

Helmar Lutheran Church
Newark, IL
Sunday, October 26th, 2025
Reformation Sunday

Prelude
Welcome
Ministry Presentation from Nate and Rhoda Jore
Hymn: "A Mighty Fortress"
Scripture reading: Philippians 2:14-18
Colossians 3:12-17
Confession of Faith: 2nd Article of The Apostle's Creed with Ex-
planation*
Pastoral Prayer
Praise Team: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"
"I Speak Jesus"
Children's Church dismissed
Sermon: "The Magnificent Ministry"
Colossians 1:24-29
Benediction
Hymn: "Standing on the Promises"
Postlude

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Door Offering for the Jores following the worship service.

\*"I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true Man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord; who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, bought me and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with silver and gold, but with His holy and precious blood and with His innocent sufferings and death; in order that I might be His own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness; even as He is risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true."

~Sverdrup's Explanation to Luther's Small Catechism

Upcoming Events:

Tues: 6:30pm Greven Life Group  
Wed: 6:30am Men's Bible Study @ Southern Belle  
2pm Adult Bible Study  
6pm BLAST, JAM, and Youth classes  
Thurs: 9:30am Ladies Bible Study  
6:30pm Cryder Life Group  
7pm Mathre Life Group  
Fri: 3-5pm Food Pantry  
7:30pm Pilon Life Group  
Sun: 8:30 Fellowship (set your clocks back!)  
9:00 Sunday School  
10am Worship service

The church Wi-Fi password is Helmar21

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- Fox River Lutheran is hosting a Men and Boys event on 10/26 at 5pm. Please see the bulletin board for details.
  - **The first aid class** scheduled for October 27th has been cancelled due to low sign ups. Evening classes are scheduled for November 4th and 13th at 6pm. Sign ups are at the Welcome Center.
  - **Ray and Ruthann Gorrell** will be here on November 2nd to share about their ministry during the worship service. There will be a door offering to follow.
  - **Sunday School Parents:** If your child is able to participate in the Christmas Pageant this year, please reach out Ruth Karales to let her know. The Pageant will be during the worship service on December 14th, with a practice at the church the morning of December 13th.
  - **Veterans**—If you are a member or regular attendee and have not been honored in a Veteran's Day service on November 9th, please contact Don Davidson for an interview.
  - **Daylight Savings** ends at 2am next Sunday. Don't forget to change your clocks so you don't end up here an hour early!

## **Operation Christmas Child**

Michelle Holdiman will be leading the shoebox collection here at Helmar during National Collection Week (November 17-24). If you would be interested in engaging with donors and safeguarding these precious Gospel Opportunities, please talk with Michelle. Sign ups will be available at the welcome center in the FLC.

**November 15th at 10am**—3rd annual Operation Christmas Child packing party. We will be assembling and packing 200 shoeboxes as a way to share the Good News of Jesus with children in need around the world. More information will be coming soon!

There is an Amazon wish list (with QR code link) on the bulletin board if you would like to contribute items for our shoeboxes, but don't want to go shopping.

You may pick up shoeboxes to fill on your own starting October 12th in the Welcome Center. Individually packed boxes will need to be returned the week of November 17th-24th.

Last year, our boxes went to Malawi, Guyana, Suriname, and a Sensitive/Hard-to-reach country.

Please be in prayer for Stacy as she seeks the Lord's direction and prepares for a trip to South Africa to distribute shoeboxes!



### **October 26, 2025 “A Magnificent Ministry” Colossians 1:24-29**

Paul has been teaching us about the supremacy of Jesus Christ in Colossians 1. In recent sermons, we have considered Jesus' pre-eminence in creation (vv. 15-17), in the church (v. 18), and in reconciliation (vv. 19-23). Now Paul gives us a view of his ministry of proclaiming the majesty of Christ. Paul's ministry was, indeed, magnificent.

I. A Ministry That \_\_\_\_\_  
v. 24

II. A Ministry That \_\_\_\_\_  
vv. 25-27

III. A Ministry That \_\_\_\_\_  
v. 28

IV. A Ministry That \_\_\_\_\_  
v. 29

October 26, 2025

### **A LIVING REFORMATION**

As we celebrate Reformation Day, we do more than look back—we look up. We remember how God, in His mercy, raised up Martin Luther and the Reformers to call the Church back to the unshakable foundation of His Word. At the heart of that Reformation cry was a rediscovery of the Gospel: that we are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. It was not human achievement, but divine mercy and grace!

And the miracle is God has not stopped reforming His Church. The same Holy Spirit who opened Luther's eyes to the truth of Scripture is still at work today, reforming hearts and renewing lives through the Gospel.

The Apostle Paul wrote that “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? . . . So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ” (Romans 10:13–15, 17).

This is more than a mission strategy, it's a holy reality: God builds His Church through the preaching of His Word. The message is His, and the power is His. And so we take heart because the pressure is not on us to change hearts, only to faithfully proclaim the One who does.

That's why ministries like AFLC Home Missions matter so deeply. Rooted in the Reformation's convictions, Home Missions seeks to plant and nurture new Lutheran congregations across the United States, each one built not on trends or techniques, but on the living Word of God. Whether in rural farm towns, bustling suburbs, or multicultural cities, the mission remains the same: to bring Jesus to the lost, the hurting, and the hungry.

The local congregation, Luther taught, is the heartbeat of the Church—and that heartbeat continues through Home Missions. When a church is planted, it's not about a building—it's about Christ being formed in people. It's about babies brought to the waters of baptism. It's about sinners hearing words of absolution. It's about bread and wine becoming the means through which Christ gives Himself to His people. It's about lives changed by the Gospel.

This Reformation Day, let your heart be stirred. The Church is not just a monument to the past; it is a movement of the present. The Reformation was not a one-time event, but an ongoing work of the Spirit to conform the Church ever more fully to the Word of God. And through Home Missions, we see that reformation happening today—one church plant, one sermon, one soul at a time.

So let us pray, let us give, let us encourage, and let us go. And let us rejoice that God is still reforming His Church, not through force or fame, but through His faithful, living, powerful Word.

Pr. Matthew Ballmann  
AFLC Home Missions Board  
San Antonio, Texas

AFLC Promotion for October is Home Missions

### **Helmar Lutheran Church**

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*Helmar exists to be a:*

***Soul-Winning, Disciple-Making,  
Burden-Bearing Church***

**Pastor— Steven Lombardo**

217-621-2949 Email scbardo64@gmail.com

**Children's Ministry Director- Kristen Mathre**

815-762-5320 Email helmarkids@gmail.com

**Youth Directors-Jared & Kynsey Mathre**

815-483-6616 Email helmaryouth@gmail.com

**Music Director-Lisa Greven**

815-508-1403 Email matthewgreven@hotmail.com

**Secretary—Stacy Christian 815-201-3789**

Email helmarlutheran@gmail.com

### **Spiritual Disciplines Sheet**

**10-26-25**

### **Hide God's Word in your Heart**

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written: “But the righteous one will live by faith.”

Romans 1:16,17