts (TR)	22 9A Preschool 2P Staff Meeting (Ofc) 7P Discipleship Group (ASSR) 7P Scouts (YR)	23 See You at the Pole 9A Preschool 10A Discipleship Group (ASSR) 12:30P Rescue Bears (ASSR) 7:30P AA (TR)	24 9A Preschool 9A Material Girls (ASSR) 12N AA (TR)	25 10A Bulletins 6P STP Dinner 	26 2:30P Hanover America250 Celebration (1 st Responders Park) 7:30P AA (TR)
27 Pentecost 18 8:30A Praise Service 9:45A Sunday School 11A Praise Service	28 7P Dart practice(FH) 7P Scouts (TR)	29 9A Preschool 7P Scouts (YR)	30 9A Preschool 12:30P Rescue Bears (ASSR) 7:30P AA (TR)	OCT. 1 Bring Your Bible to School Day 9A Preschool 12N AA (TR) 6:30P Bright Hope Gala	2 10A Bulletins	3 7:30P AA (TR)

SEPTEMBER 2026 SERVANTS OF THE LORD

		9/6 15th Sunday after Pentecost	9/13 16th Sunday after Pentecost	9/20 17th Sunday after Pentecost	9/27 18th Sunday after Pentecost
Communion	8:30 11:00	Patty Werley Lyn Stryker		Seth Miller Lyn Stryker	
Grass Cutters	wk b4	Lyn Stryker Jonah Kincaid Bob Kincaid	Sam Glasmire Rich Stein	Gary Mosser Jim Steiner	Mike Miller Nick Wechsler
Greeter	8:30 11:00	Diane Hahn Eileen Dunn	Sally Stein Irene Graham	Diane Hahn Sharon Branigan	Sharon Wagner Irene Graham
Lector	8:30 11:00	Penny Miller Lyn Stryker	Patty Werley Karen Brown	Alyce Stein Lyn Stryker	Ruthann Kistler Kathy Ballek
Liturgist	8:30 11:00	Patty Werley Lyn Stryker	Seth Miller Karen Brown	Seth Miller Lyn Stryker	Seth Miller Karen Brown
Live Stream	8:30	Jonah Kincaid	Jan Stryker	Jonah Kincaid	Jan Stryker
Prayer Care	8:30 11:00	<i>VOL. NEEDED</i> <i>VOL. NEEDED</i>	<i>VOL. NEEDED</i> Ruthann Kistler	Pat Gilbert <i>VOL. NEEDED</i>	Jan Stryker Darlene Treisner
Sexton		<i>VOL. NEEDED</i>	<i>VOL. NEEDED</i>	<i>VOL. NEEDED</i>	<i>VOL. NEEDED</i>
Song Leader	8:30 11:00	Nancy Cook Nancy Cook	Pastor David Pastor David	Karen Brown Nancy Cook	Nancy Cook Nancy Cook
Sound	8:30 11:00	Rich Stein <i>VOL. NEEDED</i>	Rich Stein <i>VOL. NEEDED</i>	Rich Stein <i>VOL. NEEDED</i>	Seth Miller <i>VOL. NEEDED</i>
Usher	8:30 11:00	Jan Stryker Irene Graham		Jan Stryker Irene Graham	
Altar Guild: Alyce Stein & Patty Werley Phonetree: Stephen Zeiner Children's Church: Ruthann Kistler Counters: Karen Brown, Jan Stryker Communion Visitors: Pr. Dave & Sharon Branigan Prayer of the Church: <u>Volunteer needed</u>					

Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church



a congregation of the
NORTH AMERICAN
LUTHERAN
CHURCH



Pastor David L. Brown

Holycrosspastor@rcn.com

2700 Jacksonville Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017

610-867-6231 Holycrossoffice@rcn.com

For financial questions contact Lisa at hctreasurer3@gmail.com

Website: HolyCrossBethlehem.com