



*Trinity Lutheran Church
November, 2018*



*Give Thanks to the
Lord
for He is good.
His love endures
Forever.*

Psalm 136:1



What are you thankful for? Are you even thankful? Martin Luther, in his explanation to the Second Commandment, says, “We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.” The question that needs to be asked is this: Do we praise and give thanks to God for what He has given to us?

We all know how to pray to God when things are bad in our lives, when we are in trouble, or when situations seem beyond our control. We pray to God, as He asks us to do. But when times are good, when God has blessed us with good things, do we tend to thank God as we should?

Luther goes on to say this in the Large Catechism: “On the other hand, children should be constantly urged and moved to honor God’s name and to have it always upon their lips for everything that may happen to them or come to their notice. For that is the true honor of His name, to look to it and call upon it for all consolation. Then—as we have heard in the First Commandment—the heart by faith gives God the honor due Him first. Afterward, the lips give Him honor by confession.”

Thanksgiving for us should be more than one obligatory day of the year; it should be daily for us, for God grants us His blessings daily and not just once a year.

Oh, may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us
And keep us in His grace
And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next!

LSB 895:2



Advent Services

December 5th ~ 7:00pm

December 12th ~ 7:00pm

December 19th ~ 7:00pm

Christmas Eve Services

December 24th ~ 5:00pm

Candlelight ~ 10:00pm

Christmas Day Divine Service

December 25th ~ 9:30am

Sunday, December 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23th
are at the regular scheduled time, 9:00am.



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry November 2018 Newsletter Article

Sometimes people don't like it when pastors talk about stewardship. For some, it hits too close to home. It is easier to talk about bad people in Washington, in history, or overseas than it is to think about what our daily life in Christ is supposed to look like – how we are supposed to love our neighbor.

The fact that we don't like hearing about stewardship certainly means we ought to face it. Here are a few simple and practical realities.

God calls us to first-fruits, sacrificial giving. This means we should give off the top. We should set a percentage of our income as a deliberate gift for the work of the Church and give that first. We write the check to the Lord's work in the Church before we pay the mortgage or pay for our medicine or pay for anything else.

We don't pay for all the stuff we need, and think we need, and then give from what is left over. That is the first-fruits idea. It is hard because we think we need all sorts of other things first. But that is the point of "sacrificial."

Next, how could the starting point for Christian generosity and sacrifice really be anything less than a tithe – 10 percent? The ceremonial law of the Old Testament was never arbitrary. In the Old Testament, the Levites received this tithe so they could be full-time ministers.

Does the New Testament have a ministry that is larger or smaller? It is far larger: "Make disciples of all nations" (Matt. 28:19).

And we are still to have a full-time ministry: "The Lord has commanded that those who preach the Gospel should make their living from the Gospel" (1 Cor. 9:14).

So, if 10 percent was needed in the Old Testament, and we have a bigger mission need in the New Testament, how can we expect the Lord's work to be done on less than a tithe?

First-fruits, sacrificial, generous giving – that's the way. We shouldn't fool ourselves into thinking that we've out-given God's goodness or that we've given plenty.

We might be tempted to think so but consider – no one in the Church has given plenty because no one has given all. No one has died for his sins. Only the sinless Son of God did that.

Or, as St. Paul said, bringing the Good News of Jesus into the discussion of our giving to support the Lord's work in the Church:

"I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich" (2 Cor. 8:8-9).

As you can see, what the Bible commands about our stewardship can sting. It's law, and the law shows our sins. It calls us to repentance.

The law is meant to expose and accuse for the sake of showing us Christ and His fulfillment of the law. If first-fruits, sacrificial giving has you squirming, that's the point.

In Mark's account of the feeding of the 5,000, Jesus took the disciples' five loaves and two fish and blessed them. It was nothing among so many, but, of course, it was plenty. Jesus makes something from nothing.

Mark doesn't say that all the disciples gave Jesus all the bread they had. It is quite possible some of them held something back. But even if they did, that didn't stop Jesus from blessing them. Jesus makes something out of nothing.

He, who fed His people in the desert with Manna every morning, doesn't need their bread. But they need to give it. And what they give, however little it might be, however grudgingly they do so, He blesses it.

He not only blesses those whom He feeds with it, but He blesses them, the givers – not just in that they wind up with (a basket full for each loaf) but that they learned to trust and rejoice in Him.

The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away. The Lord gives abundantly or asks us to fast. We do not know what will happen. Blessed be the Name of the Lord.

He does all things well and works all things together for good. The disciples don't give their bread to Jesus because it is a good investment. They give it because He is good, they love Him, and they trust Him. Let us go and do likewise.

Church Changes

According to the October Newsletter, the voters at the September meeting made adjustments to the budget. Some of those adjustments will affect many members. Below are the changes:

1. The Church will no longer carry “Portals of Prayer” devotionals. If you use this devotional and hopefully you do, you can find the order card inside the books or order at cph.org/portals.
2. The Church will no longer pay for the “Lutheran Witness” which are mailed. If you would like to continue receiving this magazine, the website for ordering is cph.org/witness.
3. The Church will not be ordering Poinsettias for the Christmas Season. Anyone is welcome to donate a plant if you wish.

As the Sunday bulletin has pointed out, our offerings are not meeting our needs. This is a serious matter as our savings will soon be used. The congregation needs to think and pray about this financial situation. The Council/Leadership is open to any suggestions to help us meet our financial obligations.

We give thanks for you and your continued support of this congregation which God has granted to us.

To **Him** be all glory and honor!

ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING

Trinity Lutheran is excited to announce that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

Online giving allows you to go to our church website at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.

Simply follow these easy steps:

1. Visit the church website at www.trinity-gillette.org
2. Click on the **Give** tab at the top of the page
3. Click on the **Login/Sign Up** at the top right
4. Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your one-time or recurring contributions.



Hundreds Hospitalized After New Hymn Introduced in Church



Huron, SD – Hundreds were hospitalized and scores more traumatized for life in the wake of a disastrous hymn roll-out this past Sunday.

Recklessly acting in a way contrary to all Lutheran sensibilities, Pastor Norman Schroeder inserted a previously unsung hymn, “Through Jesus’ Blood and Merit,” into the church service.

“I remember paging to hymn 746 and thinking that it looked unfamiliar,” said helpless victim Delores Hamilton from her hospital bed. “My heart started pounding in my chest! My vision narrowed! As we started singing my hands trembled uncontrollably. I felt lightheaded! I don’t even think I made it through the first stanza before I passed out.”

First responders were overwhelmed by the chaotic scene. Ambulances struggled to make their way through the terrified mob streaming through the church parking lot. Inside the sanctuary, hundreds were incapacitated, many still frozen with their hands clutched over their ears in a vain attempt to shut out the unfamiliar tune. The few conscious congregants were in such a weakened state they were unable to assist their more gravely injured Lutherans.

“We haven’t seen such a tragedy since the Reformed Church tried to introduce a contemporary version of the Song of Simeon,” lamented local Police Chief Richard Johnson. “Thank goodness there was no loss of life. If we hadn’t tasered the organist, the death toll would have been truly catastrophic.”

The investigation is only beginning, but already red warning lights are flashing in the eyes of any common sense Lutheran. Why didn’t Pastor Schroeder run his plans through the worship committee? Why wasn’t the hymn tune introduced as postlude, prelude, and offertory? Why weren’t congregants warned the standard three months in advance that a new hymn was being introduced?

Only a fair, impartial investigation and the immediate excommunication of Pastor Schroeder can ensure such a tragedy never occurs again.

Trinity Lutheran Church

Minutes of the Board of Elders meeting Oct. 4, 2018

Members Present: Pastor Tucher, Ron Bothwell, Gery Wanner, Bryan Mills, Bill Rathbun, Dan Luhr and Terry Tharp.

Absent: Ben Ailts

After opening devotions and Pastor's report, discussion was had concerning ways to reduce absenteeism and clean up membership rolls. Regarding absent members, it was decided that after 4 consecutive absences a postcard will be sent to the subject member and if no attendance or response is noted after 2 months the elders will review and an elder or pastor will attempt phone contact with the member. If there is still no attendance or response after 6 months the name or names of the members will be submitted to the voters for removal from the rolls of the church. Also discussed was obtaining updated family information from members through use of pew cards or the attendance pad.

Pastor Tucher will send a letter to confirmation parents requesting that at least one parent be in attendance at all future confirmation classes. This is being done to forestall any claims or allegations of improper behavior by anyone involved in the confirmation process.

Next meeting: Nov. 8, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Elders of the Day for Nov. 2018:

Nov. 4th-Ben Ailts

Nov. 11th-Bill Rathbun

Nov. 18th-Gery Wanner

Nov. 25th-Bryan Mills

Thanksgiving Eve Service (non-communion)-Nov. 21 at 7 p.m.

The
THANKFUL HEART
opens our eyes to a multitude of
Blessings
that continually
SURROUND US



ABOUT THE COVER

November 4



All Saints' Day

About the Cover: Jesus has only compassion for people. He says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:3). The poor in spirit are those who truly desire to know and have faith in the saving work of Christ Jesus. The poor in spirit desire to lead righteous lives but know that they are unable without Jesus. True faith opens the kingdom of heaven to us.

November 11



Pentecost

About the Cover: As good stewards of God's gifts, we joyfully return a portion of the blessings He provides us. And, like the widow, we are to live knowing that the only gift that gives life is faith in Jesus. For when the dust of this life settles, He is the only gift we can count on. Jesus is truly everything we need in this life and in the life that is to come. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

November 18



Pentecost

About the Cover: Our heavenly Father has always had but one plan for His creation and for its salvation. He knew full well what would happen, and He has provided a Savior. We dwell on current events, but God always has had His eye and heart on the long-term life of His creation. Jesus says to us, "This [meaning all things] must take place" in order to fulfill God's plan.

November 25



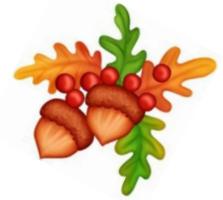
Pentecost

About the Cover: Regarding Jesus' triumphant return on that final day, He says, "Then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds." Jesus had promised His followers that He would return in the same way He had left in the clouds. We therefore look forward to His glorious return, when we will also join Jesus in His heavenly kingdom. This leads us to pray, "Come, Lord Jesus!" (Revelation 22:20).

FALL
thanksgiving
FAMILY
THANKFUL
BLESSINGS
TOGETHER
gratitude



**WYOMING DISTRICT
ROUND-UP
NOVEMBER, 2018**
District Web Site: www.wylcms.org



The Year of the Formula of Concord

"...REMEMBERING YOU IN MY PRAYERS..." (Eph. 1:16)

For **Nelda Simonson**, wife of Rev. Duane Simonson, who is mostly homebound and in the advanced stages of cancer.

For **Rev. Vernon Boehlke**, who is receiving treatments for cancer.

For **Rev. Jeff Grams** as he recovers from surgery to repair a torn retina.

PASTORS AND CONGREGATIONS

Rev. James Martin (Emmanuel, Green River) is considering a call to **Trinity, Rock Springs**. Emmanuel and Trinity have entered a multi-point parish agreement, which will be brought to formal completion with the installation of their shared pastor.

The parish of **Zion, Grover** and **Grace, Pine Bluffs** is exploring alternative parish arrangements for ministry. The parish is being served by **Rev. Richard Boche** during the vacancy period.

Trinity, Cheyenne is being served by **Rev. Marcus Baikie** (Our Savior's, Cheyenne) during its vacancy.

St. Paul's, Sidney will study the doctrine of the Divine Call and the Holy Ministry as part of its pre-call process. **Rev. Allen Strawn** (St. Paul's, Bridgeport) is serving St. Paul's during the vacancy.

Rev. Travis Sherman (Grace, Gordon, NE) is serving Grace, Merriman, NE (Nebraska District) while it considers its future.

THE BRIDE CONFESSES CHRIST: THE FORMULA OF CONCORD

This month in our review of the *Formula of Concord* we will look briefly at two articles: Article 9, "The Descent into Hell," and Article 10, "Church Practices." **Article 9** on Christ's descent into hell (which we confess in the Apostles' Creed) settles a controversy that arose at that time. The concluding paragraph in the Epitome summarizes the main point for us:

"It is enough if we know that Christ descended into hell, destroyed hell for all believers, and delivered them from the power of death and of the devil, from eternal condemnation and the jaws of hell. We will save our questions about how this happened until the other world. Then not only this mystery, but others also will be revealed that we simply believe here and cannot grasp with our blind reason" (FC Ep IX.4).

Article 10, "Church Practices which are Called Adiaphora or Matters of Indifference," speaks very directly to the ongoing disagreements and debates about liturgy and other church practices among our churches today. "Adiaphora" refers to salutary church practices that are neither commanded nor forbidden in Scriptures. It should be noted that the references here to "churches" generally assumes that local groupings of churches, such as our circuits and districts, will act together in these matters, rather than in an individualistic way. Church practices include many (but not all) elements of our liturgy, confirmation, communion, and other congregational practices.

"A disagreement has also arisen among the theologians of the Augsburg Confession about ceremonies or Church rites that are neither commanded nor forbidden in God's Word, but have been introduced into the Church for the sake of good order and fitting use.

Status of the Controversy: The Chief Controversy about This Article

“The chief question has been about a time of persecution and a matter of confession, even when the enemies of the Gospel have not reached an agreement with us in doctrine. Can some abolished ceremonies (which in themselves are matters of indifference and are neither commanded nor forbidden by God) be re-established by the pressure and demand of the adversaries without harming our conscience? May we compromise with them in such ceremonies and adiaphora? To this question one side has said Yes; the other, No.

Theses (Affirmative Statements): The Correct and True Teaching and Confession about This Article

“1. For settling this controversy, we unanimously believe, teach, and confess that some ceremonies or Church practices are neither commanded nor forbidden in God’s Word, but have been introduced only for the sake of fitting and good order. Such rites are not in and of themselves divine worship. They are not even a part of it. Matthew 15:9 says, ‘In vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’

“2. We believe, teach, and confess that the community [or churches] of God (in every place and at every time according to its circumstances) has the power to change such worship ceremonies in a way that may be most useful and edifying to the community [churches] of God.

“3. Nevertheless, all frivolity and offense should be avoided in this matter. Special care should be taken to exercise patience toward the weak in faith.

“4. We believe, teach, and confess that during a time of persecution, when a plain confession is required of us, we should not yield to the enemies in such matters of adiaphora. For the apostle has written in Galatians 5:1, ‘For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.’ He also writes in 2 Corinthians 6:14, ‘Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?’ Also note Galatians 2:5, ‘To them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you.’ For in such a case it is no longer a question about adiaphora. But it concerns the truth of the Gospel, Christian liberty, and sanctioning open idolatry. It also concerns the prevention of offense to the weak in the faith. In such a case we have nothing to concede. We should plainly confess and endure what God sends because of that confession, and whatever He allows the enemies of His Word to inflict on us.

“5. We believe, teach, and confess also that no church should condemn another because one has less or more outward ceremonies than the other, for those are not commanded by God. This is true as long as they have unity with one another in the doctrine and all its articles and in the right use of the holy Sacraments. This practice follows the well-known saying ‘Disagreement in fasting does not destroy agreement in faith.’ (FC X.1–7)

REFORMATION 500: 1518 in Review

Luther’s heresy trial from 1518–1521 was before the Roman church’s highest court, though much of it consisted of political maneuvering among numerous parties in both church and state. His formal hearing took place in Augsburg, Germany, October 12–14, 1518, before Cardinal Thomas de Vio (Cajetan). Cajetan made three demands of Luther: 1) return to the heart of the church, 2) retract his errors, and 3) in the future refrain from his errors and anything that would disturb the church. Cajetan focused on two issues of substance: indulgences and the authority of the pope to establish doctrine. Luther demonstrated that indulgences had nothing to do with the merits of Christ earned by his death. He held firmly to the authority of Holy Scriptures alone for establishing and testing doctrine. He did not recant.

In the political wrangling of the days following the hearing, Luther’s superior in the Augustinian order, Johann von Staupitz, absolved Luther of his vow of obedience as an Augustinian, thus enabling Luther to act with fewer constraints. Luther’s life and freedom, however, were in doubt. On the evening of October 20, Luther left Augsburg secretly and in haste. He returned, sick and exhausted, but joyful, to Wittenberg on October 31, exactly one year after the publication of the Ninety-Five Theses. On November 18, Luther formally appealed to an ecumenical council to counter the false doctrine of the pope. On December 7, Frederick the Wise, Luther’s prince and protector, formally refused to surrender Luther to the pope.

Youth Breakaway Weekend

The annual Youth Breakaway Weekend will be held November 2–4, 2018 at St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church and Campus Center, Laramie. Registration (and the option to pay) is online at https://standrewslaramie.org/?page_id=258.



November 1
Carter Zimbelman
November 3
Lila Guthmiller
November 4
Kaia Cristofferson
November 9
Renee Steele
Jack Kueter
November 10
Naomi Gegleman
Jacob Scott
November 11
Ann Olson
Emma Hahn
November 12
Kayla Tonn
November 13
Autumn Lund

November 14
Teresa Schipansky
November 15
Rob Gordon
Mark Hanson
November 17
Erin Rothleutner
November 18
Wesley Rexin
Kylie Leair
Maeleigh Rothleutner
November 19
Olivia Fulton
Eva Fulton
November 20
Sarah Marrington
November 21
Justin Parks

November 22
Gery Wanner
Jackson Simons
November 23
Terry Hagen
November 24
Troy Pahl
November 25
Elizabeth Wicks
November 26
Kade Wasson
Morgan Hanson
November 27
Brenda Elliott
November 28
Dalton Young
November 30
Tristan Volk

November 3
*Aaron & Ruby Maki
David & Donna Lund*
November 4
Daniel & Michelle Luhr
November 8
Kevin & Jana Collins
November 26
*Keith & Krystal Ring
Steve & Debra Riis*

LET OUR
LIVES BE FULL
OF BOTH
thanks
&
giving



*Altar Guild
Beth Scott & Kenda Ford*



November

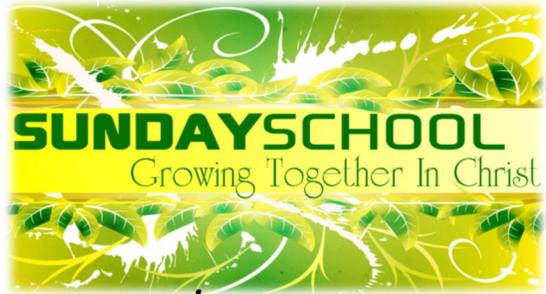
2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i> <i>Bible Study 9:30am</i>	2 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i>	3
4 <i>9:00am Worship w/ Holy Communion</i> <i>Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30am</i>	5 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i>	6 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i> Board of Ed. Meets~4:30pm	7 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i> <i>Confirmation 6:00pm</i>	8 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i> <i>Bible Study 9:30am</i> Elders Meet 6:30pm	9 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i>	10
11 <i>9:00am Worship w/ Holy Communion Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30am</i>  VETERANS DAY	12 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i>	13 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i> Pastor in Casper	14 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i> <i>Confirmation 6:00pm</i>	15 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i> <i>Bible Study 9:30am</i> Voters Meet 6:00pm	16 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i>	17
18 <i>9:00am Worship w/ Holy Communion</i> <i>Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30am</i>	19 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i> Ruth Circle 9:30am Hope Circle 4:00pm	20 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i>	21 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i> Thanksgiving Eve Worship~7:00pm	22 Thanksgiving Day <i>thankful AND blessed</i>	23	24
25 <i>9:00am Worship w/ Holy Communion</i> <i>Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30am</i>	26 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i>	27 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i> Faith Circle 5:30pm At Perkins	28 <i>Preschool 9:00am-11:30am</i>	29	30	12/1 Church Decorating 10:00am



Thursdays - 9:30am
Sundays - 10:30am



Sundays - 10:30am



November 4 9:00am	Elder: Benjamin Ailts Lowell Thompson, Evan Schliske
November 11 9:00am	Elder: Bill Rathbun Terry Tharp, Ken Ford, Rob Gordon, Mark Lund
November 18 9:00am	Elder: Greg Schliske Jeremy Wagner, Ben Ailts, Debbie Hopp, Mark Eveland
November 25 9:00am	Elder: Bryan K. Mills Darla Even, Jacob Even, Terri Triebs, Debbie Hopp, Wendy Dornan



November 4~9:00am	Usher
November 11~9:00am	Kylie Hanson
November 18~9:00am	Sadie Ring
November 22~7:00pm	Usher
November 25~9:00am	Alyssa Ahlers

No Quilting in November.



THANKSGIVING LEFTOVERS CASSEROLE

What you'll need:

- 4 cups stuffing: fluffed with fork
- 2 cups dices turkey
- 2 cups gravy
- 4 cups mashed potatoes: fluffed with fork
- 1 cup cranberry sauce

Make it:

- ◆Preheat oven to 350°
 - ◆Butter bottom & sides of 2-quart baking dish
 - ◆Add half the stuffing in the baking dish
 - ◆Add the turkey, potatoes & gravy then top with remaining stuffing
 - ◆Cover with foil & bake 35 minutes
 - ◆Remove foil & make 10 minutes or until stuffing is slightly crisp
 - ◆Remove from oven & spread cranberry sauce on top
 - ◆Serve & enjoy
- (Any leftover vegis can be layered in as well.)



Preschool Happenings October, 2018

October was another very busy month at our preschool. We focused on the letters N, C and K, numbers 3, 4 and 5, the colors black and orange, the square shape, fire safety, and trusting in God's promises for us as we learned all about Noah, Joseph, Moses & David. Our preschoolers had lots of fun making adorable Halloween character pennants which spooked up our preschool walls. The children also enjoyed their fire safety lessons with emphasis on stop, drop and roll and the importance of conducting fire drills. Everyone hammed it up and showed off their beautiful smiles on picture day. We are so lucky to have Rich Osness come from Sioux Falls. He is a wonderful photographer and does such a great job. The kids love him and look forward to seeing him every year. The letter "C" was celebrated with all kinds of Cool Cupcakes made with puffy paint and sparkling sprinkles. They definitely brightened up the preschool! We ended the month with our traditional pajama parties. Halloween activities, coffee filter ghosts and popcorn & a movie made for a fun celebration!

Thank you for your continued prayers for the preschool, students and staff!

God's Peace~
Terri Triebs





Help the Pilgrim Find the Turkey



