

**Community: All That And A Bag of Chips**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This week, one of my favorite television series ever, *Reservation Dogs*, aired its last episode.

It is the story of four friends, Indigenous teens, who live in a reservation town in Oklahoma, and their growing understanding about what it really means to care for one another and to care for their community.

Officially a comedy, the show consistently carries me on a roller coaster of emotions. I can be laughing hysterically one minute and feel my eyes well up with tears of sadness the next. This is often the case for storytelling that touches at the heart of what it means to be human.

Early in the series, one of the four teens, Bear, begins to be regularly visited by William Knifeman, the spirit of a native warrior who had died "less than heroically" 150 years earlier at the Battle of Little Big Horn. (He died when his horse stepped in a gofer hole.) This spirit is both hilarious and wise, and their journey together helps Bear and his friends work through their grief at the loss of their friend Daniel, who had committed suicide.

Throughout the series, many characters are visited by the spirits of loved ones, who help them work through conflicts or make peace with one another. And these spirits are always less than perfect themselves.

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**Daily Readings****October 1**

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalms 25:1-9

Philippians 2:1-13

Matthew 21:23-32

**October 2**

Psalms 42

Exodus 18:1-12

Philippians 1:3-14

**October 3**

Psalms 42

Exodus 18:13-27

Philippians 1:15

**October 4**

Psalms 42

Exodus 19:9b-25

Matthew 9:2-8

**October 5**

Psalms 19

Exodus 23:1-9

Colossians 2:16-23

**October 6**

Psalms 19

Exodus 23:14-19

Philippians 2:14-18

3:1-4a

**October 7**

Psalms 19

Exodus 23:10-13

John 7:40-52

**October 8**

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalms 80:7-15

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

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## **Community: All That And A Bag of Chips**

The final episode was not a “happily ever after” ending, but one that made you feel that these beloved characters were heading down a good path and that their community had become stronger and more connected through their struggles.

On the day that I am writing this, it is officially “Michael and All Angels”, September 29<sup>th</sup>. Lutherans have a “sometimes conflicted” relationship with saints and angels. Our expression of the Christian Faith is one rooted in our unfettered access to God’s grace. No mediaries or go-betweens. However, we do celebrate the lives of those who have gone before us and are now part of the heavenly host. We join them in heavenly praise of God as sisters and brothers in Christ.

The reading for Michael and All Angels is Luke 10:17-20. Jesus had commissioned seventy of his followers to go out ahead of him to places he intended to visit. The seventy returned with joy at the success of their endeavor, where even demons submitted to the authority that they carried with them in Jesus name. Tamping down their enthusiasm, Jesus redirects their celebration upward. “Nevertheless, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but that your names are written in heaven.” (Luke 10:20)

In the proper preface to the eucharistic prayer that we hear each communion Sunday, the presider prays, “with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn...”

We are not the church alone, but the church together. Not only do we carry the gospel into the world, but we carry one another with us as well. “Rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another.” (Romans 12:15-16a)

In a profound scene from Rez Dogs, one of the four teens, Willie Jack, goes to visit her Aunt Hokti in prison. Hokti was

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### **October 18**

Psalms 97  
2 Kings 17:7-20  
John 6:25-35

### **October 19**

Psalms 99  
Exodus 33:7-11 3  
John 9-12

### **October 20**

Psalms 99  
Exodus 31:1-11 1  
Peter 5:1-5

### **October 21**

Psalms 99  
Exodus 39:32-43  
Matthew 14:1-12

### **October 22**

Isaiah 45:1-7  
Psalms 96:1-9 [10-13]  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22

### **October 23**

Psalms 63:1-8  
Exodus 40:34-38  
Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20

### **October 24**

Psalms 63:1-8  
Numbers 12:1-9  
Revelation 18:21-24

### **October 25**

Psalms 63:1-8  
Numbers 13:1-2, 17-14:9  
Matthew 17:22-27

### **October 26**

Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17  
Deuteronomy 31:14-22  
Titus 1:5-16

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the mother of Daniel, the young teen who had taken his own life at the beginning of the series. She had been a healer in her community before Daniel's death, but due to her grief and guilt, found herself lost and behind bars. Willie Jack, her niece had reached out to Hokti.

Willie Jack and Hokti both had a mentor, an elder named Fixico. Fixico dies. In her grief, Willie Jack came to see Hokti to tell her of his passing. To demonstrate how their culture looked at death, Hokti demonstrated with snacks from the vending machine how to see the passing of loved ones. "Fixico is like this bag of chips," Hokti said. She then took all of the other snacks and put them in a circle on the table around the "Fixico" bag. She named all of the other snacks after people who Fixico taught and loved. Then, taking some chips from the bag in the middle, she placed a single chip on each of the items in the circle. "Fixico loved and left teachings with each of these people. A piece of Fixico will always be with them. And when we go into the world, a piece of Fixico goes with us."

When I saw this, all I could think was what a great lesson on both "community" and the "communion of saints". From biblical characters, to Sunday School teachers, to aunties and uncles who loved us, we carry one another out into the world.

In the scene from Luke 10, Jesus tells the seventy to rejoice that your names are written in heaven. Your name is part of a book called the communion of saints. Together with all of the other pages and chapters in the book of life, with angels and archangels, and the whole company of heaven, we praise God's name and join the unending hymn of heaven.

Peace!

Pastor Craig

### October 9

Psalm 119:49-56  
Deuteronomy 5:1-21  
1 Peter 2:4-2:4-10

### October 10

Psalm 119:49-56  
Deuteronomy 5:22-6:3 2  
Corinthians 5:17-21

### October 11

Psalm 119:49-56  
Deuteronomy 6:10-25  
John 11:45-57

### October 12

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Exodus 24:1-8 1  
Peter 5:1-5, 12-14

### October 13

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Exodus 24:9-11  
James 4:4-10

### October 14

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Exodus 24:12-18  
Mark 2:18-22

### October 15

Isaiah 25:1-9  
Psalm 23  
Philippians 4:1-9  
Matthew 22:1-14

### October 16

Psalm 97  
Exodus 32:15-35  
Jude 17-25

### October 17

Psalm 97  
Exodus 33:1-6  
Philippians 3:13-4:1

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Go, fight, win during Harvest Homecoming. This new fundraising event invites camp's biggest cheerleaders and most distinguished alumni to ensure the future of their summertime alma mater. The online auction, started September 22.

You can purchase tickets and plan to attend the big pep rally in-person beginning 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 1. Attendees can expect top-notch dinner service, live music, games, auction items, and plenty of chances to support the essential work of camp.

Every year, Camp Lutherwood Oregon becomes a home away from home for hundreds of kids, young adults, and families -- providing intentional experiences for all people to play, learn, and grow in the outdoors. Raise your paddle and your pom-poms this fall!

Find out more at: <https://event.auctria.com/1c3175e9-f37e-4fd7-8210-da6edd2d8bca/>



**To Benefit Missions  
Friday & Saturday  
October 6 & 7**

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
303 N, Church Street  
Silverton, Oregon

**October 27**

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
Deuteronomy 32:1-14, 18  
Titus 2:7-8, 11-15

**October 28**

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
Deuteronomy 32:44-47  
John 5:39-47

**October 29**

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18  
Psalm 1  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8  
Matthew 22:34-46

**October 30**

Psalm 119:41-48  
Numbers 33:38-39  
James 2:8-13

**October 31**

Psalm 119:41-48  
Exodus 34:29-35  
James 2:14-26

**Backpack Buddies Meal Schedule  
North Marion Schools  
Fall Schedule**

Faith in Action Sunday (130 meals) packed at Christ Lutheran Church	Sunday, October 8
Christ Lutheran Church	Wednesday, November 8
Christ Lutheran Church	Tuesday, December 5

**Birthdays**

Lynn Ries 5  
 Bill Lockett 10  
 Gail Woodard 10  
 Brenda Eggert 21  
 Charles Gunther 21  
 Kyle Zwicker 23  
 Gina Bayless 26  
 Don Greenfield 27  
 Cindy Caufield 27  
 Katie Zwicker 28  
 Thorsten Elliott 29

We continue with **65 sacks per week until further notice.** Thanks for your support!

Our liaison with the schools are the counselors at both the Primary School and the Intermediate School.

- Matt Haning is at the Primary School  
 (phone) 503-678-8501  
 (email) at [matt.haning@nmarion.k12.or.us](mailto:matt.haning@nmarion.k12.or.us)
- Kiley Mehlbrech is at the Intermediate School  
 (phone) 503-678-7129  
 (email) [Kiley.mehlbrech@nmarion.k12.or.us](mailto:Kiley.mehlbrech@nmarion.k12.or.us)

Deliveries can be made to the Primary School before Noon on the scheduled delivery day.

**Contact information**

- **Aurora Presbyterian**  
 Elaine Ihle [gary132@centurytel.net](mailto:gary132@centurytel.net)  
 Pastor Cynthia O'Brien [pastor@aurorapres.church](mailto:pastor@aurorapres.church)
- **Christ Lutheran Church**  
 Pastor Craig Johnson [pastorcraigjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcraigjohnson@gmail.com)  
 Marie Gunther [blkbry@msn.com](mailto:blkbry@msn.com)
- **Basic Skills Class**  
 Dana Everson [dana.everson@nmarion.k12.or.us](mailto:dana.everson@nmarion.k12.or.us)
- **North Marion Fellowship**  
 Anita Whitehead [anitawhitehead@wbcable.net](mailto:anitawhitehead@wbcable.net)  
 Pastor Jim Terwilliger [jim@nothmarionfellowship.com](mailto:jim@nothmarionfellowship.com);

**Council Thank You**

goes to the Altar Care team, both for ongoing service and in celebration of the new green paraments.

Council meetings are on 2nd Thursday of each month @ 6:30 pm unless otherwise noted.

## In Our Hearts & Prayers

Prayers for	Requested by
Amy	Barb B.
Anna (Grider) Westcott	Jim & Doris Grider
Beth Brandt	Mary W.
Betty Gerhardt	Kenton and Mary Wolfe
Bob and Sally Boonstra	Doris Grider
Brian Wolfe	Kenton & Mary
Brooke	Heather W
Carol Smith	Helen D
Celinda, family of	Helen D
Pastor Christine Core	PC
Colin Brown	Heather W
Dave Stegmeier	Dan and Lonnie Harms
Dexter Walter Family	Kay
Dorothy Chesley, family of	Marie Gunther
Eric Wechter	PC
Evie Berg	PC
Gene Free	Ilene Marnella
Heidi Daniel and family	PC
Howard & Kathy Brandt	Mary W.
Jan G	PC
Jill & Ray Goodness	Mary W.
Jill Wygant	Dan H
JoAnn Caufield	Cindy C
Joanna Painter	Dixie
Joyce Colvin	Susan W
Julie's Family	PC
Kate	PC
Kimberly Kyser	Cindy C
Kyla	Jordain
Larry Marnella	Ilene Marnella
Laurie Boyce	PC
Lawson Roberts	PC
Linda Bradley	Barb
Lynn Bloomfield	Lonnie and Dan Harms
Margaret Schultz	Marie Gunther
Matt H	PC
Mike Harms	Dan and Lonnie Harms
Mike McCue	Heather Wechter
Neal McLain	PC
Nicole Callahan	Sharon G.
Norman Colvin	Nancy
Piper	Heather W
Robert	Jordain
Roy Steven	Joyce
Sandi & Robbie Helman	Terri Weatherly
Sandra Villegas	Barb
Shirley Ann Andreason	Ilene Marnella
Summer Railey, Family of	PC
Sylvia Peter	PC
Teresa Condon	Michelle R
Traci	Barb B.
Vi Anderson	Judi

## WORSHIP HELPERS



10/1

Greeter: Dick Kaegi

Reader: Kenton Wolfe

Ushers: Lynn Bloomfield and Ilene Marnella

Donuts: Marie Gunther

10/8

Reader: Dan Harms

Ushers: Dan and Lonnie Harms

Coffee Host: Susan Williamson

10/15

Reader: Lynn Ries

Ushers: Lynn and John Ries

Coffee Host: Sonya Johnson

10/22

Reader: Burt Aus

Ushers: Burt and Judi Aus

Coffee Host:

Marvis Gilnett and Dixie Scheehear

10/29

Reader: Lance Lyon

Usher: Lance Lyon

Mini Pot Luck Host AKA Sweet and Savory Smorgasbord: Marie Gunther and Bonnie Johnson

# October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10 am Worship 7 pm AA	2 6 pm AA	3 6 pm AA	4	5	6	7
8 10 am Worship Backpack Buddies 7 pm AA	9 6 pm AA	10 6 pm AA	11	12 Council Meeting 6:30 pm	13 10 am Creative Gathering	14
15 10 am Worship 7 pm AA	16 6 pm AA	17 6 pm AA	18 3 pm Food Share	19	20	21
22 10 am Worship 11:30 am Endowment Team 7 pm AA	23 6 pm AA	24 3-4:30 pm North Marion Services Team Meeting, 6 pm AA	25	26	27	28
29 Reformation Sunday 10 am Worship 7 pm AA	30 6 pm AA	31 6 pm AA				



Christ Lutheran Church  
15029 2nd Street N.E.  
Aurora, OR 97002  
clcaurora.org  
(503) 678-5135

# COURIER



October 2023

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AURORA

