

# ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Office Number: 885-2221

Pastor Nathan Peitsch

Elders: Bruce Mohr: 269-8771; John Greder: 269-8337; Deryl Hennings: 885-2877; John McCall: 269-5163

NOVEMBER 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

As we look to November, it's rather surprising to realize that the year is almost over. Many of you I'm sure are getting ready for the holiday season. And with that in mind, we look ahead to our celebration of Thanksgiving. This holiday tends to be seen as a day to give thanks to God for the events of the last year. Perhaps you thank Him for the harvest, new additions to your family, or for seeing you through some difficulty.

No matter what you are thankful for as this holiday approaches, I'm sure many of you plan on celebrating it with a feast of some sort. This practice of gathering around food has been in place for centuries. We celebrate Thanksgiving the way we do because we are remembering that first thanksgiving feast as the pilgrims began to settle in the "new world". But the connection between thanks and feasting has been around for much longer than that.

In fact if we go back to the book of Leviticus, we find stipulations laid out for what was called the peace offering. (Lev. 7:12-13). One of the purposes of this peace offering was as a way of giving thanks to God for something. Unlike the burnt offering, this particular offering was to be eaten. It was essentially to be made into a feast. An important difference between this feasting and our own though was the Israelites were strictly forbidden to have leftovers. Leviticus 7:15 states: "Now as for the flesh of the sacrifice of his thanksgiving peace offerings, it shall be eaten on the day of his offering; he shall not leave any of it over until morning."

Could you imagine having to eat your entire Thanksgiving meal all on the same day, no leftovers allowed? Half the fun of a Thanksgiving meal is what you can make with what is left over. I love being able to put together a Thanksgiving sandwich filled with all the good things we had eaten just the day before. But this meal wasn't just about having a

great feast, it was about giving thanks to God for His goodness.

For this reason, a portion of the food that was brought for the thank offering was also to be dedicated to the Lord. This brought the focus back onto God's goodness and provision rather than simply focusing on the food.

Many of us still practice this sort of thanksgiving with friends or family. When someone does something for you, sometimes you give a little thank you: a card or a small gift of some kind. These are given as a way of offering thanks for what was done for you. And so it was with the people of Israel. They would offer something back to God to show their gratitude for what He had done, just as it should be with us. As we gather, we don't just gather to enjoy a meal together. We gather to give thanks together.

Many pray the simple table prayer, "Oh, give thanks unto the Lord." Others offer thanks for specific things. But whatever the case, don't let Thanksgiving pass you by without actually giving thanks. God has given you many good gifts. If you're not sure of this, take a look at Luther's explanation of the 4th petition:

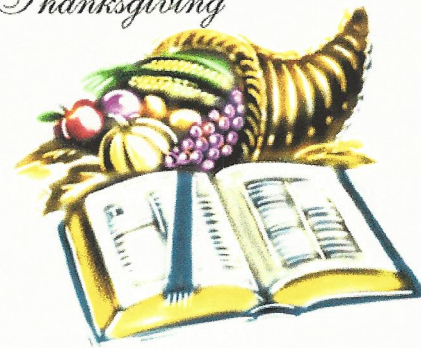
Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

And this is just the daily stuff we can thank God for. God also provides us with other blessings, like a bonus at work, or protection in an accident, family to help us through an illness or His continued care in the midst of that illness.

Last but not least, we are called to give thanks for spiritual gifts. St Paul gives thanks for the believers: thanking God for their faith (2 Thess. 1:3), for giving us a share in the eternal

inheritance (Col. 1:12), and for God's grace (1 Cor. 1:4). The salvation Christ has won for us is the ultimate reason for us to give thanks. While we may enjoy various earthly blessings from God, not everyone does. But because of the salvation won for us in Christ Jesus, we can all do as St Paul commands and, "give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thess. 5:18) God's continued blessings,  
Pastor Nathan Peitsch

*Prayer & Thanksgiving*

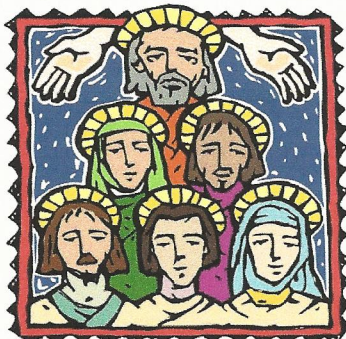


**Thanksgiving Eve Service  
Wednesday, November 27 at 7 p.m.**



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS**

Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour before going to bed on Saturday, November 2.



**ALL SAINTS' DAY**

Join us All Saints Sunday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> for recognition of the faithfully departed in this last year: Bert Hanson, Lynn Vinke, Gertrude Eneboe, Carolyn Seieroe, Norman Meadows, Lois Pottoroff, Glenn Ullerich.



**MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> the Elders Meeting is at 6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting is Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**LCW**

The LCW meeting is Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

**LYF**

The LYF will have a meeting on Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. On Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> the LYF will be helping at the Open Cupboard.



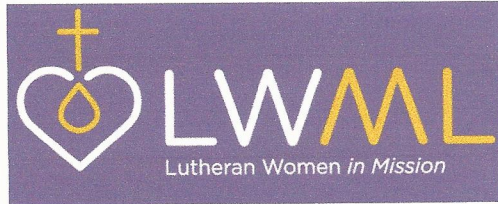
**2020 CHURCH OFFICER VOLUNTEERS**

If anyone has interest in serving as a church officer: Chairman, Elder, Trustee, Board of Education, Secretary, Treasurer, Stewardship Secretary, Auditing, Endowment Fund, Finance Committee or Sunday School Superintendent please contact the church or anyone on the Nomination Committee: Pastor, Bruce Mohr, Gary Goslar, Corey Meseck, Barb Mordhorst.

On the back table in church you can find more information on the job descriptions.

# CHRISTMAS EVE PRACTICE

Sunday School will begin earlier at 8:30 a.m. November 24 and during the month of December for Christmas Eve Practice. To help the Board of Education prepare for the Christmas Eve program we would like you to call the church or call or text Tina Bernholtz 712-269-3391 if your children will or maybe or will not be in the program.



LWML Sunday's noisy collection was 174.78. This will be sent to Mapleton Zone LWML and be used to fund some of the national mission projects. Thank you to St. Paul's congregation.



## ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN

Thank you for the donations for Orphan Grain Train. The next month we will be taking clothes is April.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you to all that donated to the Sunday School on October 27<sup>th</sup>.



### “THY STRONG WORD”

‘Thy Strong Word’ is a daily devotion airing at 6:25 a.m. Monday through Saturday on KDSN 107.1FM).

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| November 4-9   | Rev. Richard Merrill<br>St. John, Charter Oak |
| November 11-16 | Rev. Nathan Peitsch<br>St. Paul's, Ute        |
| November 18-23 | Rev. Mark Kluzek<br>Faith, Deloit             |
| November 25-30 | Rev. Josh Keinath<br>Zion, Denison            |

### MAIN STREET LIVING

Main Street Living is a television ministry of the Lutheran churches of Missouri-Synod and of the Iowa West District. The worship service is on Sundays at 10 am on channel 9 KCAU, the ABC Network from Sioux City.

### THY STRONG WORD

Thy Strong Word is a 5 min. daily devotional message given by LC-MS pastors of the Denison area and sponsored by area congregations including St. Paul's. It is aired at 6:25 a.m., Mon.-Sat. on KDSN, FM107.1

### GOOD SHEPHERD HOUR

This program is a ½ hour worship service heard on Sioux City, KSCJ, 1360 AM, at 8:00 am.



### BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS FOR NOVEMBER

We are listing Baptismal birthdays to remember and celebrate the day we were adopted into the family of God through the washing of the Holy Spirit. Those having Baptismal birthdays in November are:

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Ethan Winsor                            | 1  |
| Tory Greder                             | 2  |
| Sierra Sorensen                         | 4  |
| Jenna Hanson                            | 6  |
| Nick Goslar-Jeremy Creese-Gavin Purcell | 7  |
| Judi Krohn                              | 10 |
| Todd Teut                               | 11 |
| Michael Sorensen                        | 14 |
| John Dorale                             | 15 |
| Brian Vinke                             | 17 |
| Deanna Sorensen                         | 18 |
| Payton Thies, Preston Thies             | 23 |
| Dylan Meadows, Katy Krohn               | 24 |
| Kevin Vogt                              | 25 |
| Bruce Mohr, Ronnie Kroll                | 26 |
| Lauryn Bernholtz                        | 27 |
| Ray Dorale                              | 29 |



## **SUGGESTIONS FOR A SAFE WINTER**

As we head into the winter months, realize that snow and cold awaits us. At times, services may be held in less than ideal conditions. We encourage those with special concerns for dangerous conditions to use suitable caution. Reasonable effort will be made to have sidewalks clear, and ice melt placed where needed. Be cautious of the north parking lot, especially on mornings after a thaw and refreezing. We understand that for some it may be wiser to listen to services at home and not take chances.

If the weather is so severe that services are cancelled, it will be announced on KDSN radio: 107.1 FM and 1530 AM, and posted on church facebook and website. We will also use membercaller in the event of a cancellation. Please make sure we have your current phone number.



## **ADVENT DEVOTIONS FROM LHM**

Every year Lutheran Hour Ministries makes available Advent devotions. Copies of this devotion can be picked up at church in mid-November. You can also read the devotion each day at [www.lhm.org/advent](http://www.lhm.org/advent).

Call His Name Jesus

In *Call His Name Jesus*, Lutheran Hour Ministries' Advent devotions for 2019, we encounter an oft-told story in fresh, new ways. During the Christmas season, we focus our thoughts on that moment in time when God became one of us. This miracle of miracles—this most unlikely story—begins with the Christ Child—God in the flesh—who was born poorly, humbly, vulnerably into this world of sin and darkness.

"Christmas marks the point in human history where God's long-declared promise of redemption was fulfilled in the birth of Christ. This is the start of God's final act to save us," said Dr. Kari Vo, theological writer for LHM and the author of this year's devotions. The conclusion of this drama has our Savior again poor, humble, and vulnerable, as He bears the awful weight of our sins on the cross at Golgotha.

## **NEWSLETTER SPONSORS**

Thank you to Mona Pithan for sponsoring the newsletter this month.

Please contact the office if you'd like to sponsor the newsletter. The cost is \$37.



## **LERT TRAINING**

Facilitator - Ellie Menz, IDW Disaster Response Coordinator

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2019

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

641 3RD Ave

MANILLA, IOWA

9 AM - 12 PM

Registration begins at 8 AM

Light breakfast and lunch served

Register online at

<https://form.jotform.com/81215292634959>

(ENTER TRAINING CODE: 0034) Or contact

Jill

Davis at the IDW office: 515-576-7666



## **MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST AND BIBLE STUDY**

Iowa District West LLL/LHM

When: Saturday, November 9, 2019

8:30 am Registration & Breakfast; 11:15

Closing

Where: Trinity Lutheran Church,

311 North Hwy 4, Mallard, Iowa

Speaker: Rev. Dr. James Lamb

Topic: Update on Iowa Pro-Life Legislation

Cost: \$15

Spread the word among the grandpas, the

fathers, and the sons

of your family and your church!

For more information,

contact John Tews

([valleyins@netins.net](mailto:valleyins@netins.net) or

641-740-0126 cell).