



REFORMATION SUNDAY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2026 9:30 AM

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, ELCA
612 Division St. | La Crosse, WI | 608.782.3468
www.oursaviorslutheranchurch.net

***"Our mission is to make the love of Christ known
to all as we worship, serve and grow together."***

All are welcome in this church! The Good News of God's grace is for all, regardless of age, abilities, physical & mental health, race, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, education, income or strength of faith. There is nothing we do, have done or will do that can separate us from the love of God. God makes no exceptions, nor do we. Come join us in praise, prayer and the work of our Lord, including ongoing work for racial equity in our Church and in the world.

Joanne Richmond, Senior Pastor—pastor@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net
Lois Losby, Financial Secretary—finance@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net
Sandra Schultz, WCC Coordinator—wccloset@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net
Mary Ender Stutesman, Music Coordinator & Organist—stuteswoman@gmail.com
Jessica Zinniel, Associate Lay Minister—youthfamily@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net
Thomas Haag, Organist | Dr. Eddie Kim, Pianist | Colin Stiemke, Guitarist
Liz Bahr, Cantor | Judi Winkler, Custodian

Welcome, visitors! We're glad you are here! We are delighted you have chosen to worship with us today. We will share holy Communion; you are welcome to participate.

We would like to be in touch with you! Visitors—please use the Live Stream 'Attendance Info Form (www.allarewelcome.org under the Live Stream tab) today. **Members**—you only need to fill them out once a year when you receive Holy Communion. **In addition**, use the form for prayer requests, hymn requests, to get the monthly newsletter, to give us address changes, or for any communication with the office or pastor.

If you need **hearing assistance**, ask in the church office for our special devices. If you need **assistance with the live stream**, please call 608.782.3468 or join us on the phone live stream at 1.877.552.3468 (toll-free).

+FOR OUR WORSHIP TODAY+

Presiding Lay Minister: Kim Grapes and Chris Krueger
AV Ministry Team: Asa and Fox Zinniel
Coffee Fellowship: Reformation Rootbeer & Hymn Sing
Pianist/Organist: Mary Ender Stutesman

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Prelude from Anna Magdalena's Notebook

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

MORNING BLESSING

Martin Luther wrote in the Small Catechism:

In the morning, as soon as you get out of bed,
you are to make the sign of the holy cross and say

"God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit watch over me. Amen."

Then say the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer.

CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

If you wish, you may in addition recite this little prayer as well:

I give thanks to you, Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected me through the night from all harm and danger. I ask that you would also protect me today from sin and all evil, so that my life and actions may please you. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Drawn to the Light



1 Peo - ple who walk in dark - ness have sought a light in the
 2 How can we tell a heav - en from hell if ev - 'ry - one
 3 Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none! The Lamb is the

heart of the dark - est night. Just when we thought all would be
 dwells in the dark of night? Morn - ing dis - pels, gent - ly com -
 one who is shin - ing bright, bids us to come! Life has be -

lost, we were drawn to the light of God.
 pels, and we're drawn to the light of God.
 gun when we're drawn to the light of God.

Refrain

Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night, drawn to the

light and the morn - ing. Glo - rious and bright, oh, what a

sight to be drawn to the light of God.

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
 Music: LA CROSSE, John C. Ylvisaker
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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE

God our Creator in heaven,
have mercy upon us.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
have mercy upon us.

God the Holy Spirit, true comforter,
have mercy upon us.

HYMN OF PRAISE *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* ELW #843

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



- 1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
- 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

READING: Ephesians 2: 8 - 9

A reading from Ephesians.

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹ not the result of works, so that no one may boast.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Words from Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

O Word of God Incarnate



1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
 2 The church from you, dear Mas - ter, re - ceived the gift di - vine;
 3 Oh, make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur - nished gold



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
 and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.
 to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;



we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
 It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,
 oh, teach your wand - 'ring pil - grims by this their path to trace,



a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
 mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.
 till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see you face to face.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

PRAYER'S OF INTERCESSION *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil* **ELW #512**

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

As we celebrate Reformation Sunday, we remember the witness of Martin Luther and the reformers of the church in every generation. Empower us to continue the work of reform and renewal in our own day.

We pray for the healing of natural places despoiled by pollution and human greed. Give all living creatures access to safe land, water, and air.

Hear us, O God, as we sing:

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

We pray for our criminal justice systems and all those whose lives are affected by them. Give wisdom and discernment to police, probation officers, judges, and attorneys; give courage and peace to prisoners and the formerly incarcerated.

We ask your blessing upon all people who have been harmed by the church and its leaders, that the truth may make them free. We pray for the relief of all those who are sick or suffering, including those on our prayer list.

Hear us, O God, as we sing:

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

We give thanks for those exploring or returning to a life of faith. Encourage and guide them, that they may find their hope in you.

With gratitude, we remember those disciples who paved the way for us and all of our beloved dead.

Hear us, O God, as we sing:

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

NOISY OFFERING

IN CONCLUSION

In the Small Catechism, in his explanation to the Lord's Prayer, Luther wrote that, when we pray

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever

We should be certain that such petitions are acceptable to and heard by our Father in heaven, for he himself commanded us to pray like this and has promised to hear us.

Amen. Amen.

Means

Yes, yes, it is going to come about just like this.

DISMISSAL

p. 115

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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REFORMATION HYMN SING TODAY

Join us right after worship today in the Fellowship Hall for a joyful celebration of faith and music! Mary Ender Stutesman will lead us in a spirited hymn sing as we lift our voices together in praise.

Come enjoy root beer and sweet treats while celebrating the Reformation together. The Fellowship Hall doors will be open, so come on in, grab a treat, and join the singing! ***We can't wait to sing and celebrate the Reformation with you!*** 🎵 🍺 🎵

OCTOBER DONATION DRIVE – WRAPPING WINN IN WARMTH

This month, we're collecting **new or gently used blankets** for WINN (**What I Need Now**) to help keep our neighbors warm this winter. Please place your donations in the grocery cart in the narthex.

CALLING ALL CHRISTMAS ELVES

The Dorcas Society is getting ready for the Christmas Bazaar and would love your help filling the tables with homemade goodies!

We're accepting **baked good donations starting Sunday, November 8, through Friday morning, November 13.** (We'll be packaging everything on Friday morning, so please have your treats to the church by then.)

Cookies, candies, fudge, cakes, muffins, bars, and other sweet treats are all welcome!

Thank you for sharing your baking talents and helping make the bazaar extra special. **Together, we'll make the season a little sweeter and a whole lot merrier!** ❤️ 🎄

WOMEN'S CLOTHES CLOSET

As the temperatures drop, our Women's Clothes Closet is stocked and ready for fall and winter! Come find warm, comfortable styles—cozy sweaters, pants, dresses, shoes, scarves, hats, and more. ***Have gently used items to share?*** Call **608.784.5745** to arrange a drop-off. Your donations help women in our community stay warm *and* confident this season.

WINTER WARMTH NEEDED

Cool weather is here, and we're especially in need of **winter coats and jackets (all sizes, especially plus sizes)** to help our neighbors bundle up. And while you're at it—please consider adding a **package of new socks, shampoo, lotion, or deodorant** to your donation! These essentials make a big difference in keeping our community warm and cared for this winter.

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR MAILINGS

One more important reminder: **please update the church's mailing address wherever you send your giving or correspondence to Our Savior's.**

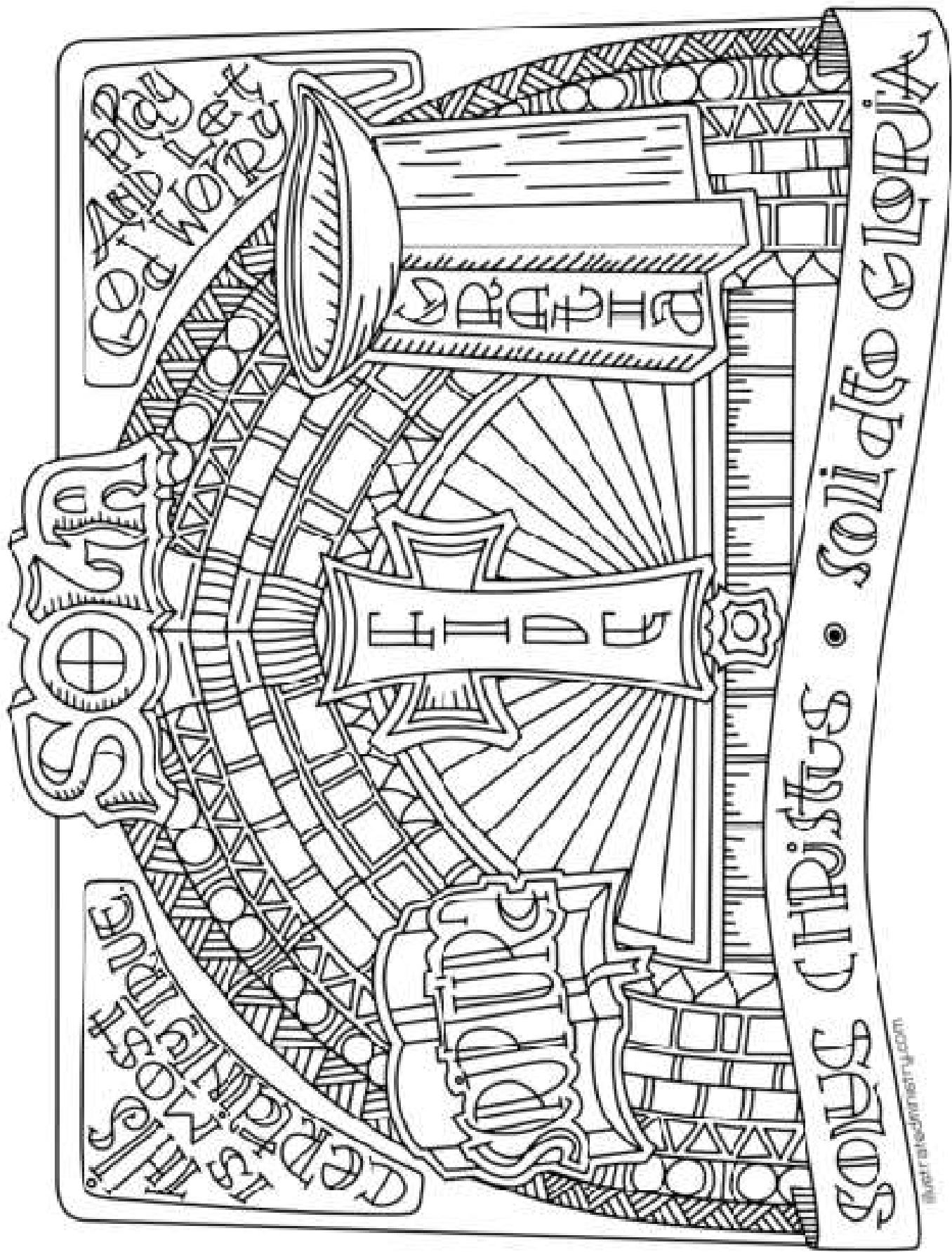
Our new address is:

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church
612 Division St.
La Crosse, WI 54601**

This includes **checks and other giving, letters, and any other mail you send to the church.** If you have Our Savior's saved as a payee or mailing address for recurring gifts, please update that information as well.

And please **do not use our former PO Box** for future mailings. Taking a moment to update your records will make sure your mail gets to us without delays.

Thank you for helping us make the transition to our new address a smooth one!



CALENDAR

Sunday, October 25, 2026

Reformation Sunday

8:30 – 10:30am	Office Open
9:30am	Worship
10:15am	Reformation Rootbeer & Hymn Sing
6:30pm	Y.E.S. A.A. Mtg.

Monday

9am – 1pm	Office Open
10am – 12 noon	Gas Vouchers

Tuesday

9am – 1pm	Office Open
9am	Quilters
1 – 5pm	WCC Open
4pm	CFS Doors Open
4:05 – 5:15pm	CFS Meal Served
5:15 – 5:30pm	CFS Carry Outs Only

Wednesday, October 28, 2026

Reformation Wednesday

9am – 1pm	Office Open
12 noon	Worship

Thursday

9am – 1pm	Office Open
6:30pm	LaCrosse Chamber Chorale Rehearsal

Friday

11am	Jim Jarrett Funeral
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Saturday

9am – 1pm	WCC Open
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Sunday, November 1, 2026

All Saints Sunday

8:30 – 10:30am	Office Open
9:30am	Worship
10:15 am	Coffee Fellowship
10:15am	La Crosse Chamber Chorale Concert
6:30pm	Y.E.S. A.A. Mtg.

OUR SAVIOR'S THIS WEEK

Post on a refrigerator, near a phone
on an altar and any other sacred place.

PRAYER CONCERNS

HEALING AND PEACE

Amanda Hynek, **Art** Olson, **Bev** Hanson, **Casey** Kanter, **Cassie**, **Cathy** Ofte, **Cindy** Moe, **Dan** Odenbach, **Danielle** Sorenson, **Dave & Sandy** Kjos, **Dean** Geier, **Don** Thesing, **Erik** Rudrud, **Eugene** Herold, **Gabe** Centanni, **Gale**, **Ingrid** S., **Jane & Michael** Speer, **Jean** Koll, **Jeannie** White, **Jeremy** R., **Jim**, **Pastor Joanne**, **Jon** Zinniel, **Joshua**, **Karen** Geoglein, **Katie** White, **Lane** C., **Linda & Steve** Paige, **Lois** Horne, **Kelly** Olson, **Mary** Covey, **Mary** Kent, **Pamela** Mathis, **Peggy** Kneifl, **Rick**, **Roxanne** North, **Sam** Bakkestuen, and **Tom** Cade

GRIEVING FAMILY & FRIENDS OF

Jim Jarrett

MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN THE ARMED FORCES

Ricky Macon and **Tom** Rudrud

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Samantha Gallup October 26
Barb Seidel October 26
Mikel Hampel October 28
Becky Grapes October 30
Darlene Kroner November 1

Calendar Notations:

HC—Holy Communion
CFS—Come For Supper
WCC—Women's Clothes Closet

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