



Kinsmen

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rooted in Faith. Relevant to Life.

October 2023

CONNECTION

12100 Champion Forest Drive
Houston, TX 77066
281.444.3126

www.KinsmenLutheran.org

FALL FESTIVAL

Friday, October 27
6 - 7:30 PM

Free dinner of nachos and hot dogs
"Spooky" music from Houston Chamber Ringers
Reading of a fun Halloween Story
Costume Parade
Short trick-or-treating time!

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Pastor's Word

Well, here we are again in October, the month when we are reminded of the profound impact of the Reformation—a pivotal moment in the history of the Christian Church that continues to shape our Lutheran tradition to this day. How did this come about?

Five centuries ago, a humble monk named Martin Luther ignited a theological and spiritual revolution that would forever alter the course of Christianity. Luther's journey of faith led him to challenge the established norms of the Church, setting in motion a movement that would change not only the religious dogma and practice, but also the cultural, social, economic, and political landscape of Europe and beyond.

Martin Luther's quest for truth began with a simple yet profound question: "How can I find a merciful God?" Struggling with the teachings and practices of the Roman Catholic Church of his time, Luther delved into Scripture and re-discovered the long obscured foundational doctrine of "justification by faith" alone, apart from works of the Law.

At the heart of the Reformation are the "Solos," which encapsulate the core theological principles that Luther and his fellow reformers championed:

1. *Sola Scriptura* (Scripture Alone): The Bible is the ultimate authority in matters of faith and practice. It is the living Word of God, guiding us in all aspects of life.
2. *Sola Fide* (Faith Alone): Salvation is a gift of God's grace, received through faith in Jesus Christ. Our good works cannot earn salvation; it is a free gift from God.
3. *Sola Gratia* (Grace Alone): We are saved by God's grace alone, not by our merits or works. Grace is God's unmerited favor extended to us through Christ.
4. *Solus Christus* (Christ Alone): Jesus Christ is the only mediator of salvation between God and humanity. He is the way, the truth, and the life, and through Him, we have access to the Father.

Contemporary ideas such as the desire for religious freedom, individual conscience, and the right to seek God without interference, are traceable back to Luther's bold stand before the Diet of Worms (1521), where he declared, "Here I stand, I can do no other," showcasing the spirit of conviction and courage that continues to inspire us today. Each October when we celebrate Reformation Day, we do so as a call to reevaluate and renew our faith, to cherish our rich tradition, but also to embrace the diversity of the greater Houston metro area. This is a great opportunity to a congregation that proclaims God's grace, celebrates our unity in Jesus, and serves our neighbors in love. *Soli Deo Gloria!* (Glory to God Alone)

In Christ,
Pastor Steve



Church Council News

Do you Know Someone who feels Called to Serve?

Kinsmen is seeking to fill three church council positions (2024-2026), assemble a team of three members for the 2024 Nominating Committee, and select two Kinsmen representatives for the 2024 Synod Assembly. If you or someone you know is interested in serving, I invite you to submit your nominations to <https://bit.ly/KinsmenFeedback>

If you have any questions, please contact myself or Pastor Beth at <https://bit.ly/FeedbackforPB>

- 3 - Church Council Members (2024-2026)
- 3 - 2023 Nominating Committee Members
- 2 - Representatives for the 2024 Synod Assembly

Peace in Christ,
Jennifer Kaurich,
Kinsmen 2023 Church Council Vice President

Call Committees

Latino Ministry Pastor Call Committee Update

The call committee charged with searching for a pastor to lead our Spanish speaking ministry continues. We met once during the month of September to discuss and align ourselves identifying the qualities we believe to be key for a candidate. We will continue to prep ourselves for interviews as candidates come forward. We seek your continued prayers seeking the Holy Spirit to work among us in this process. You are also welcome to nominate a candidate for the position by using a Pastor candidate form Pastor Beth can email to you.

Prayerfully,
Eric Fidler

Pastor of Discipleship Call Committee Update

Thank you for your continued prayers for discernment for the Discipleship Pastor Call Committee. The call committee made up of Krista Guerrero, Andrew Hanson, Wade Ivey, Jacob Jyrkama, Linda Martens, Chris Turner, Ellen Wangsmo, Pastor Beth Warpmaeker and myself continue to meet regularly. The Synod office has approved our Ministry Site Profile and have begun to talk about Kinsmen with potential candidates. The Call Committee continues to hone our interview process and questions in preparation for the right fit to grow the Kinsmen community. I'm available if you would ever like to visit about this process and exciting time for Kinsmen. You are also welcome to nominate a candidate for the position by using a Pastor candidate form Pastor Beth can email to you.

In him,
Eric Wietstruck

Sermon Series: God's Strange Ways

Speak about others behind their backs. You get what you deserve. Reject the unworthy. When someone does you wrong, make 'em pay... These are all phrases we may not speak very often, but they describe the usual ways we act and relate to one another. Jesus teaches his disciples and us very different phrases. He encourages direct communication, forgiveness, wide welcome and generosity toward latecomers. Some might take offense at these teachings and say, "That's not fair!" Ezekiel 18 voices this lament again and again. In response, God says, "Turn, then, and live." Join us for this sermon series where we will explore God's strange ways and how they lead us to life.



Dates	Sermon Title	First Reading	Gospel
September 30-October 1	That's not Fair!	Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32	Matthew 21:23-32
October 7-8	Whose Harvest?	Isaiah 5:1-7	Matthew 21:33-46
October 14-15	Wide Welcome	Isaiah 25:1-9	Matthew 22:1-14
October 21-22	Unlikely Leaders	Isaiah 45:1-7	Matthew 22:15-21

Blessing of the Pets

Sunday, October 1 at 2PM

Join us on October 1 by the fountain to celebrate God's gift of animals! Please bring a cage or a leash in case our friends get a little too excited.

Francis of Assisi, an Italian Roman Catholic friar, whose feast day is October 4th, loved all God's creatures, great and small. In remembrance of how he cared for God's creation, each year churches will hold a special ceremony called the Blessing of the Pets.

At Kinsmen, we've hosted a gathering of dogs, cats, iguanas, snakes, rabbits, hamsters and everything in between. It's a fun afternoon where we get to show off and bless our feathery, furry, and scaly friends.





All Saints is a long-standing Christian tradition of connecting the church in heaven and the church on earth.

As we remember the saints who have gone before us, we celebrate those individuals who have entered the church in heaven during the past 12 months.

If you, as a member of Kinsmen, have a family member that has passed away since November 1, 2022, and would like them remembered on All Saints weekend, please complete the form found at <https://kinsmenlutheran.org/allsaintsday>

Forms must be completed by Monday, October 30.

Consecration Weekend

On Consecration Weekend we, as a congregation, make personal decisions about our financial commitments to support our mission and ministry for the coming year.

It is a day when you have an opportunity to say "thank you" to God for the gifts that you have been given. It is a day when you make a commitment to God about your 2024 estimate of giving. Early in November you will receive your intent card in the mail. We ask that you bring your completed card to worship with you on Consecration Weekend. Consecration Weekend will be celebrated November 12/13.

Thank you for your generosity in the past. As you reflect on the appropriate level of intentional giving for 2024, please consider that as Christians we believe that God gives us all we have and we, in turn, give back to him in response to his generosity. This allows us to share His grace through our faithful and generous support of the ministry at Kinsmen. As you prayerfully consider how we are "**Planting for the Lord's Harvest**," allow your faith to guide you to the right commitment level. Through this process, God will provide guidance and encouragement and, as found in 2 Corinthians 9:8, "you will be enriched in every way for your generosity"

PLANTING

for the

LORD'S HARVEST

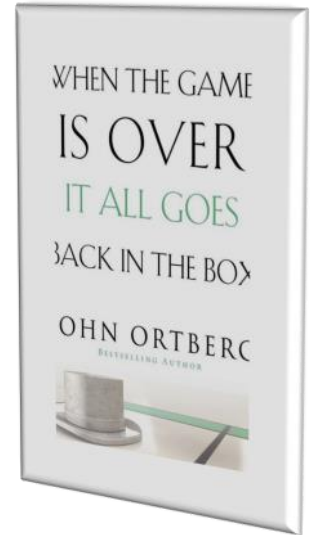


When the Game is Over, It All Goes Back in the Box

Sundays at 9:45AM beginning October 22

Using popular games as a metaphor for our temporal lives, this six-session DVD study neatly sorts out what's fleeting and what's permanent in God's kingdom. Being master of the board is not the point; being rich toward God is. Winning the game of life on earth is a temporary victory; loving God and other people with all our hearts is an eternal one. Join Pastor Steve as he leads this study using videos by John Ortberg. To get the most out of the class, you can download the book on Kindle or order it in paperback on Amazon. A limited number of copies are available in the church library. Having a book is recommended, but not necessary.

To register, click [HERE](#) or <https://bit.ly/WhenGamelsOver>



An Overview of the Old Testament

Sundays at 9:45AM in Conference Room

Amy-Jill Levine is one of the most respected NT scholars of our time. In this course, however, we will be tapping into her extensive knowledge of the Hebrew bible (or Tanakh), which is our Old Testament. We cannot lose sight of the fact that, when Jesus referred to scripture (e.g., Matthew 4:4, Luke 4:21), he was referring to the Old Testament, which had been translated from Hebrew to Greek circa 250 BCE. This version is called the Septuagint.

This course, facilitated by John Turnquist, features lecture videos, and ample time for discussion. A list of the lecture titles will be handed out at the first session.

To register, click [HERE](#) or go to <https://bit.ly/overviewOT>

Amy-Jill Levine, a practicing Orthodox Jew, is Rabbi Stanley M. Kessler Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Hartford International University for Religion and Peace and a retired Professor from Vanderbilt Divinity School.



Men's Bible Study

Monday Nights at 7PM

This fall we will be gathering to study the book of James, using the book [James: Faith/Works](#) by Matt Chandler.

Midmorning Wednesday Group

2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 10AM

This group is welcoming men and women to watch the series *The Chosen* before each group meeting and then we will discuss it together.

Weekly Lectionary Study Group

Wednesdays at 10:00AM

Ever wish you could study the bible readings before you get to worship? This a great new group for you! The Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) is a three-year cycle of weekly readings (“lections”) used to varying degrees by the vast majority of mainline Protestant churches in Canada and the United States. There are usually four readings for each Sunday—one from the Old Testament, the Psalter, the Epistles, and the Gospels.

Every weekend at Kinsmen, two of the readings assigned for a particular Sunday are read aloud. The purpose of this study group is to focus first on those two readings for the upcoming worship service and, if time is available, the other readings as well. Our goal is to enhance and to deepen our worship experience. We will meet on Wednesdays at 10AM. To register, click [HERE](#) or go to <https://bit.ly/Lectionarygroup>

Naomi Bible Study

October 3 at 10AM

Physical places often shape our identities, relationships and faith. Faith doesn’t just reside in our thoughts or emotions but in our whole bodies and how our bodies “live and move and have our being” in the sacred places where God encounters us.

Our Fall Bible study, written by an ELCA missionary living in Jerusalem, will explore what holy places mean, not only for the Holy Land of the Bible, but also for each of us, wherever we may be. In October, we will discuss holy places: home. Home can be the place we lay our head and the people we call family. Home can be our community or homeland. Home is also found wherever we truly and fully belong. We will consider the complexity and the promise of “home” through the stories of Israel’s exile, the ministry of Jesus, and the promises of Revelation.

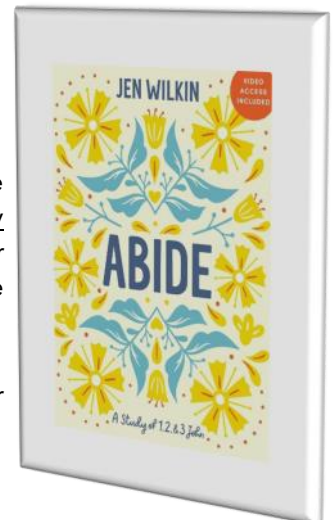
We invite women of all ages to join us for this study. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month—this time, October 3rd—at 10:00 AM in the Coffee House in the Community Life Center. Bible readings are combined with application to issues in our lives, community and world. Studies have some leader-led direction but a lot of sharing. Naomi Bible Study is informal with a caring group of women. Please join us! For any questions, contact [Pastor Beth Warpmaker](#).

Weekly Women's Bible Study

Thursdays at 10AM

The weekly women's Bible Study meets on Thursdays in the Community Room. All women are welcome to join us as we begin a new Bible Study led by Jen Wilkin entitled [Abide, a Study of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd John](#). The study book can be purchased through [Lifeway.com](#) or [Amazon](#) for \$24.99. This includes video access which is a great addition if you are unable to attend a session.

If you have any questions or concerns please direct those inquiries to [Susan Newhard](#) or [Marianne Timmerman](#)



Join a trip to the Holy Land

Trip Dates: June 4-17, 2024 with an optional extension to Jordan.

Join Kinsmen members and friends on this life-changing trip to the Holy Land!

This trip will visit biblical and archaeological sites from as far south as Beer Sheva to as far north as Ancient Dan. It will deepen your understanding of the Bible, but it will also give you insight into the current Christian witness of our Lutheran brothers and sisters, specifically in the city of Bethlehem.



The brochures are out. Please contact [Pastor Beth](mailto:bwarpmaeker@kinsmenlutheran.org) at bwarpmaeker@kinsmenlutheran.org if you are interested in receiving a brochure and future updates on this journey of faith, learning and relationship building.

Flower Angel

Ever sit in church on Sunday and wonder where the flowers on the altar came from? They might have come from the person sitting next to you.

Kinsmen is blessed with its own Flower Committee. The Flower Committee takes donations of \$25 in honor of, in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a family milestone and uses the donations to create the beautiful altar and narthex arrangements. After the worship services the arrangements are moved to the cooler in the flower room. On Mondays, a team of rearrangers break the floral pieces down to make smaller arrangements of flowers that are delivered to Kinsmen members and friends.

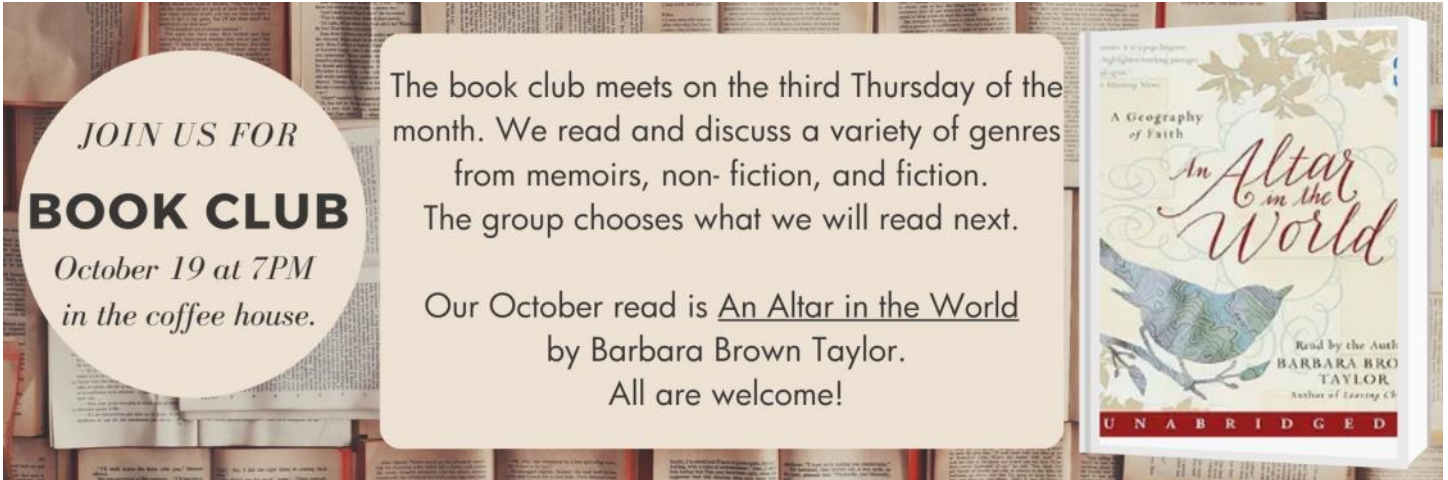
If you have donated flowers for that week one of the smaller arrangements will be delivered to you. The smaller arrangements may be delivered to the hospitalized, the homebound, the sick, the grieving, those celebrating the birth of a baby, and/or even for "just because" reasons.

Your \$25 donation for flowers does a lot of work. It beautifies the Sanctuary for the worship services, it can honor a loved one's memory, it can celebrate a loved one's achievements, it can be given to the Glory of God, it can remind a Kinsmen member that others are thinking of them and praying for God's healing grace to come to them in a time of need.

You may donate online (kinsmenlutheran.org under the worship tab) or sign up on the chart located in the narthex. Thank you for sharing grace.

P.S. If you are interested in being involved in the arranging and/or re-arranging of flowers, contact R'Nay Havran or Lynnae Schatz (lschatz@kinsmenlutheran.org). Training is provided.

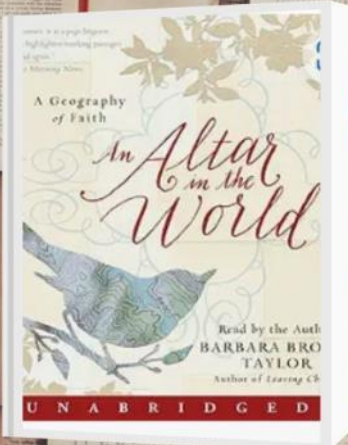




JOIN US FOR
BOOK CLUB
October 19 at 7PM
in the coffee house.

The book club meets on the third Thursday of the month. We read and discuss a variety of genres from memoirs, non-fiction, and fiction. The group chooses what we will read next.

Our October read is An Altar in the World by Barbara Brown Taylor.
All are welcome!



Mental Health Matters Initiative

October 18 from 6:30-8PM

One in five adult Americans experience mental illness while their friends and family members struggle with supporting them. Stigma and shame form the greatest obstacle for both those suffering and those trying to support them. The Mental Health Matters initiative was formed specifically to fight this obstacle in a community setting here at Kinsmen.

There is no greater time than now to stand up for each other. Pastora Adriana Johnson-Rivas and Community of Hope Lay Chaplain, Patti Suler, will share their personal stories of love, hope, and recovery.

Join us on October 18th from 6:30pm to 8:00p, as we gather to witness as a community and support these extraordinary speakers.

55+ SENIOR MINISTRY

For more information on any of these events, contact Colette at Cedwards@kinsmenlutheran.org

October 16

Lunch at Cracker Barrel at 12PM
14765 North Freeway 77090
(I-45 and Airtex)

November 13

Lunch at P.F. Chang's at 12PM

Pickleball

October 26 at 6:30PM

Join in on the fun on Thursday, October 26 at 6:30PM. All equipment is provided.

Dress comfortably.

Questions?

Contact [Lynnae Schatz](#).



Euchre

October 23 at 7PM

Like to play cards? Check out Euchre on Monday, October 23 at 7 PM in the Coffee House. Euchre is an easy and fun card game that uses a 24-card deck.

Questions? Contact [Colette Edwards](#).



The Health and Social Services Fair was a great benefit to our community. Unfortunately, much of the community and specifically Latinos have very little or no information about social services and programs that could improve their standard of living, free or at low costs.

This effort was one of the best ways to reach, connect and form links between the services offered and its potential users.

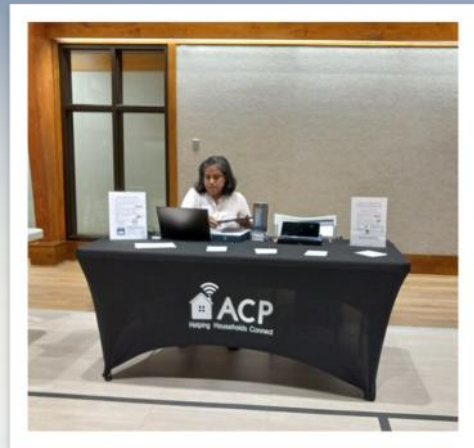
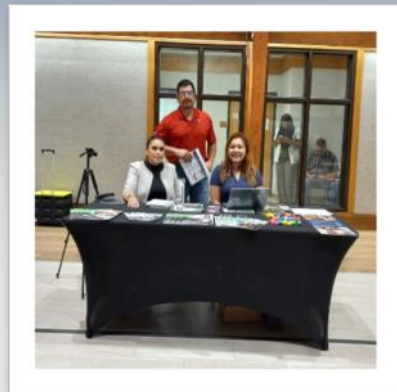
The following agencies participated in our Fair:

- Flas: Latin American Foundation for Social Action
- Ventanilla de salud: where the Mexican consulate offers free blood tests
- Grad Café: Orientation on Colleges, FAFSA, and Available Scholarships
- Barbara Bush Library: community programs and resources; ESL, GED, activities for children and, seniors, etc.
- Harris county Public Health: Gold card for free medical visits for low-income people
- Houston Area Women's Center: Resources for women at risk
- Lone Star College: educational services
- Breakthrough: Resources for Families
- ACP: Free Tablets and Cell Phones for Low-Income People

Our goal is to empower families, and provide tools that allow them to continue strengthening themselves economically and socially. These immediate and long-term benefits will help the entire community, making it more cohesive, strong, and productive.

Reaching out into the community can become part of the foundation for improving the health and well-being of all.





Small Group for Parents of Young Children

Next meeting October 15

We want to help connect you with other parents/families of young children (infants through elementary school age)! We hope this time together helps you build relationships with those around you while not adding another weekly activity to your busy schedule.

We will meet on the third Sunday of the month from 9:45-10:45 AM. Everyone is welcome to come with you to the playground! Or, your preschool and school-aged kiddos can go to Sunday school, and the little ones can go to the nursery. Our time together will be flexible, but we hope to engage in conversation around a relevant faith topic (no reading assignments!) and explore what it means to be Christian parents together.



Tess and Steven Long will be leading this group. Here's a little about them:

Tess and Steven are native Houstonians and have lived in the Champions area for the past 8 years. They are parents to three young children - Harper (7), Henry (4), and Owen (1.5). They've been part of the Kinsmen community for several years, became church members in the past few years, and have enjoyed becoming more involved at Kinsmen. Tess currently teaches Pre-K at KCA, and Henry & Owen attend school here, as well. Steven has an extensive hospitality and service industry background and is a restaurant General Manager. Their hope with this monthly gathering is to meet and connect with other parents and families at Kinsmen and encourage one another in Christ's love.

Interested? Let us know! <https://bit.ly/ParentSmallGroup23>

Playground Playdate

October 7 at 10 AM

We love to help parents to connect with other families in the same life stage while kiddos connect with others their age.

Snacks and water bottles are provided!

If your kiddo is too young to run and play, we encourage you to bring a blanket or a stroller so you can still enjoy the adult fellowship. We will meet in the North Parking Lot (the small lot off of Pinewood Springs).

We usually stay and play for about 90 minutes, so join us when you can!

This event is aimed at those 5-years-old and younger and their caring adults, but all are welcome!



Fall Break Holiday Care

School-aged children in Kinder through 8th grade

We will be open for Holiday Care October 9-13.

Please contact Dennisse Mejia-Cruz (dmejia-cruz@kinsmenlutheran.org) if you are interested in care for school-aged kids during Klein's fall break.

The cost is \$125/week for 9:30AM to 3:30PM.
Before and after care are available.



Lutherhill Fall Family Retreat

October 13-15, 2023

Lutherhill is a camp and retreat center in La Grange and Galveston, TX. Their Fall Family Retreat is a great time to get away as a family and rest, play, and reconnect.

Go to www.lutherhill.org to register!

This retreat often fills up, so reserve your spot soon.




A purple poster for a Fall Festival. It features illustrations of pumpkins, spider webs, and bats. The text reads: "FALL FESTIVAL Friday, October 27 from 6 - 7:30 PM Free dinner of nachos and hot dogs 'Spooky' music from Houston Chamber Ringers Reading of a fun Halloween Story Costume Parade Short trick-or-treating time!".

Bring your children of all ages, costumes, a bag for collecting candy, and your neighbors for this fun and free event! A free-will offering will be collected to help defray the cost of dinner.

Donations of candy will be collected in the Narthex during October for this event!

Communion Milestone Retreat

Friday, March 1 — Sunday, March 3

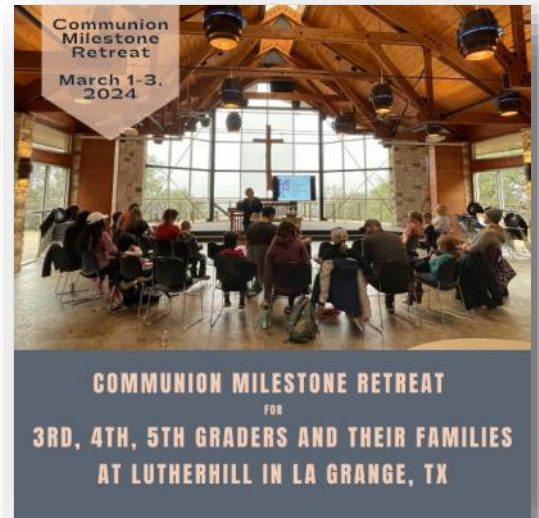
Who: 3rd, 4th, & 5th graders and at least one caring adult, but the whole family is welcome!

When: Friday, March 1 to Sunday, March 3 (Leave Houston around 5 PM Friday, return to Houston around 11 AM Sunday)

Where: [Lutherhill](#) in La Grange, TX

Why: For adults and kids to take time away to be together and learn about this important sacrament of Holy Communion

Contact Sara Ray (sray@Kinsmenlutheran.org) for more information and to register!



Family Stewardship Milestone

November 5 at 2 PM, celebration on
November 12 at 8:30 AM

Join us as we gather all elementary ages and stages together and learn about why and how we can be good stewards of the gifts God has given us.

Milestones are a great time to meet other families with kids the same age as yours. Join us for this time of learning and serving together!

We will celebrate this milestone together on Sunday, November 12 during worship at 8:30 AM.

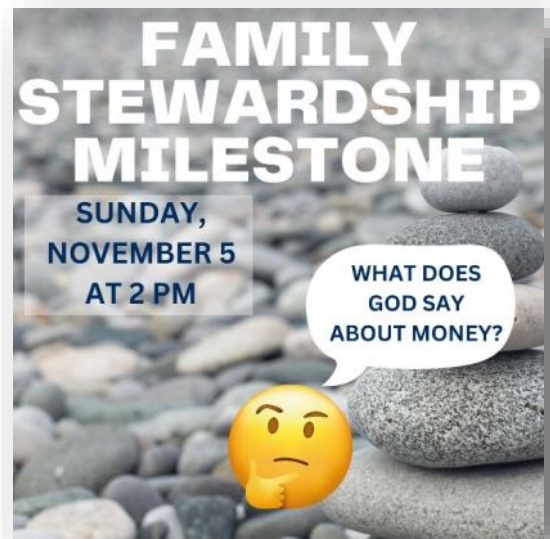
Upcoming Family Milestones:

Intergenerational Advent Activity – November 26 at 9:45 AM

Family Church Year Milestone – January 21 at 2 PM, celebration on January 28 at 11 AM

Intergenerational Lent Activity – February 11 at 9:45 AM

Family Prayer Milestone – February 18 at 2 PM, celebration on February 25 at 11 AM.





The ELCA Youth Gathering - July 2024!!

It is now time to register for the ELCA Youth Gathering which will be held in New Orleans **July 16-20, 2024**. Students who are currently in the 8th-12th grade are eligible to attend the Youth Gathering. This is a week of inspiring speakers, uplifting worship, interactive learning, and the opportunity to accompany one of the ELCA Mission partners. Please register and submit the deposit of \$150 by **October 15**. You may use this link to register. [Register HERE](#)

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

CREATED

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the table BE Young Adult Gathering

S.W.A.T.

S.W.A.T. is our High School Ministry that gathers twice a month for bible study, fun, and service. S.W.A.T. is also student led. High School students have the opportunity to lead and to plan future events. All our welcome. Our gatherings in October will be October 1 at 12:15 pm in the Loft. Please RSVP [HERE](#) and **October 22** (to be determined).



Any questions? Contact Kristen at kschulze@kinsmenlutheran.org

Are you receiving the Tuesday Middle School and High School Youth Ministry News?

These emails are one of the primary ways you will stay in the know on all things Confirmation (Middle School) and SWAT (High School) happenings. If you are not receiving the Tuesday email, contact [Kristen Schulze](#).

Noisy Offering – October 7/8

Lutheran Disaster Response

It is a Kinsmen tradition to collect a Noisy Offering on the second weekend of the month for a mission partner. This month's mission partner is Lutheran Disaster Response. (LDR)

Lutheran Disaster Response shares God's hope, healing and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, LDR stays to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

Relationships are at the core of LDR work. Relationships — with people impacted by disasters; with partners and companions; with other ELCA ministries; and with you, LDR supporters — multiply the impact of Lutheran Disaster Response. These relationships enable your gifts to reach more people before, during and long after a disaster. Our relationship with Jesus guides LDR's work. Led by Christ's actions to care for our neighbors, Lutheran Disaster Response accompanies people on the margins and walks with them through crisis situations.

From the ongoing Russia-Ukraine War to increasingly volatile weather (earthquake in Morocco and flooding in Libya), the wildfires in Maui and the global migration crisis LDR is there.

Thank you for supporting the ministry of LDR with your Noisy Offering throughout October.



Lutheran
Disaster Response

Blest Be the Tie that Binds

Saturday, October 14, 9 -11:30 AM and/or
Monday, October 23 at 1PM

There's a difference between a blanket purchased from a store and one stitched together with love. LWR has seen firsthand that the children, women and men who receive your quilts are deeply moved by the care, intention and prayer poured into each one.

That's because the journey of an LWR Mission Quilt begins in the compassionate heart of the quilter. Join the quilters in the gym on Saturday, October 14 at 9 AM and/or Monday, October 23 at 1 PM. No experience is required. On-the-job training is provided.

Contact [Lynnae Schatz](#) or Connie Jackson for more information.



Maya Kameniyk, 14, received a quilt and Personal Care Kit during a distribution in Morshyn, Ukraine, for families displaced by war.

Food Distribution—Sign up to Volunteer

Kinsmen Lutheran Church, in partnership with Bridging for Tomorrow and the Houston Food Bank, serves as a Mobile Food Distribution Site every month.

The distribution dates for October are October 7 and 21 from 8:00 AM—11:00 AM or when the food is gone. The food is for everyone. Volunteers are needed to make the Distribution possible. There are a variety of volunteer opportunities available.

Shifts begin as early as 7 AM and the entire event is over by noon.

Visit kinsmenlutheran.org - EVENTS - to sign up to volunteer.

Contact [Lynnae Schatz](#) if you have any questions.



Thanksgiving Feast Volunteers

Your help is needed for this year's Thanksgiving Feast. There are plenty of ways you can help beginning on Monday, November 20. Visit the sign up sheet here: <https://bit.ly/ThanksgivingFeastVolunteers>

If you have any questions contact [Lynnae Schatz](#).

Run/Walk for Your Turkey

What are you doing Thanksgiving morning, November 23?

Join in the fun with a 5K or 10K Run/Walk for your Turkey at 8 AM.

Register today at <https://kinsmenlutheran.org/turkeyrun>

#KinsmenRun4Turkey. All proceeds benefit the Thanksgiving Feast.

Race day is Thanksgiving Day, November 23 at 8 AM. The race will begin at Kinsmen Lutheran Church (12100 Champion Forest Drive, Houston, 77066).

Packet Pick Up will be at Kinsmen Lutheran Church on November 19 from 1 - 4 p.m.

Register by October 31, 2023 to be guaranteed a T-shirt.

Early Bird Race Registration

- (Oct. 1 - Oct. 20) - \$20.00
- (Oct. 21 - Nov. 19) - \$30.00





Kinsmen: Your Footprint on the Future

ENDOWMENT FUND

We enjoy shade from trees we did not plant and water from wells we did not dig. Deuteronomy 6:11

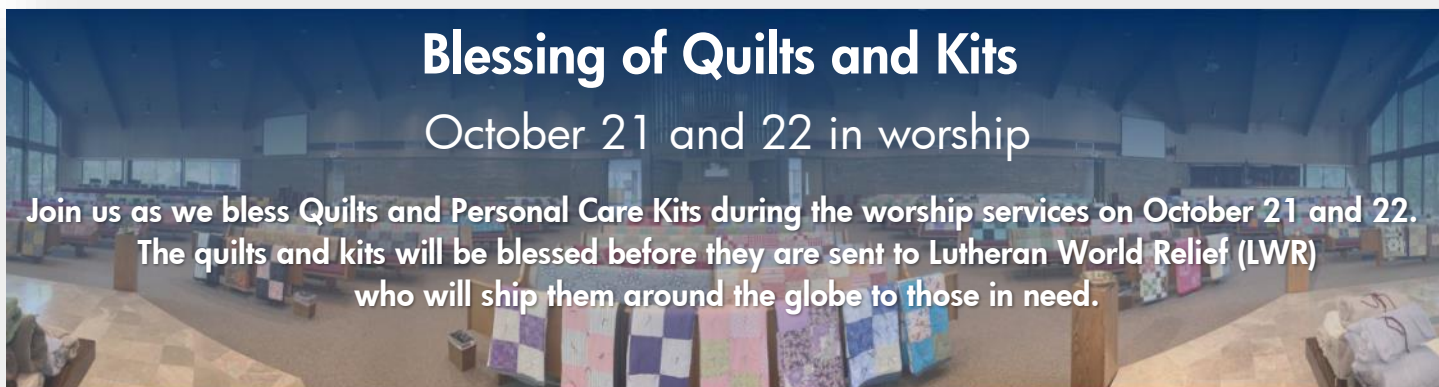
Kinsmen Generosity Team is now accepting proposal requests to fund ministries and projects apart from the Kinsmen Lutheran Church annual budget from the Kinsmen Endowment Fund. These ministries and programs must be connected in some way to the values, vision, and purpose of Kinsmen Lutheran Church.

To see the grant application form and a complete list of projects made possible by the Kinsmen Endowment Fund, visit <http://kinsmenlutheran.org/kinsmen-endowment-fund>.

Peace in Christ,

Melissa Turnquist, Generosity Team Chair

Your Generosity Team Members: Loretta Castaño, Andrew Hanson, Benita Huff, Jen Nash, Ed Newhard, Craig Sutter, Melissa Turnquist, Richard Vermilyea, Pastor Beth Warpmaeker, and Brad Young.



Blessing of Quilts and Kits

October 21 and 22 in worship

Join us as we bless Quilts and Personal Care Kits during the worship services on October 21 and 22. The quilts and kits will be blessed before they are sent to Lutheran World Relief (LWR) who will ship them around the globe to those in need.

Sleep In Heavenly Peace

Saturday, October 14

Sleep in Heavenly Peace is in need of individuals to help with bed deliveries on Saturday, October 14.

Sign up [HERE](https://bit.ly/SHPOctober14) if you can help: <https://bit.ly/SHPOctober14>



Family Service Project Fleece Tie Blankets



On Sunday, September 17 a group from preschooler to grandparent made fleece tie blankets for Texas Children's Hospital!

This is an easy but fun craft that works on scissor and tying skills all while making a warm and fun blanket for children in the hospital.

This project was funded by a Thrivent Action Grant submitted by Karen Crisler. If you have an account with Thrivent, you may be eligible for up to 2 Action Grants per year for \$250 each! The application process is simple and straightforward. Each year these grants have helped us fund the Thanksgiving Feasts, Runs for your Turkey, Fall Festivals, Easter egg hunts, "God's Work. Our Hands." projects, and many, many more projects and events.

If you're a Thrivent customer, please contact Lynnae to learn more about this great program!



THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY FEAST

THANKSGIVING DAY

November 23, 2023
11AM - 1:30PM

Kinsmen Lutheran Church
12100 Champion Forest Drive
Houston, Tx 77066

www.klch.org



October Birthdays

Debbie McCue	10/01	Jan Schmeisser	10/11	Renee Alfaro	10/19	Meredith Shama	10/26
Carlos Eduardo Castro	10/02	Kristi Taylor	10/11	Adan Plata	10/19	Gene Gealow	10/27
Shawn Abt	10/03	Connie Nolan	10/12	Mary Elijah	10/19	Hunter McGuinn	10/27
Niclaus Gronwaldt	10/03	Mitchell Schroeder	10/12	Scott Augerinos	10/19	Michael Novacek	10/27
Cindy Hagan	10/04	Betty Berger	10/13	William Naseman	10/19	Leia Lyons	10/28
Caius Mathis	10/04	Nicole Brown	10/13	Brian Biggerstaff	10/19	Sarah Meyer	10/29
Carsten Alsguth	10/05	Carson Monrad	10/14	Kay Adam	10/20	Sharon Peebles	10/29
Hadlee Wall	10/06	Mackenzie Kaurich	10/14	Donnie Stowe	10/20	Keith Rogers	10/29
Melissa Lester	10/07	Shella Smith	10/14	Ben Harvey	10/20	Eric Turnquist	10/29
Rolfe Harper	10/07	Nicole Henze	10/14	Emmalee Schraeder	10/22	Nancy Zoril	10/30
Diana Grobe	10/08	Marion Kuhn	10/14	Grant Peltier	10/22	Danny Hahn	10/30
Suzy Bongers	10/09	Sonja Lockhart	10/15	Mary Ann Lehmann	10/24	Marie Shelor	10/30
Cathy Guy	10/10	Thaddeus Cook	10/15	Braden McAnear	10/24	Heather Goka	10/30
Keiler Harvey	10/10	Laura Porter	10/16	Kylie Zochert	10/25	Abbe Wall	10/31
Eli Shelor	10/10	Bryan Smith	10/17	Mitchell Ray	10/26	Rich Gillette	10/31
Christopher De Leon	10/10	Megan McNeill	10/17	Erik Davis	10/26	Luke Fry	10/31
Arlond Goodell	10/10	Justin Blackbourn	10/19	Samantha Ward	10/26	Patricia De Leon	10/31
Brenda Alvarado-Nemoto	10/10	Tony Roeger III	10/19	Tami Covington	10/26		



GLIMPSES of GRACE

Kroger and Grocery Rewards Programs

We encourage you to link your Kroger and other grocery rewards cards to Kinsmen. Kroger’s Community Rewards is easy to use. The more you shop and use your rewards card, the more money Kinsmen will earn! From May 28 to August 26, 35 households used their card at least once for a total donation of \$74.63.

KINSMEN BUDGET UPDATE - CHURCH ONLY OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS FOR August 2023

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Total Income	167,784	156,069	(11,715)
Total Expenses	164,512	141,855	(22,657)
Net	3,272	14,215	10,942
Year-to-Date (2023)			
Total Income	1,296,653	1,242,584	(54,069)
Total Expenses	1,271,451	1,259,957	(11,494)
Net	25,203	(17,373)	(42,576)

GIVING UPDATE

Thankoffering	Budget	Actual	Variance
August 2023	96,017	76,981	(19,036)
2023	775,425	705,462	(69,963)

From the Treasurer...

Kinsmen is running slightly negative this year (Income less expenses). Thankoffering in particular, continues to be short of budget. Please help us by staying current with your giving. Thank you.

GLIMPSES OF SHARING GRACE

CARE MINISTRY

September 2023	
Flower Deliveries	34
Prayer Shawls	2

GLIMPSES OF GRACE

August	
Noisy Offering— Sleep in Heavenly Peace	4,222.84
General Mission Support	7,477.60
Designated Mission Support	220.50
KCA Scholarships	137.50
August TOTAL	12,058.44
YTD TOTAL	97,103.18

UPCOMING EVENTS



Naomi Bible Study	October 3	
Food Distribution	October 7 & 21	VOLUNTEER
Old Testament Overview Study	Sundays at 9:45AM	REGISTER
Weekly Lectionary Study	Wednesdays at 10AM	REGISTER
Men's Bible Study - Monday Nights	Mondays at 7PM	
Spanish Class	Thursdays at 6:30PM	
Women's Bible Study - Thursday Mornings	Thursdays at 10AM	
Intro to Kinsmen	October 1 & 8 at 9:45AM	SIGN UP HERE
Playground Playdate	October 7	
Noisy Offering	October 7-8	MAKE AN OFFERING
Lutherhill Fall Family Retreat	October 13-15	REGISTER
Quilting	October 14 & 23	
Sleep in Heavenly Peace	October 14	REGISTER
Small Group for Parents of Young Children	October 15	
ELCA Youth Gathering Registration Deadline	October 15	REGISTER
55+ Lunch	October 16	CONTACT COLETTE
Mental Health Matters	October 18	
Book Club	October 19	
When the Game is Over—Adult Sunday School	Sundays at 9:45AM, begins October 22	REGISTER
SWAT	October 22	RSVP
Euchre	October 23	CONTACT COLETTE
Pickleball	October 26	
Fall Festival	October 27	
Run for Your Turkey	November 23	REGISTER
Thanksgiving Feast	November 23	

IN PERSON AND ONLINE WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

INFORMAL WORSHIP

Saturday
5:30 PM

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Sundays
8:30 AM

EDUCATIONAL HOUR

Sundays
9:45 AM

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Sundays
11:00 AM

MISA en ESPAÑOL

Domingos
12:30 PM

ESCUELA DOMINICAL

Domingos
12:30 PM

Kinsmen Staff

Reach a staff member directly by dialing
281-444-3127, plus their extension

Rev. Dr. Beth Warpmaeker, Senior Pastor
bwarpmaeker@kinsmenlutheran.org — Ext. 118

Rev. Steve Stutz, Interim Pastor
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**Rev. Adriana Johnson-Rivas,
Interim Latino Ministry Pastor**
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— Ext. 119

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Anh Truong, Accounts Payable Clerk
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Adriana Cuina, Spanish Communications Administrator
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Ruben Aranda, Custodian

Gonzalo Montes, Custodian

Rachel Santellana, KCA Preschool Director
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**Dennisse Mejia-Cruz, Kinsmen Children's
Academy, Before and After School Director**
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Yong Goo Kim, Organist
ykim@kinsmenlutheran.org

Hannah Macon, Children's Choir Director

CONNECTION

is a monthly publication of Kinsmen Lutheran Church. Deadline for submitting news is the **15th** day of each month or the previous church business day if the deadline falls on the weekend or on a church holiday. Articles are preferred electronically, but may be faxed or hand-delivered to a staff member.



Office Hours

Monday—Thursday
9 AM—5 PM

Friday
9 AM—12 PM

Contact Information

281-444-3126 Phone
281-444-1733 FAX
kinsmen@kinsmenlutheran.org

Membership

Interested in learning more
about Kinsmen?

Contact Pastor Beth or Lynnae Schatz
for more information.