



NEW MEMBERS THROUGH ADULT CONFIRMATION
ALONZO & AMBER MARQUEZ, MERRY ZUMWALT, JERICHO VERTAIN, AND NORBERT & RHONDA SANCHEZ

THE TRINITARIAN



THE NEWSLETTER OF
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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Bible Classes and Sunday School 9:00 AM
Divine Service 10:15 AM



NOVEMBER 2023 -- VOLUME 61 No. 11

FROM THE PASTOR

Eph. 2:19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the **saints** and members of the household of God

This year you are getting the November newsletter a couple of days before the 1st of November. As Halloween and All Saints day and Thanksgiving are before you (If you are reading this before then) I thought I would kind of combine them in this article.

According to the Encyclopedia Britannica the origin of Halloween came about after Pope Boniface IV, around AD 600 created All Saints Day to counteract various pagan celebrations of the festivals of the dead. Pope Gregory moved the holiday to November 1 as an alternative to those festivals which usually were in October. Christians were wanting to celebrate something having a positive spiritual value.

The term Halloween came from All Hallow Evening which was shortened to Hallowe'en to Halloween. For Protestants and especially Lutherans, October 31 is celebrated as the day when the 95 Thesis were nailed to the church door, starting the Protestant reformation.

As we celebrate All Saints Day, Pastor Buttke will be handling that service on the 5th of November. He will bring up the death of Saints from this congregation who have died over this past year.

Yes these are two Holidays but what connection do they have with the later celebration of Thanksgiving? The celebration of the lives and deaths of those who have gone on to be with the Lord for all who believe is a Thanksgiving to the Lord of those lives who touched ours over the years and have added to our lives all these years we have know these saints.

As we think of Thanksgiving, celebrating with good food and family, we may also want to give thanks for those saints who have gone on to be with Him, as we give thanks for His sacrifice for us. We can give thanks to the Lord on all these Holy days as we celebrate other things that have been a blessing to us.

Enjoy this next month as we, once again, take time out to give thanks for all we have been given, things and people.

Pastor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

With our annual meeting imminent, scheduled for November 12, we still ask for names to run for Trustee and at least two Elder positions. Anyone interested should speak to the current incumbent or any of the other officers. Those incumbents who are stepping down have served well and deserve to be relieved by those willing to take up the reins.

Our fund to support the Lutheran Seminary being built in Siberia will be closed at the end of this year and the funds collected remitted to the Rocky Mountain District. Presently we have reached approximately two thirds of the goal we established when charged by the District to participate in this effort. Let's try to close that gap between now and the end of the year and fill the "thermometer" posted in the narthex.

Dick Dommers, Congregation President

ELDER'S MESSAGE

What are you thankful for?

This is the month of Thanksgiving when we celebrate the day by stuffing ourselves with all those wonderful foods. Perhaps, we then settle into our couches and watch the seemingly endless football games. Maybe we choose to just enjoy the company of friends and family. Whatever the activities we choose, do we really think about the true blessings we have been given by God.

Aside from the almost ritual prayer before the meal, how many times can you recall discussing the true blessed gift given us daily, the knowledge that Jesus Christ died so we might have eternal life?

Do you thank God daily for that gift He gave us all by Grace through Faith? Ephesians 2:8-9 "for by Grace you have been saved through faith. And this is 'not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 'not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

Our connection to God and Jesus Christ is through prayer and His Word and sacraments. Is your connection with God disrupted by all the worldly distractions?

Do you pray and get into God's Word on a daily basis for all the blessings He has given you or only when you think He can solve your problem?

PRAY, and READ

James R. Wilkes, Elder

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

YEAR-TO-DATE September 30, 2023

Total Income	\$156,579.47
Total Expenses	<u>(\$143,348.76)</u>
Profit/Loss	\$ 13,230.71

Bob Klose, Vice-President

EVANGELISM

Tract of the Month: November's booklet is "[A Biblical Response to Islam](#)". Christians who wish to start a conversation or dialog with Muslims must understand the basics of Islam and how it both overlaps and differs from Christianity. "This booklet provides Christians with some basic teachings of both so that commonalities and differences can be identified and understood." From that point one "can lovingly and uncompromisingly point out how the Gospel differs from Muhammad's message so that Muslims can see God's love as revealed in Jesus Christ." What better time is there to learn about the similarities and differences between Islam and Christianity. Be sure to pick up a copy of this month's tract or any of the previous month's tracts to read! They are on the spinner rack in the Narthex.

The mission for November and December is Lutheran Heritage Foundation: Imagine trying to understand Scripture in all its richness without the benefit of Luther's *Small Catechism*. Or trying to teach young children about basic Bible stories without books like *A Child's Garden of Bible Stories*. For Lutheran churches around the world, these situations are reality. They don't have the basic books, so vital to understanding the Lutheran faith, because no one has translated them into their languages. *Through the mission gifts of people like you, LHF translates, publishes, distributes and introduces books that are Bible-*

based, Christ-centered and Reformation-driven. In more than 90 countries and 145 languages, thousands of people have come to faith in Christ because they've been able to read books like *The Good News About Jesus* or Luther's *Small Catechism* in their own languages. LHF has published the catechism in more than 110 languages with dozens more requested. In the past decade, LHF has published and distributed over 1,300 titles and 3 million Lutheran books to pastors, seminary students, missionaries, and churches – all at no cost to them.

“The Chosen”: The next showing of *“The Chosen”* will be on November 19th. The featured episode from season 2 will be Spirit. In this episode Jesus, Simon Peter, Andrew, and Phillip meet with John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin. Jesus speaks with John privately, where John tells Jesus of his plans to confront King Herod. John asks Jesus why he's taking so long to begin His public ministry. Please plan to join us after the church service, in the Bible Study room.

Meeting Notes: At our last meeting for budget purposes, we discussed plans & prices for the TV, Wi-Fi, and other purchases we plan to make in the upcoming year.

The Next Evangelism Committee meeting will be Monday November 13th at 5:30pm. We welcome anyone that may wish to attend.

In closing I would like to quote **Matthew 9: 37-38** ³⁷Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field.”

Yours in Christ,
Cheryl Sandenaw, Evangelism Chairman

EDUCATION

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Sue Kelly. There were 7 people in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS: Sue advised the group she talked with Pastor about doing Sunday School during church services and he said no. Pastor suggested mailing lessons home to those who do not attend on a weekly basis. There was a discussion about Sunday School attendance and some suggestions were made by a few of the members in attendance. There are about 13 children from our directory that could be attending Sunday School, but we are only seeing about 2 coming on some Sunday mornings. It was discussed that it is not a priority for parents or mind set for parents during current times. A suggestion was made by Lola to send a letter home to the parents expressing concern over the children not attending. The suggestion was put on hold to try other options first. A suggestion was made to try doing Sunday School after church since parents and their children would already be here. It was discussed and decided that the starting the first Sunday in November we would take the children out of church during the last hymn and run Sunday School class for about 30-45 minutes while the parents mingle with the congregation over donuts and coffee. A family craft/activity may also be sent home to be done during the week. Parents will be sent a letter, signed by the Education Director and Pastor, explaining the idea and asked to give feedback later in the month. The Director of Education will talk to Pastor about the idea and if he agrees the trial of this new time will start the first Sunday in November. After the feedback has been collected from parents and students, the committee will meet to decide if it will continue at the new time or if something else needs to be tried. All during the trial period those students who don't/are unable to attend will still be mailed the lessons each week.

NEW BUSINESS: The activity days during long school breaks, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Spring break, was discussed. We will offer our first one to the local community and our children on Wednesday, November

22 from 1:00-3:30 pm here at the church and Abby Anderson will be leading it with Sue Kelly as her helper and adult in charge. Abby will be putting together a Bible lesson, craft, games, and snack to use during the activity day. The sign will be put up outside of church so the surrounding community will know when it is happening. We will also be doing 2 days during Christmas break and 1 day during Spring break.

The committee will also be looking at what materials will need to be purchased for the rest of the year to mail the lessons home each week. It will be discussed and investigated at the next committee meeting.

Jill Clark suggested we might want to look at doing a trunk or treat next year for Halloween where we could pass out candy and some evangelism things too. It was tabled for a future date.

Questions were asked about how confirmation was going on Friday's afterschool and Pastor's ideas for the middle school students on early release Wednesdays. Sue said she would talk to Pastor Heithold and inform the committee at the next meeting.

Stacey Johnson mentioned calendars were ordered to be sold to raise money for the youth and asked the committee how much they should be sold for because last year not all the calendars sold. Twenty-five calendars were ordered this year at a cost of \$4.50 apiece. It was decided by the committee to sell them for \$5.00 a piece because the youth group is small, and no plans have been made for activities/trips. Sale of the calendars will probably start in the next 2 weeks.

Lola Ableidinger suggested we add prayers for the children and their parents along with our Sunday School in our weekly prayers on Sunday morning. Everyone thought it was a good idea to bring to Pastor Heithold. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Blessings,
Susan Kelly, Director of Education

LWML NOVEMBER NEWS

Quote from Martin Luther: "To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.

This is a perfect lead in for our LWML meeting for the month of November. On Saturday November 11th at 10am we will be having a prayer service led by Belinda Burmeister. Once a year we have a prayer service and even if you do not regularly attend, this is the perfect opportunity to join your fellow sisters in Christ for time spent in prayer.

This past month we had a regular business meeting. We were a small group but we were able to get a lot accomplished. Also we had a special event-the eclipse. Collections were brought for Love Inc.

There will be a board meeting at 8:30 on Tuesday, November 7 to work on our standing rules for presentation to the rest of the group.

Below in the newsletter you will find information regarding Thanksgiving baskets for families who have a need. What a blessing that we are able to provide for others! Also our Christmas project will be highlighted elsewhere.

Our Bake Sale for mites was held on LWML Sunday and raised \$408.00 for missions. Thank you to all those who baked the treats and all those who purchased them.

As we enter the month of November we prepare for Thanksgiving, it is the perfect time to reflect on all that we are grateful for and the God that has bestowed these blessings on us.

Vicki Leonard, LWML President

LWML NOVEMBER & DECEMBER PROJECTS

Two of LWML yearly projects are coming up in November and December, so please mark your calendars. The first is the Thanksgiving Food Baskets in November and the second is the Christmas gift tree in December. If you know the name of a family who could use a Thanksgiving basket, please let Cheryl Richey (575-214-9942) or Bev Van Duyn (575-434-5048) know. A list of items that you can donate to the baskets will in the church bulletin starting the first Sunday in November and in the Trinitarian. All food donations need to be brought to the church by Friday, November 17th. The Christmas gift tree will be up by Sunday, December 3rd for you to choose an ornament to make a child's Christmas special. All gifts need to be wrapped and brought to the church by Sunday, December 17th. If you have any questions about the Christmas gift tree, please contact Sue Kelly (575-430-2100) or Yvonne Steeby (575-442-6169).

LWML THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS

Please have all your contributions (food & \$\$\$) to the church by Sunday, November 17th.

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|--------|--------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Week 1 | 31-Oct | Box of Cereal |
| | 1-Nov | Jar of Peanut Butter |
| | 2-Nov | Stuffing Mix |
| | 3-Nov | Box Potatoes |
| | 4-Nov | Macaroni & Cheese |
| | 5-Nov | Can of Fruit |
| | 6-Nov | Cake Mix/Icing |
| Week 2 | 7-Nov | Jar of Applesauce |
| | 8-Nov | Can of Sweet Potatoes |
| | 9-Nov | Can of Tomatoes |
| | 10-Nov | Can of Tuna |
| | 11-Nov | Can of Cranberries |
| | 12-Nov | Pkg of Beans |
| | 13-Nov | Box of Crackers |
| | 15-Nov | Pkg of Pasta |
| | 16-Nov | Spaghetti Sauce |
| | 17-Nov | Chicken Noodle Soup |
| | 18-Nov | Tomato Soup |
| | 19-Nov | Cans of Corn and Green Beans |
| | 20-Nov | Can of Mixed Vegetables |
| Week 4 | 21-Nov | Can of Pie Filling
or \$\$\$ towards a turkey |

MAUI DISASTER RELIEF

Here are some sites to send money for disaster relief for Maui:

LCMS: <https://www.lcms.org/givenow/disaster>

California, Hawaii, Nevada District LCMS: <https://www.cnh-lcms.org/>

Emmanuel Lutheran LCMS Maui, HI <https://www.elc-maui.org/>

BACKPACK MINISTRY

We are still collecting food items for the Love INC Backpack Ministry this school year. Please leave your donations in the tub in the south hallway. A list of items needed is posted above the tub. You may make a monetary donation if you prefer. Contact me at 575-214-9942 if you have any questions. Thank you for your support. Cheryl Richey.

Back Pack Food Suggestions

Small boxes of Cereal

Fruit cups

Cheese Crackers

Soups or stews

Juice Boxes

Cereal Bars

Shelf stable milk boxes

Small bags of Chips

Tuna or Chickens salads

Fresh Fruits

Other suggestions are welcomed and appreciated!

NOVEMBER 2023 STEWARDS FOR CHRIST

ELDERS

Nov. 5 Robert Rentschler
Nov. 12 Jim Wilkes
Nov. 19 Matt Anderson
Nov. 23 Robert Rentschler (Thanksgiving)
Nov. 26 Glen Schlehuser

READERS

Nov. 5 George & Marianne Schweers
Nov. 12 Shirley Enyeart & Hannah Keeler
Nov. 19 Larry & Beverly Van Duyn
Nov. 23 Dick Dommers & Cheryl Sandenaw
(Thanksgiving)
Nov. 26 George & Marianne Schweers

TELLERS

Nov. 5 Shirley Enyeart & Vicki Leonard
Nov. 12 Megan Bowman & Dick Dommers
Nov. 19 Cheryl Sandenaw & Linde Van Cleave
Nov. 23 Lola Ableidinger & Nora Sotak
(Thanksgiving)
Nov. 26 Susan Kelly & Sandy Klose

HOSTS

Nov. 5 Lewis & Kelly Thomas
Nov. 12 Darrell & Sheila Anderson
Nov. 19 Matt & Cindi Anderson
Nov. 26 Tom Blackmon & Hannah Keeler

SOUND TECH

Nov. 5 Ben Clark
Nov. 12 Bob Klose
Nov. 19 Matt Anderson
Nov. 23 Matt Anderson (Thanksgiving)
Nov. 26 Jim Kline

MUSIC

Not Available at this time.

NOVEMBER ALTAR COMMITTEE

Diane Kline & Cheryl Richey

NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE

Cheryl Sandenaw

USHERS

Nov. 5 Tom Blackmon, Jim Fladhammer
Larry & Beverly Van Duyn
Nov. 12 Marvin Bunker, Susan Kelly
Glen & Christine Schlehuser
Nov. 19 Robert & Trey Johnson
Bob & Tammy Thede
Nov. 26 Bob & Sandy Klose
Gerald Moore & Irvin Torres

NOVEMBER FLOWERS

Nov. 5 David & Yvonne Steeby
Lola Ableidinger
Nov. 12 Jim & Diane Kline
Nov. 19 Bob & Sandy Klose
Nov. 26 Rick & Nora Sotak

ALWAYS THANKFUL

Martin Rinkart, a German Lutheran minister, wrote the hymn “Now Thank We All Our God” in 1636. At the time, the Thirty Years’ War was ravaging central Europe, claiming millions of lives. Rinkart served as pastor in Eilenburg, a walled town that became a crowded refuge for starving fugitives. Although Rinkart was struggling to provide for his own family, he opened his own home to people in need.

After the plague entered Eilenburg, Rinkart conducted up to 50 funerals a day — including services for his wife and the only other two pastors in town. Amid the despair, he wrote many hymns, including “Now Thank We All Our God.” Originally intended as a table prayer, it’s now sung at Thanksgiving to remember God’s “countless gifts of love” — even during hardships.

“I have never understood why anyone would roast the turkey and shuck the clams and crisp the croutons and shell the peas and candy the sweet potatoes and compote the cranberries and bake the pies and clear the table and wash the dishes and fall into bed exhausted when they could just as easily sit back and enjoy a hamburger or a pork sandwich.”

—*The Turkey*

