

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

Receiving God's grace. Sharing Christ's love with all people

Worship With Us
Sundays at 10 am

Office Hours:
Tuesday & Thursday
8:30 - 3:30
Pastor Tim Stadem

Do not fear the road ahead, because God walks with you and will never leave you.

Deuteronomy 31:6

September 2026



CREATION IN CHRIST CELEBRATION

"In the beginning was the Word...All things came to be through him."

Gospel of John

On the Sunday, September 6th our worship focus is: *'Creation in Christ'* – we hear of the triune God who creates all things: sun and moon, shining stars, sea monsters, creeping things and flying birds—and, of course, human beings. Ultimately, we celebrate this promise:

*God-in-Christ still takes care of all things and
invites us to join in as caretakers of God's good creation.*

Since the seventh century, September 1 has symbolized the day of the creation of the world in the Byzantine tradition and has been the 'opening feast of its liturgical year' (which is also in a parallel with the feast of Rosh Hashanah marking the Jewish New Year). For us in the Lutheran tradition, this ancient church beginning sounds like our Advent Season – where we begin our church liturgical year by opening our hearts and lives and responses to God's promise of salvation through God's incarnation in Jesus, and celebrating His birth at Christmas.

In 2024, a major conference in Assisi, Italy, gathered church leaders, scholars, and ecumenists to consider proposals for a "Feast of Creation" across Eastern and Western branches of the Christian traditions. These efforts continue across denominations worldwide, including in the ELCA, the Lutheran World Federation, and the World Council of Churches. And herein is the communal gift among ecumenical partners who celebrate in their unique traditions this Christ of all creation—Jesus Christ in all life.

(For more about this ancient tradition and invitation: www.feastofcreation.com/)

In the life of Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church, we are particularly fortunate to be the location of the Eastern Orthodox Church's worship in the Jackson area. They occasionally worship here on some Saturdays; we have reached out to them in friendship and faith regarding this feast of creation tradition. In addition, as the conclusion of this season of creation takes place with a commemoration of Francis of Assisi, we will again host a *'Blessing of Animals'* on Sunday, October 4th, like many other Christian communities in this world.

Finally, please consider a learning opportunity about a Christ-guided relationship with creation. Thursday, September 3, at 4:00pm is a 'creation care' zoom event, sponsored by EcoFaith Action Network in our synod. To find the free registration, google: *NWIM Synod – "Because You're Curious"* (or see the link on page 4)

In thanksgiving for Christ in all creation, the vast gifts of 'all life', and for creation's current need for healing...we pray.

In God's good graces, Pastor Tim

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church, ELCA
 750 Seneca Lane, PO Box 3257, Jackson, WY 83001
 307-733-4382 office@sotmlc.org www.shepherdofthemountainsjh.org

Pastor Tim Stådem
 970-219-2277 (please feel free to call & text)
 pastor.tim@sotmlc.org



September 2026 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Quilt 10 am AA 6:30pm	2	3 Church Rental 6:00pm AA 6:30pm	4	5 Church Rental 1-5
6 Creation in Christ Bible Class 9am Worship 10am Worship Board meets after church	7 Labor Day 	8 Bible & Breakfast 9am on Zoom Quilt 10 am Women's Potluck Lunch & Bible Study 11:30am  AA 6:30pm	9	10 Church Rental 6:00pm AA 6:30pm	11 Set Up for Old Bill's Day 4:30 pm	12 Old Bill's Fun Run Race & Booth Day. 8 am booth setup 
13 Pentecost 16 Bible Class 9am Worship 10am Council meets after worship Church Rental 1-4	14	15 Bible & Breakfast 9am on Zoom Quilt 10am AA 6:30pm	16	17 Church Rental 6:00pm AA 6:30pm	18 Meet & Eat Fiesta Friday Potluck Meal 5:30 pm Old Bill's Giving Ends 	19
20 Pentecost 17 Bible Class 9am Worship 10am Church Rental 1-4	21 Outreach Board 6:22pm	22 Bible & Breakfast 9am on Zoom Quilt 10am AA 6:30pm	23	24 Church Rental 6:00pm AA 6:30pm	25	26
27 Pentecost 18 Bible Class 9am Worship 10am Church Rental 1-3 Will Perkins Music Concert 4:00 	28	29 Bible & Breakfast 9am on Zoom Quilt 10am AA 6:30pm	30			

Ragtime Concert



On **Sunday, September 27th** we will sponsor another piano concert featuring Will Perkins. Will will have us tapping our toes and dancing in the isles to his amazing assortment of Jazz piano music. Will Perkins, RPT, is East Idaho's leading piano expert and a graduate of the prestigious North Bennet Street School in Boston. While completing the school's renowned two-year piano technology program, he served as a technician for the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood, apprenticing with professionals from Juilliard, the Royal Conservatory, the Peabody Conservatory, and Steinway & Sons. After completing his training, Will returned to Idaho Falls, where he now provides expert piano tuning, voicing, and repair throughout East Idaho and Jackson Hole, Wyoming. In 2019, he was personally chosen by Roger Baker, RPT, to continue his legacy upon retirement—a testament to Will's skill, professionalism, and commitment to excellence.

Free-will donations from these performances will go toward future concerts and Outreach Ministries.



Give to Old Bills Now!



This year, we will once again participate on the event day by hosting a booth at the fun run on September 12th. Many volunteers will be needed, including you! We will be needing your help at the booth, on Friday from 4:30 - 5:30 and on Saturday beginning at 8 am, we hope you can come and help. Many volunteers will be needed, including you! If you wish to participate at our booth please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex, or just show up to help.

Old Bills giving runs through September 18th. We hope you can help others in our community, through giving in the name of Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church, by making any donation, big or small. We use our Old Bills money to reach out to our neighbors through providing rental assistance, grocery cards, or any assistance that stays within our community. This year our Outreach team will be thinking of new ways to help use those funds for those in need.

Watch for your flyer in the mail or go to <https://www.ldbills.org/donate> to donate.

Thank You!

September Meet & Eat



Need a night off from cooking, some fun fellowship & a delicious meal?

Join us at Shepherd of the Mountains Church for a

Fiesta Friday Potluck Supper

Friday, September 18th at 5:30

Come and enjoy tacos, nachos, Mexican food and margaritas!

Blessing of the Animals



Get your pets ready for our annual Blessing of the Animals events coming in October.

Pastor Tim will be hosting a community pet blessing event for our neighbors in the parking lot of the church on Saturday, October 3rd as well as a pet blessing during our Sunday service on October 4th.

Please watch your weekly emails and the October newsletter for more information.

Bible Study on Zoom - New Time

Tuesday Morning Bible Study on Zoom

Will be back beginning on Tuesday, September 8th

Our new meeting time will be 9 am every Tuesday morning.

For more information please email Scott Daily at scott.daily@outlook.com



Tanzania Solar Kitchen Gift Matching Opportunity

**Double Your
IMPACT**



Your donation towards the much-needed SOLAR KITCHEN at Tumaini Lutheran Seminary in Tanzania will be matched dollar-for-dollar by an anonymous donor up to a cumulative total of \$20,000 through November 15, 2026! This will allow us to reach our original funding goal of \$75,000 well ahead of schedule! Donations can be made either online at www.nwimsynod.org (specify "Global Mission, UKD Solar Kitchen") or by US Mail to the Synod Office noting "UKD Solar Kitchen". Thanks to those who have already donated to this project!

EcoFaith Prayer Service

You're invited to participate via YouTube in a **Feast of Creation Prayer Service** on September 1, offered by the EcoFaith Action Network of the Northwest Intermountain Synod. The service will premiere on their YouTube Channel at 9:00am PT/10:00am MT and will be available to view anytime afterward. Subscribe to the EcoFaith Action Network's YouTube channel [HERE](#).



The Feast of Creation (also being called Feast of Creation in Christ) is a new, ecumenical feast day proposed for the lectionary. To get on EcoFaith's distribution list for more information about the prayer service and future events, send an email to EcoFaithNWIM@gmail.com. More information about the proposed feast is available [HERE](#) and in this [ELCA liturgy guide for the festival](#).

EcoFaith Conversation



An EcoFaith Conversation about Solar for the Good of the World

featuring Bishop Meggan Manlove and Bill McKibben

Thursday, September 3 on Zoom at 4 pm

We will look through the lens of faith to see all energy as sacred gift, learn how solar is changing lives around the world, and take a close-up look at a solar-powered congregation in our synod.

[Register here](#) and we'll welcome you to the conversation with a zoom link.

Because you're curious is a zoom conversation organized by the NWIM EcoFaith Action Network, a group of curious people joyfully living into a life of Earthcare as part of our faithful witness.

Women's Bible Study

The June Women's Bible Study will take place on

Tuesday, September 8th from 11:30 to 12:15

The women will focus on God's Name, God's Promise - Book of Exodus and John's Gospel.

The group will be continuing the series on Faithfulness



Thank You

This month we will recognize a few of our church heroes for their steadfast fellowship and love to our church family.



Thank you to the amazing Xinlu Huang for the beautiful music that she brings to our small and grateful congregation each Sunday and at her concerts.

Thank you to Lauren Hoffman for her amazing flute playing on August 23rd.

Thank you to Steffan for our delicious fellowship coffee.

Thank you to Pam for our communion wine.

Thank you to Pastor Tim for being the glue that keeps our merry band together!

Thank you to our Outreach Board for your hard work.

Thank you to Rusty Mizelle and Tim Cline for painting the swing set.

Prayers & Thanksgivings



Prayers for those on new health journeys.

Prayers for Nikki Thompson, health.

Prayers for Robyn Lunsford as she continues on her health journey.

Prayers for the family of Dick Riddle.

Prayers for Tom

Prayers for Nepal

Prayers for those suffering with loneliness, depression, mental illness or ill health.

Prayers for those affected by the devastating wild fires in the west.

Lifting others in our prayers.

Individuals will remain on our Prayer List for a period of 3 weeks. Please continue to hold them in your prayers after that. Please let us know if you would like people to return to the list for another 3 weeks.

Please email the church office with your prayers.

Church Council

Please know that your Church Council is always here to serve you and listen to your questions and concerns.

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

Church Council

President: Rusty Mizelle

Vice President: Steffan Freeman

Secretary: John Parisee

Council Members:

Brook Redwine

Tim Cline

Di Meister

Pastor Tim Stadem

September Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays

Kim Hunt on September 6th

Betsy Grande on September 6th

Di Meister on September 7th

Christopher Thompson on September 9th

Steffan Freeman on September 10th

Rusty Mizelle on September 12th

Pam Zernis on September 13th

Pastor Tim on September 30th

Anniversaries

John & Nancy Parisee on September 11th

Please contact the church office if you would like your birthday or anniversary listed in our newsletter.

So Much To Be Grateful For!

August Meet & Eat

Below Left: Members of the congregation and guests take time to chat while enjoying some delicious "Hometown" food during the August Meet & Eat.



Guest Pastor

Right: Rev. Kimmy Meinecke, a Lutheran pastor serving St. David Episcopal Church in Spokane, Washington joined us for worship on Sunday, August 9th. Kimmy was the keynote leader the day before at a conference in Pocatello – 'United at the Font'. Our synod sponsored her to bring messages in word and song and faith companion to our congregation.



Xinlu's Gift of Music

Right: Leland Brendsel congratulates Xinlu on another beautiful concert.

Below: 66 were in attendance for Xinlu Huang's classic piano concert on August 30th. The event raised \$166 for Jackson Elementary School and \$720.50 toward future music concerts and our outreach mission.



August 9, 2026

1) Outreach Discussion with several Outreach Board leaders – Scott Daily, Robyn Lunsford, and Brook Redwine; regarding the last training event named: *Outreach for Introverts*. We are preparing for congregational engagement in the Fall with what we are learning about connecting with our neighbors and others in community involved with like-minded ministry.

2) Invitation to council and outreach board regarding next event: coaching on August 29th – a zoom training that includes specific conversations with our coach about our congregation's circumstances and mission.

3) Recommendation from Funding Forward Committee–Rusty Mizelle, Chris Moulder, and Pastor Tim about potential income; focus on leveraging our building and location. The recommendation includes the potential for more hosting of weddings. Council will investigate; make a final decision at Sept meeting.



Grief Group Support



A grief support group for those whose spouse or life partner has died will be held on Wednesday afternoons from 3:00 – 4:30 pm MT starting Sept.16 and ending Dec. 2, 2026. Another grief support group for those who have lost a parent or parents will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 15 and go through Dec.1, 2026. This one will meet in the evening from 7:00 – 8:30 pm MT. The groups will meet via Zoom. The only cost for either group is the cost of the two books we will use. They are “Understanding Your Grief: Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart” by Dr. Alan Wolfelt, along with the companion Journal. Together the books cost around \$30 and we will give you several places where you can purchase them. These are “closed” groups meaning that once we begin new people will not be allowed to join. If after a couple of sessions, you decide this isn’t for you, you may quit the group. The groups will be limited to eight people each. If you are interested in this group, please email Barbara Condon at barbarajhc@gmail.com to reserve a spot and ask any questions that you may have.

Lutherans Helping Around the World

Help for Nepal

Communities in Nepal are facing catastrophic loss after deadly, devastating floods. On Aug. 26, powerful floodwaters carrying glacial ice and mud swept down the Himalayas through a mountain valley. Hundreds of people have died, and hundreds more remain missing as families are waiting for news of loved ones. Homes have been destroyed, roads and bridges are gone, and entire communities are struggling to access basic necessities.

Lutheran World Relief has set up a page so you can help to donate for relief of this region. Please see the link below if you would like to help.



Help for Devastating Fires in Spokane

Today, our neighbors in Spokane, Washington, are reeling from devastating wildfires that have spread rapidly, jumped rivers and reduced large areas to ash. News reports suggest that these fires may have been set intentionally, making this disaster all the more harrowing. Our local partners have reached out to request emergency support, as the losses are immense.



Responding to the wildfires in the Spokane area our synod invites us to join in praying for our neighbors—there and in so many other places. And our financial generosity brings great help and comfort.

Please consider donating here [Donate to Lutheran Disaster Response](#) where your gifts are directly applied to those in need.

Giving



Welcome to our online Giving platform.

Through online giving you can pay by credit, debit, or by online checking. You can also give by texting

SMLCJH to the number 73256

To give or set up payments online, simply click on the link below and you're on your way!

<https://onrealm.org/ShepherdMountainJH/Give>

You may mail 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

Giving While You Shop at Smith's

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



Volunteering Each Week

Sunday Servants

Sign up to assist or read

There is now a physical sign-up sheet in the church narthex.

You can also call the church office if you wish to sign up.

August 2026

August 2	27	\$3,175.00
August 9	32	\$4,483.00
August 16	38	\$1,566.13
August 23	29	\$759.00
August 30	27	\$1,398.00

\$3,275.00 is needed weekly
your donations matter!

	September 6 Pentecost 15	September 13 Pentecost 16	September 20 Pentecost 17	September 27 Pentecost 18
Musician	Nancy Wilbrecht	Xinlu Huang	Beverly Charette	TBD
Assistant Minister	Brook Redwine	Rusty Mizelle	Jolene Moulder	Nancy Parisee
Reader	David Svendsen	Tim Cline	Chris Moulder	John Parisee
Greeter/Ushers	Nikki Thompson	John Parisee	Robyn Lunsford	Tim Cline
Head Offering Counter	Pam Zernis	Sherry Kinsella	Brook Redwine	Jolene Moulder
Altar Guild	Brook Redwine	Robyn Lunsford	Sherry Kinsella	Pam Zernis
Coffee Maker	Lorrie Lee	Jolene Moulder	Brook Redwine	Pastor Tim