



OCTOBER, 2026 PARISH NEWS

VDMA

By Pastor Dan

Imagine playing baseball where the rules are constantly changing. In the first inning you get three strikes; but then suddenly, for no apparent reason, in the fourth inning you only get two. In the third inning you get three outs; but in the sixth you get five. To make matters worse, different rules then apply to different teams. One team gets five outs, but the other only gets two. One team has nine players on the field, whereas the other only gets five. The constantly changing rules, who they apply to and when and why would make the game unplayable.

In a very real way, that is one of the many things Luther was fighting against in the Reformation. There are many aspects of the Reformation, from opposing indulgences to using the common language in worship, to receiving both the bread and wine in communion, and many others. However, one of the big issues for Luther was the Word of God. Popes and councils had “changed the rules” whenever it suited them. More than that, what they had decided often contradicted Scripture. So, Luther emphasized the sufficiency of Scripture as the foundation and bedrock of the church. All doctrine and church decisions need to be tested against what Scripture plainly teaches. We know that God is eternal and does not change, so anything that contradicts what the Bible says is clearly not from the Lord. Upon the Word of God, the church rises or falls.

So, VDMA became a rallying cry of the Reformation.

Word (Verbum) [of]
God (Domini)
Remains (Manet)
Forever (Aeternum).



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The acronym is based upon 1 Peter 1:24-25, “For ‘All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever.’ And this word is the good news that was preached to you.” It was first used by Frederick the Wise, elector of Saxony, when he had it sewn on the right sleeve of his court’s clothing, clothing worn by princes and servants alike. It was then used on flags, banners, swords, and uniforms as a symbol of Lutherans who struggled to defend their beliefs against those who were opposing them. The VDMA logo has appeared throughout Lutheran churches worldwide and remains an enduring motto of the Reformation to this day.

So, on October 25th when we celebrate the Reformation and we sing those great hymns about the Word of God (LSB 655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word & LSB 578 Thy Strong Word) remember VDMA. Remember the rallying cry of the Reformation; and that the Word of God is our eternal foundation.

Your Fellow Servant in Christ,

Pastor Dan



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In Our Prayers

Shut-Ins: Lucy Brown, Dale Kletke, June Maw

Sick and / or Recovering: Debbie Ledbetter, Zoey (Tangkawarow Family Member), Pastor Dan Kletke, Tessa Sandoval, Sue Poehlein, Arlene Stolp, Mary Richardson, Carolyn Westlund, Steve Tabb.

Prayer Chain: For prayer concerns please contact one of the following:

- Phone prayer chain: Mary Richardson, (719) 269-1426
- E-mail prayer chain: Sue Poehlein, cspoehlein@gmail.com

If you would like to join either prayer chain, please contact Mary or Sue respectively. If you would like a Christian greeting card from St. John sent to your loved one listed on the above prayer list, please contact Mary Richardson, with the address where it should be sent.

Service Members: Jake Langley (U.S. Navy), Jerrico Leason (U.S. Customs and Border Protection), April Collins (Albuquerque Police Dept., Dietrich Kletke (Hartsel Fire Dept.).

Missionaries: JP & Aimee Cima - missionaries in Cambodia that St. John has adopted.

Special Prayers: Please talk to the Pastor prior to the Sunday service for special prayers

News and Notes

Worship Attendance:

Sunday, August 30:	80
Sunday, September 6:	74
Sunday, September 13:	89
Sunday, September 20:	90

Upcoming Special Sundays:

Sep. 27 - Farewell & Godspeed to Booths
Oct. 4 - LWML Sunday
Oct. 11 - Farewell & Godspeed to Willards
Oct. 18 - Stewardship Sunday
Oct. 25 - Reformation Sunday
Nov. 1 - All Saints' Sunday



Former members now living in Iowa - Valerie, Julia, Evie Langley, & Julia's newborn son Koda Jack, visited the car show & church on Sunday.



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St. John LWML October Report

The Fall Rally will be held at Family of Faith in Falcon, CO on Saturday, October 10. Registration begins at 9 am with the day's activities beginning at 9:30 am. Toni Davidson is planning to attend. Contact Toni to carpool. She plans to leave church at 7:30 a.m. Google Maps indicates the trip requires 1.5 hours. The agenda for the day will include Bible study, report from District President Christina Bean, Young Women Representatives to the RMD convention, election of officers, and special Martin Luther presentation in the afternoon. Registration will be \$5.00 with free will offering for lunch. The in-gathering for the rally is for Life Network Thrift Store. The LWML in-gathering box is in the hallway for your contributions. Lists below are from the thrift store. Items must fit in Toni's car.

Acceptable In-gathering Items

- Accessories - jewelry, purses, hats, belts, scarves and sunglasses
- Backpacks and suitcases
- Books - paperback, hardback, and audio
- CD's, DVD's
- Clothing - Men's, Women's, Children's and Infants
- Collectibles and antiques
- Dishes - serving ware, glassware, pots and pans, utensils
- Furniture in good condition - tables, dressers, couches, loveseats, chairs, etc.
- Home decor - wall art, mirrors, knick-knacks throw pillows, collectibles
- Housewares - kitchen items and small appliances
- Linens - bed linens, bath/hand towels, sheets, spreads/comforters, table linens
- Shoes - all ages
- Toys - plush animals, puzzles and games

In-gathering Items NOT acceptable

- Any broken, stained or non-functional item
- Bed pillows (unless brand new)
- Car seats
- Chemicals or any flammable liquids (paint, propane canisters, oil etc.; also includes any tools with gasoline still inside)
- Construction materials (esp. chemicals or paint)
- Cribs
- Diaper genies
- Flooring (tiles, carpet, etc.)
- Furniture that is worn, torn, covered with pet hair or has odors
- Home remodeling items (ceiling lights and fans, window blinds, paneling etc.)
- Ironing boards
- Large appliances or equipment
- Large appliances (stoves, washers, dryers, refrigerators, dishwashers etc.)
- Large office equipment
- Mattresses
- Printers
- Strollers
- Televisions
- Workout equipment (without prior approval)



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St. John Trail Mix: Saturday, August 29, 2026

Katherine Dacey, Gail Kirkegaard, Ryan Thom, and Gail's friend Laura MacDonald hiked to the top of Colorado 14er Mt. Sherman, 14,043' above sea level. **It was Ryan's first 14er**, Katherine's sixth 14er, Laura's second time on this 14er, and Gail's seventh time to summit Mt. Sherman, which is located above a washboard road 40 minutes west of Fairplay. They began the hike at Fourmile Creek Trailhead at 6:20 a.m. (actually they first walked for several minutes from where they parked about a quarter mile lower) They summited at 8:30 a.m. and returned to the pickup celebrating and exhausted at 10:35 a.m. Their total time included 20 minutes of snacking and taking pictures with dozens of strangers on the summit. The hike was 5.65 miles roundtrip.



COMING UP NEXT:

The Manitou Incline - less than one mile up, but very steep, and very little shade. Scenic walk down the Barr Trail for ~4.5 miles total. Wednesday, October 7th. If this is on your bucket list, please call or text Gail K. at (720) 201 - 8743!





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Men's Breakfast: August 27, 2026



Clockwise:

John T., Ron, John S., George, Bob H., Pastor Dan, Pastor Lyle, Rod, Allan, & Bob K.





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Cañon City Daily Record: September 9, 2026



Our congregational group photo taken on August 23, our 40th Anniversary, was published in our local newspaper on Wednesday, September 9, 2026.



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12th Annual Car Show - September 19, 2026

We had 55 cars this year, and generated \$1,276 for Missions.



2026 volunteers included Michael Dacey, Alana Holt, Rob Godwin, Kris Holt, Nicholas Godwin, Lenny Williams, Ann Eulert, Curtis Eulert, Gene Foster, Carol Skoda, Lynn Dreger, Kathy Walker, Tricia Kletke, Sharon Godwin, Toni Davidson, Connie Willyard. Photography by Gail Kirkegaard, grounds by Bob Kirkegaard. Not all volunteers were available for this photograph.





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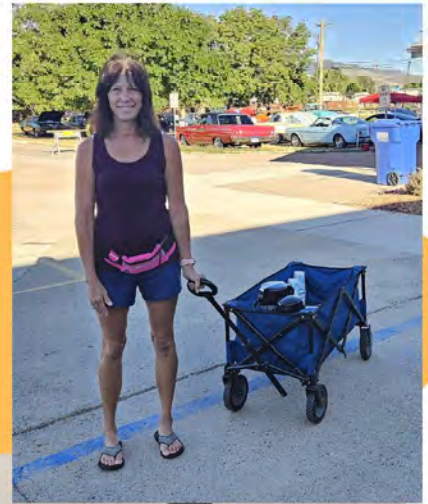
12th Annual Car Show - September 19, 2026





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St. John To-Do List

Ways to be involved at St. John Lutheran Church

Acolyte - Altar candle duty for boys and girls at worship services.
Adult Bible Class - Sunday mornings at 10:30am after our time of fellowship.
Adult Choir - Join your voice with others on special festivals.
Altar Guild - Prepare vestments, candles, banners, etc. for worship.
Audio-Visual - Operate the slides and video production during worship service.
BookClub - Discuss books about once a month in member homes or at church.
Bulletin Help - Print worship bulletins a few times per year as needed.
Car Show - Annual fundraiser on the church grounds that needs many helpers.
Christmas Program - Help or take a part in the Sunday School program.
Church Council - Serve on a church board, or as church president, etc.
Communications - Publish events on the Website, newsletter, and Facebook.
Confirmation Class - Teens meet with Pastor for Christian instruction.
Door Keeper - Open the door and welcome people arriving at church.
Driver - Provide transportation for those who cannot drive to church.
Elders - Men who assist the Pastor with the spiritual life of the congregation.
Evangelism - Carry out evangelism programs in the church and community.
Fellowship - Serve refreshments after worship, and assist with special events.
Garage Sale - Annual fundraiser at St. John that needs many helpers.
Gardener - Keep the flower beds in neat and weed-free condition.
Greeter - Welcome and offer Sunday bulletin and visitor packet to worshippers.
LWML - Women's Auxiliary of the LCMS supports LCMS missions.
Men's Breakfast - Men of St. John have breakfast about twice a month.
Missions - Direct monetary resources for LCMS missionaries and missions.
Nursery - Volunteers assist parents who need help in the nursery.
Prayer Chain - Receive notice of prayer requests and pray for those in need.
Quilters - Construct quilts almost weekly for charities and individuals.
Readers - Read assigned Scripture passages at the lectern during services.
Shut-In Visitation - Spend time with members who cannot attend church.
Sunday School - Classes for kids at 10:30am after worship and refreshments.
Teach - Help children learn about their Savior, Preschool through High School.
Tidy the Pews - Pick up trash and re-rack service books after worship services.
Trail Mix - Hike on local and other Colorado trails with members and friends.
Trustees - Oversee maintenance, repair, cleaning of buildings and grounds.
Ushers - Assist people with special needs, direct worshippers for Holy Communion.
Vacation Bible School - A children's short-term summer educational activity.
Wednesday Bible Class - Study at 10:00am Wednesdays with Pastor Dan.
Youth Group - Our youth discuss their faith as it applies to life's challenges.



St. John October Birthdays



Oct. 2 - Cody Harms



Oct. 7 - Angela Bellantoni



Oct. 9 - Ken Davidson



Oct. 12 - Tessa Sandoval



Oct. 19 - Robin Burke



Oct. 20 - Kathy Walker



Oct. 23 - Chuck Poehlein



St. John October Anniversaries



Oct. 3 - Tabor & Alison Stevens
(to be married Oct 3, 2026)



Oct. 18 - Michael & Katherine Dacey



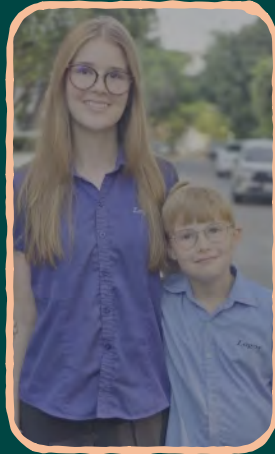
Oct. 25 - Allan & Tedi Tormohlen



When a new missionary arrives on the field, how can they be set up well for long-term service to the Gospel in a new cultural setting? Those first days and weeks are critical to establishing a foundation for the years of Gospel work that will follow. Regional onboarding is an important component in that foundation, one that Aimee is responsible to plan as a part of her role as Asia's Coordinator for Care and Development. In August, Aimee traveled to Taiwan to facilitate onboarding for new missionaries [Chris and Jenny Yang](#). This started with being a friendly face upon arrival (pic a), and also included time spent in formal sessions (some led by Aimee, some led by other regional leaders) covering introductions to LCMS work in Asia, the regional strategy, and practical matters. Visits to ministry sites in Taiwan (b) allowed the Yang family to witness first-hand how other LCMS Asia missionaries are serving the Lord's mission. Fun outings, to karaoke (c) or local restaurants (d), promoted team synergy and appreciation for local culture. Daily time for worship framed the entire process—and, indeed, frame every missionary's entire tenure—in terms of the God who comes to give us His good gifts. Each of these components are designed to work together to foster the tools, relationships, heart, and theological center that the Yang family will need to sustain them over their years of upcoming service. Aimee loves her role—helping missionaries thrive in their calling to serve God's global mission!

OTHER NEWS:

- It is great to be back into [familiar rhythms](#) in Cambodia.
- J.P. continues [intentional visitation](#) alongside the Cambodia Lutheran Church (CCL), including August visits to [Kampong Seila](#) and [Tbong Khmum](#).
- Congregations are benefitting from the CLC's [microgrant project](#), funded by LCMS.
- Aimee has started [a new endeavor](#)—pursuing a certification as a deaconess, along with a Masters degree, through [Concordia Seminary](#).
- The kids started a [new school year](#), including Celeste at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA.
- Isaac has started [badminton lessons](#) and is continuing guitar.



SQUARE TWO

THE CIMA FAMILY NEWSLETTER
VOL.20, No. 08, AUGUST 2026

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PRAISE: for a successful onboarding for the Yang family; for Aimee's new educational endeavor; for recent progress on the intentional visitation and the micro grant projects. **PRAYERS:** for J.P.'s upcoming travel to Vietnam for a [Concordia Hanoi](#) board meeting; for Bella's college application process; for Celeste as she pursues a certification as a medical assistant.

WANNA HELP US IMPACT THE PEOPLE OF CAMBODIA? Give [here](#) or mail a check to 1) P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166 (payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod), OR 2) 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, IA 51034 (payable to Mission Central). For ALL checks, in the memo line write "Cima family-Cambodia."

OCTOBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH CAÑON CITY, COLORADO 790 Greystone Ave., Cañon City, CO, 81212 http://www.StJohnCanonCity.org 719-275-0111				1	2	3
UPCOMING EVENTS: <i>Oct. 4 – LWML Sunday</i> <i>Oct. 11 – Farewell to Willards</i> <i>Oct. 18 – Stewardship Sunday</i> <i>Oct. 25 – Reformation Sunday</i> <i>Nov. 1 – All Saints' Sunday</i> <i>Nov. 25 – Thanksgiving Eve Service</i>						
4 19TH SUNDAY AFT. PENTECOST 9:00 Divine Service 10:30 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 11:30 Elder's Meeting <i>OT: Prov 11:10-30 / Ep: 1Ptr 4:1-12 / Gosp: Mt 5:10-20</i> <u>LWML SUNDAY</u>	5 6:30p Confirmation	6	7 10:00 Bible Study	8 7:00 Men's Breakfast	9	10 9:00 Royal Gorge Quilt Council
11 20TH SUNDAY AFT. PENTECOST 9:00 Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 10:30 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 11:30 Council Meeting <i>OT: Is 25:6-9 / Ep: Phil 4:4-13 / Gosp: Mt 22:1-14</i>	12 6:30p Confirmation <u>COLUMBUS DAY</u>	13	14	15	16	17
				PASTOR DAN AT CONFERENCE		
18 21ST SUNDAY AFT. PENTECOST 9:00 Divine Service 10:30 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class <i>OT: Is 45:1-7 / Ep: 1Thess 1:1-10 / Gosp: Mt 22:15-22</i> <u>STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY</u>	19 6:30p Confirmation	20	21 10:00 Bible Study 7:00p Youth Group	22 7:00 Men's Breakfast	23	24
25 REFORMATION SUNDAY 9:00 Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 10:30 Reformation Potluck <i>1st: Rev 14:6-7 / Ep: Rom 3:19-28 / Gosp: Mt 11:12-19</i>	26 6:30p Confirmation	27	28 10:00 Bible Study	29	30	31 <u>HALLOWEEN</u>