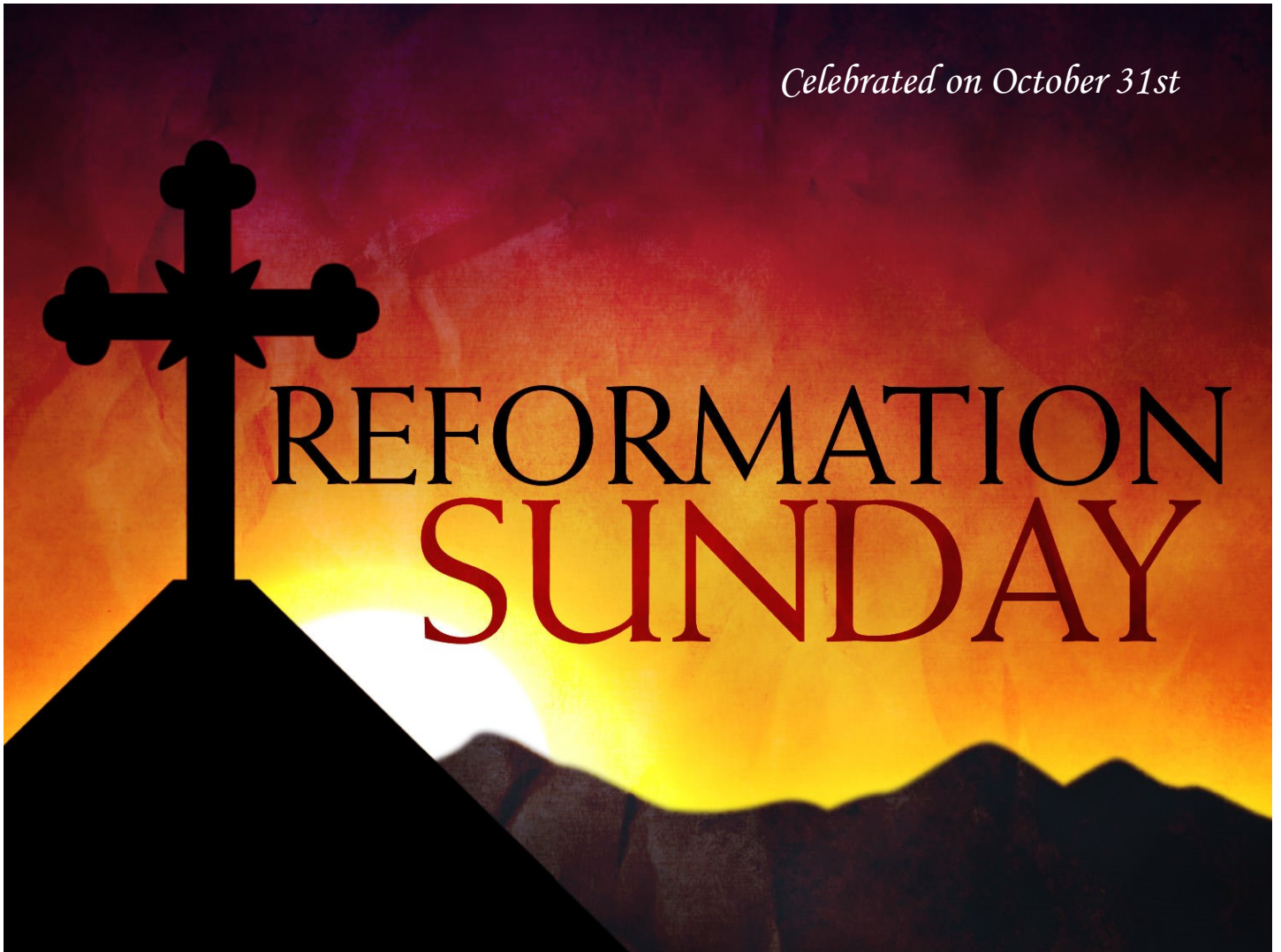


# Shepherd of the Mountains

October 2021

*Celebrated on October 31st*



*Worship with us!*

Sundays at 9 am

sotmlcjackson@gmail.com  
[www.shepherdofthemountainsjh.org](http://www.shepherdofthemountainsjh.org)



**Shepherd  
of the Mountains  
Lutheran Church  
ELCA**

750 Seneca Lane  
PO Box 3257  
Jackson, WY  
83001

**Office:**  
(307) 733-4382

**Email:**  
sotmlcjackson@  
gmail.org

**Office Hours  
Tuesdays &  
Thursdays  
8:30 -3:30**

**Church Contact**  
Nancy Parisee  
Church  
Administrator

Dear Shepherd of the Mountains,

"Thanks for praying with me"

TJ is a blond-haired blue-eyed impossibly cute soon-to-be nine-year-old. With a seemingly perpetual smile and a smattering of freckles no one's Auntie could resist pinching his cheek. He loves reading and math, Legos, baseball, and hanging out with his twin sister Talbot and older brother Tate. Oh, and he was born with half a functioning heart.

In the first Gospel reading in October Mark 10:14 quotes Jesus: "Let the little children come to me... for it is such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs." Powerful and humbling words to those of us caught up in the day-to-day tribulations of adult life. What's kid know, anyway, huh? I am most guilty of this. Then something happens to remind me of the special relationship our God has with each one of us. The story of this special little guy has helped me refocus on God's unconditional love for his people.

Being a lifelong Chicago Bears fan, I was overjoyed when Greg Olsen – TJ's father – joined the team for the 2007 season. I was equally upset when the Bears traded him to the Carolina Panthers in the summer of 2011. Greg was an All-Star, leading receiver for the Bears. Dang. But God was looking out for the Olsen's.

A routine sonogram showed that they were having twins (!) but the boy only had a congenital heart condition – Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome – that left him with only half a functioning heart. Being strong in faith Greg and Kara scoured the country for the best pediatric heart specialists for consultation. They found them at Levine Children's Hospital in Charlotte, NC, just ten minutes from their new home.

TJ had four major surgeries before he was 2 ½ to allow the good part of his heart to take over for the missing one, and it worked for several years, until this last May when it began failing and TJ was put on the heart transplant list, a process that could take months or even years. Word spread among the sporting world about TJ and support from all over came from the world, fueled by the Instagram hashtag #playforTJ – don't worry if you don't know what that means, just think of an electronic billboard. Little leaguers all over were wearing "#playforTJ" wristbands, showing support for someone they had never met.

TJ had a transplant eight (!) days later – in almost record time – and a few days after that TJ asked to make a video for his supporters. He looks straight into the camera and says "Thanks for thinking of me. Thanks for praying with me..." – go ahead and look it up in Instagram at @gregolsen88 or #playfor TJ. Note that it was "praying with me" and not "for me." I can help you find it after I wipe my eyes.

As of this writing TJ is doing very well has returned to being his goofy little self. There's much more to the story – I'd love to share. Lots of videos of the journey and the love shown to the Olsen's. The Olsen family donating millions of dollars to Levine's to help other families undergoing similar ordeals. And much much more.

God is always showing us, his children, his unwavering love. Sometimes it takes a kid such as TJ to remind us. I'll close with how TJ ended his video after his heart transplant:

"We love you guys! Bye!"

Scott Daily



## Every Week

**SUNDAY** In-person Worship at 9 am.














**Adult Bible Study** - Stay after church with Pastor Ben for a discussion about passages in the bible.

**Hole Food Rescue** - On Sunday mornings, volunteers pick up bread and baked goods from Persephone & Picnic to be distributed to those in need. Would you like to help? Talk to Robyn Lunsford (rlunsford@jorgeng.com). Please check our weekly email for new opportunities at Hole Food Rescue.

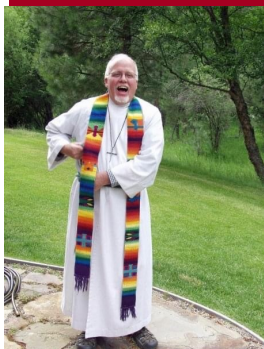
**TUESDAY** **Bible & Breakfast**, our coed group that looks at the lectionary readings for the upcoming Sunday, meets via ZOOM from 8 - 9 am (Jackson time). Email Scott Daily at scott@hoback.org for the link.



## Events in October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
<b>3</b> Worship at 9am with Rev. Ben Nardi  Council meets after church Adult Bible Study 	4	<b>5</b> Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom  AA 6:30pm	6	<b>7</b> JHJC rental 4-6pm AA 6:30pm	8	9
<b>10</b> Worship at 9am with Rev. Ben Nardi Adult Bible Study 	11	<b>12</b> Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom  AA 6:30pm	13	<b>14</b> JHJC rental 4-6pm AA 6:30pm	15	16
<b>17</b> Worship at 9am with Rev. Ben Nardi Adult Bible Study 	18	<b>19</b> Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom  AA 6:30pm	<b>20</b> Blood Drive 11:30am - 6:00pm 	<b>21</b> Blood Drive 7:30am - noon JHJC rental 4-6pm AA 6:30pm 	22	23
<b>24</b> Worship at 9am with Rev. Ben Nardi Adult Bible Study 	25	<b>26</b> Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom  AA 6:30pm	27	<b>28</b> JHJC rental 4-6pm AA 6:30pm	29	30
<b>31</b>  <b>Reformation  Sunday</b> Worship at 9am with Rev. Ben Nardi Adult Bible Study 						

## Pastor Ben Nardi



Pastor Ben Nardi will be our “stated supply” pastor the next few of months. Terry DiMattio and Scott Daily continue to work with Pastor Phil Misner, Assistant to the Bishop, on the call process, and as of yet, no decisions have been made.

Pastor Ben is holding office hours for pastoral care, he will be here on Mondays from 8-11am. Please feel free to stop by to talk to him, or you can make an appointment by emailing him at [nardib@yahoo.com](mailto:nardib@yahoo.com).

When asked how he would describe himself, he replied “I am a retired United Methodist pastor. I have been married to Chris Nardi for 43 years. I graduated from Montana State University in Agronomy, and Claremont

School of Theology. I am currently the Chaplain for Jackson Hole Fire/EMS. I enjoy fly-fishing and Photography”.

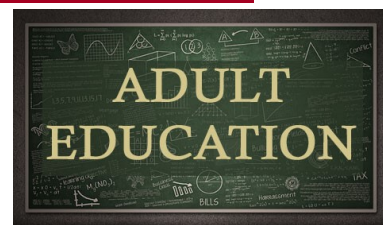
We can’t thank Pastor enough for stepping in over the years, and helping SMLC when needed; he surely is a blessing to our church family!



## Adult Education

Beginning on October 3rd, Pastor Ben is looking to get Adult Education going again after the 9am service.

Pastor Ben is open to ideas to help keep Adult Education exciting. Please get back to him with any study ideas, topics, books, or thoughts about what you would like to talk about each week.



Please feel free to drop him a note with your thoughts or questions for Adult Education at [nardib@yahoo.com](mailto:nardib@yahoo.com),

## New Church Directories



The office has new church directories. Copies of the directory are available in the church foyer. PDF versions of the directory have been emailed out to those on our locals list. Please email the church office if you wish to get a PDF version of the directory or if you want a physical copy mailed to your home.

## JH Jewish Community

The Jackson Hole Jewish Community is now renting our church on Thursdays from 4-6pm for their Bet Sefer (Hebrew Youth School). Please be aware of this when making plans to visit the church on Thursdays.

We are grateful that we can offer the use of our church to help other faith communities, the rental is a blessing to us all.



## Be Prepared for an Earthquake With “ShakeOut”



This year, beginning October 21, you can #ShakeOut when, how, and where you want. Just make sure to register for 2021!. You can also go to [www.ShakeOut.org](http://www.ShakeOut.org). Be counted in the largest-ever earthquake drill!



## Giving Blood Saves Lives



The Jackson Community Blood Drive will be held on Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, from 11:30AM until 6:00PM and again on Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, from 7:30AM until 12:00PM at Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church located at 750 Seneca Lane.

Appointments can be made at [Vitalant.org](http://Vitalant.org) or by calling 1-877-258-4825. Walk-ins are also welcome. Every 2 seconds someone in the United States needs blood and it can only come from volunteers like you. Please support this important community event.

**The Need is Constant; the Gratification Instant!**



### Blood Drive Dates Remaining for 2021

Your help is always needed in our blood drives.

To give blood please go to <https://www.bloodhero.com>

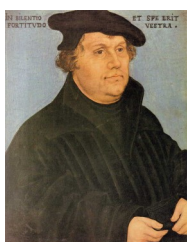
October 20 & 21  
December 15 & 16 (at Presbyterian Church)

## Mask Mandate for Church Services



Council has decided to maintain the mask mandate during worship for both the vaccinated and unvaccinated for the time being. This is to protect you, your church family, and those you love. Thank you for caring!

## What is Reformation Sunday?



For Lutherans and many other Protestants in America, the last Sunday in October is celebrated as Reformation Sunday. Reformation Sunday honors Martin Luther's bold action on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1517. On that date Luther posted his statement of faith, known as the 95 Theses, on the door of Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, thus beginning the Protestant Reformation. In some parts of Europe, Reformation Day is a civil holiday celebrated on October 31<sup>st</sup>, a day to commemorate the vast social and political change that resulted from Luther's actions.

Martin Luther, born in 1483 in Eisleben, Germany, to a devout Catholic family, he was a scholarly, serious man. He attended the university in Erfurt and studied the law, but instead of working as a lawyer, he entered an Augustinian monastery and was ordained as a monk in 1507. Luther was tortured by his fear of hell, which drove him to endless good works and acts of piety, as well as self-flagellation and other acts of penance, such as lying in the snow for long periods of time on winter nights. Through reading the Bible, however, Luther came to believe people were saved not by good works or acts of penance, but through their faith in Jesus Christ.

Reformation Sunday in the United States is celebrated as a day to honor the root beliefs of Protestant Christianity: that faith in Christ is all that's needed for salvation, and the Bible, not any human leader, is the true authority in matters of faith. As Luther said when questioned about his views, "Unless I am convinced by Scripture and plain reason – I do not accept the authority of the popes and councils, for they have contradicted each other – my conscience is captive to the word of God. I cannot and I will not recant anything for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. God help me. Amen."

Join in the recognition of Reformation Sunday by wearing **red** when you come to worship on Reformation Sunday.



## Prayers

**Congratulations to Bjorn Schou and Abby Coffee.** Bjorn and Abby had a beautiful baby boy on September 25, 2021. Brecken William was born at 7:29am and weighed 7.1 lbs, he was 18.5 inches long. This means that Inger Kirkegaard is a grandmother and Dan Schou is a grandfather!

**Lucas Moulder**, scheduled for back surgery on Oct. 8th to relieve a herniated disk, arthritis buildup and spinal canal stenosis - all conditions that are pinching nerves.

**Melanie Sands & family**, while they grieve the loss of her brother Gary.

**Lars Schou**, who continues to heal! About another month until he can start weight bearing and have his knee surgery.

**Patrick Corun** (son of Dan & Kay Corun) healing prayers while his body adjusts to his new heart.

**The family of Malissa Mejia** (friend of Karen Schroeder)

**The family of Nadine Bomgren**

**The family of Dine Dellenback**

**Robyn Lunsford**, who is still navigating health issues.

**Becky Sprunger** (friend of Jolene Moulder), stage IV cancer.

### Serenity Prayer

*God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change;  
the courage to change the things I can;  
and the wisdom to know the difference.*

*Living one day at a time;*

*Enjoying one moment at a time;*

*Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;*

*Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it;*

*Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will;*

*That I may be reasonably happy in this life*

*and supremely happy with Him Forever in the next.*

*Amen*

For prayers or prayer updates please email or call the church

## Church Council

While we are in transition please know that your Church Council is always here to serve you and listen to your questions and concerns.

Please feel free to contact a member of the Church Council or chat with them after church on Sundays.

### President

William Shedd

wshedd00@hotmail.com

### Council Members

Carolyn Daily

carolyn@jhscientific.com

### Vice President

Terry DiMattio

tnjintv@gmail.com

Sherry Kinsella

kinsellas8@msn.com

### Secretary

Scott Daily

scott@hoback.org

Lorrie Lee Wells

alliswellnow@bresnan.net

Pam Zernis

2circus3@yahoo.com



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### October Birthdays

October 2nd—Susan Freeze

Please call or email the church office and tell us when your special day is.  
Your church family would like to wish you birthday or anniversary greetings.







### *Fall Cleanup at SMLC*

Pam Zernis, Brent Schaffer & Dale Jeske are an amazing team when it comes to fall cleanup. The three of them spent the afternoon trimming bottom branches off of the evergreen trees in the front yard.

These three have also been seen clipping back our shrubs, weeding and cutting the grass. Thank you for your stewardship and time!

*"For it is in giving that we receive." —St. Francis of Assisi*



### *A New Addition to SMLC*

Left: Scott Daily takes a moment to show us his newly adopted partner, Merle. Scott and Merle packed their bags this month and are now back east enjoying some fall foliage.

### *Two Friends on the Go!*

Right: Mary Lou Klene and Rose Jeske stopped by the office before getting out on the bike path to enjoy a walk. Glad these two are taking some time to enjoy the warm weather, snow will soon be here!





## Online Giving



Have you ever thought about giving your offering online  
but don't know how?

You may sign up to give one time, weekly, monthly, or yearly .

You can give by text (307-207-3866), by credit or debit,  
or by online checking. Go to this link and you're on your way!

<https://sotmlcjackson.breezechms.com/give/online>

## Giving While You Shop at Smith's

Help the church while you buy your groceries

Link your Smith's card to Shepherd of the  
Mountains Lutheran Church.

The church will receive a check for .5% of your purchases!

It's easy:

1. Sign in to your account and choose  
"My Account" in the top right corner.
2. This brings up a list on the left.  
Choose "Inspiring Donations."
3. Look for our organization number—YJ339



Sign up to assist or read via our "Sign Up Genius" volunteer system (email Tanya  
Shedd (thobbs6@hotmail.com) for more details).

Signing up is easy - visit **Sign Up Genius** at [Sign Up Genius](#) to volunteer.

You may also mail in your donations to

*Shepherd of the Mountains*  
P.O. Box 3257  
Jackson, WY 83001

**Your financial support is important to us!**

**Church Office Hours**  
**Tuesdays & Thursdays**  
**8:30 am - 3:30 pm**

## September 2021

Week of 5th	20	\$1,815.00
Week of 12th	20	\$967.00
Week of 19th	22	\$127.00
Week of 26th	19	\$1,187.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>\$4,096.00</b>

## HELP NEEDED!

	October 3 Pentecost 19	October 10 Pentecost 20	October 17 Pentecost 21	October 24 Pentecost 22	October 31 Pentecost 23
<b>Preacher</b>	Pastor Ben Nardi	Pastor Ben Nardi	Pastor Ben Nardi	Pastor Ben Nardi	Pastor Ben Nardi
<b>Assistant Minister</b>	Mizelle Family	Sherry Kinsella	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
<b>Reader</b>	Mizelle Family	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	Sherry Kinsella
<b>Ushers</b>	Mizelle Family	HELP NEEDED	Sherry Kinsella	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
<b>Counters</b>	Mizelle Family Pam Zernis	Sherry Kinsella	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	Sherry Kinsella
<b>Altar Minister</b>	Pam Zernis	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
<b>Piano</b>	Andrew Clark	Andrew Clark	Andrew Clark	Andrew Clark	Andrew Clark
<b>Council Greeter</b>	Sherry Kinsella	HELP NEEDED	Sherry Kinsella	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED