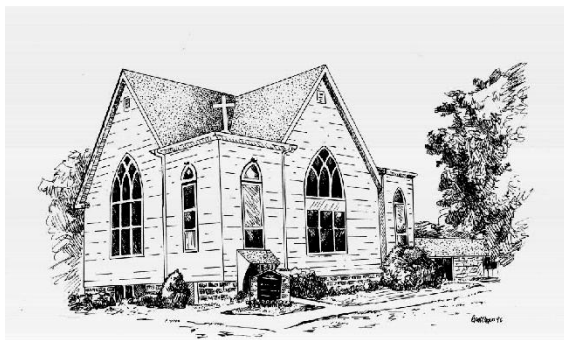




Helmar Lutheran Church
Newark, IL
Sunday, September 27th, 2026
17th Sunday after Trinity

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn: "There is a Redeemer"

Scripture reading: Matthew 6:25-33

Proverbs 1:7

Confession of Faith: Acts 17:24-28

Pastoral Prayer

Praise Team: "Christ Our Hope in Life and Death"

"Yet Not I but through Christ in Me"

"Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

Sermon: "Wisdom and Futility"

Ecclesiastes 1:12-18

Benediction

Hymn: "Trust and Obey"

Postlude

Members of Helmar's Prayer Team will be at the front of the sanctuary following the service to meet with those who desire to receive Christ as Lord and Savior, those who wish to renew their relationship with Jesus, or those who need prayer for specific needs. Anointing with oil, according to James 5:14 is available upon request.



September 27th, 2026
“Wisdom and Futility”
Ecclesiastes 1:12-18

Please note the several times wisdom and knowledge are mentioned in this section. Solomon sought knowledge. He wanted to know life’s meaning. But he looked “under the sun,” and saw that human activity, without the Lord, was a mere “stiving or chasing after the wind.”

I. You become _____ vv. 12-15

II. You become _____ vv. 16,17

III. You become _____ v. 18

Upcoming Events:

- Mon: 3-5pm Food Pantry
7pm Mathre Life Group (Yorkville)
- Wed: 2pm Adult Bible Study
6:30pm Christian Life Group (Newark)
6:30pm BLAST, JAM, HS
- Th: 9:30am Ladies Bible Study
6:30pm Gengler Life Group (Yorkville)
- Fri: 9am Ladies Prayer Hour
7:30pm Pilon Life Group (Minooka)
- Sun: 8:30am Fellowship
9am Sunday School
10am Worship

Life Group Study Questions are available on the ledge outside the sanctuary, or online.

Discover Helmar Class—If you are interested in finding out more about Helmar, please join us for a 4-week class, Sunday mornings at 9am in the Fireside Room, October 4th-25th.

We are still in need of some items for our **Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes**. If you would like to shop, there are suggested items on the Christmas tree outside the sanctuary, which you may purchase on Amazon (or locally). Or you may contribute financially by writing “OCC” on the memo line or envelope and placing it in the offering. Please see Stacy if you have questions.

Mark your calendars for an **Autumn Worship Night** on October 9th. This event is for **Everyone**! 5:30pm Games & Prizes, 6:30pm Chili Cook-off/dinner, 7pm Worship around the bonfire.

September 27, 2026

Working at Free Lutheran Bible College, I'm sometimes surprised by the very adult problems our students face: health problems, family conflicts, leadership struggles, loneliness, and sometimes even their own moral failing. By comparison, my early adult life was pretty easy. My biggest external problem as a student at FLBC was how little sleep I got, because I stayed up too long talking with friends the night before.

But problems are a fact of life. Some of them are our own fault; many of them are just fixtures of life in a broken world—a world that we broke.

When students tell me their stories, I'm often at a loss of what to say or how to help. Very occasionally I have a small piece of wisdom from my own experiences—from my own problems. When I am wisest, however, I remember that I am not the solution to their problems. They are already in the best place to get help—in **community with other caring believers, looking at God's Word together for the answers to life's biggest questions.**

That's not to say our problems just go away because of some kind of magical happy feelings we get from reading Scripture. But the God that speaks to us through it deeply loves us. He knows our pain and hurt. He cares about our challenges. He offers peace and rest, even while the storm is raging. The job of the church (all believers) is to embody that love and care, be generous to each other with our time and resources, and point each other to the ultimate caregiver.

So, no matter what your problems are right now, remember where peace comes. Like our students, lean into community with other caring believers, looking at God's Word together for the answers to life's biggest questions.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid" (John 14:27).

Mr. Luke Quanbeck
FLBC Alumni, Class of 2012
Plymouth, Minnesota

AFLC Promotion for September is the Bible College