



Children's
Christmas
Program

- The school year is moving right along. We have already selected our Christmas program, and have started practicing. Our program is set for Wednesday, December 14.
- We enjoyed our Grandparents' Day and Muffins with Mom. This month we will celebrate doughnuts with Dad.
- Ms. Ilsa's and Ms. Courtney's Infant 1 classroom is full. We are letting Ms. Courtney take the older infants into the vacant Infant 2 room so they will have more room to move about and explore as they become more mobile.
- Ms. Kesha's Toddler 1 room classroom has 4 students. They are working hard on feeding themselves.

WORD *of the day*

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

- Ms Nyleen's Toddler 2 classroom has 8 students. They are practicing staying in their seats, and using utensils.
- Ms. Hall has 8 children in the Early Learner's class. Most of them are completely potty trained, with very few accidents. They have been studying the changes that happen during the autumn (fall) season. They can identify some colors and shapes.
- Mrs. Whitman's Preschool class of 8 is planning a field trip to the pumpkin patch on Tuesday, November 1. They are being good leaders with the songs during chapel time each Tuesday.
- We have been taking a few children on a temporary basis during fall break, and we have 1 child whose parent brings them over for after school care.
- We have been reworking the meal menu to make it more child friendly. Ms Shelia has been a great help letting us know what does, and does not, go over well with the children.
- With all of the sickness already going around, we could not function without our two substitutes, Ms. Kathy and Ms. Laci. One, or both, of them are here on a daily basis. I appreciate their flexibility, and being able to come at the last moment.
- With the weather cooling down, we have been able to go outside and enjoy all of the hard work that went into making our playground safer. The additional fall protection under the play equipment makes a much softer landing.
- We are participating in Operation Christmas child with the Sunday School. Hopefully, we will be able to bless several children with Christmas boxes.

The new website address for the CDC is:
<http://cdc.ascensionhsv.org>



Thank You, God.

November is the month that the United States traditionally sets aside to recognize giving thanks. (It is also election month – but that is another story.) The pilgrims left Europe in the summer of 1620 seeking both civil and religious liberty.

The first winter was extremely hard on the immigrants; yet, persevering in prayer, and assisted by helpful Indians, they reaped a bountiful harvest the following summer. The grateful Pilgrims then declared a three-day feast, starting on December 13, 1621, to thank God and to celebrate with their Indian friends. While this was not the first Thanksgiving in America (thanksgiving services were held in Virginia as early as 1607), it was America’s first Thanksgiving Festival.



Abraham Lincoln established the National Day of Thanksgiving in 1863 when he declared, *“I do therefore invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.”* He also entreated all Americans to ask God to *“commend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife”* and to *“heal the wounds of the nation.”*

Now, Thanksgiving is seen as the gateway to the Christmas shopping season. More attention is given to “Black Friday” than Thanksgiving Day. Many stores are opening on Thanksgiving to get a jump start on the holiday sales. If you ask people what is special about Thanksgiving, many will say it’s the food, or the football, or even getting together with family and friends. It is a sad commentary that we have to be reminded – with a national holiday - to give thanks to our Lord.

As Christians, we know that acknowledging thankfulness to God is not reserved for one day a year. Thankful hearts for God’s unending blessings should be our way of life. There are many Bible verses to remind us of this. **1 Thessalonians 5:18** states, *“give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”* The verse does not say “give thanks when you get everything you want,” or “give thanks when nothing goes wrong.” It says to give thanks at all times, and in all places. God has a plan for you. That in itself is reason for thanksgiving. **Philippians 4:6** says *“do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”* Ask and you shall receive. Why do we worry about things instead of taking them to God? We thank God that all things are in His control, and not ours. **Revelation 7:12** points out that it isn’t for a finite amount of time – but thanksgiving is infinite; *“saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”*



Many Thanksgivings, for my children and company to have something to do while dinner was being prepared, I would have them write down something for every letter of the alphabet that they were thankful for. Then we would take turns reading each letter of thankfulness. That was a once a year activity. Many evenings, before bedtime, throughout the year, we would play the “Thank you, Jesus” game.

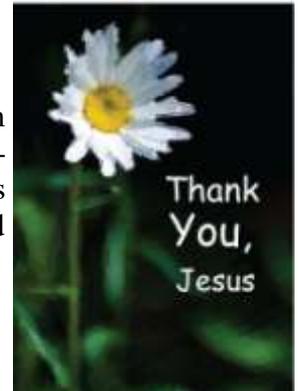


Dare To Share

My children and I would crawl into bed together, then we would go many rounds thanking Jesus for items big and small, until one of us was too tired to continue. It was one of our favorite activities. It was more than a game. It is a way of life. We still participate in this activity. We still thank Him for things both big and small, and we still call it the “Thank you, Jesus” game.

I had those words “Thank you, Jesus” inscribed on my husband’s tombstone. Each Sunday as the words of absolution were spoken, he would do something totally un-Lutheran and say “Thank you, Jesus,” OUT LOUD. How could I not acknowledge his gratefulness to His Heavenly Father for receiving the blessing of forgiveness and salvation through Jesus’ death and resurrection?

Let us **always** remember to give thanks to the One who has given us everything.



In His name I serve,

Carla Jo

CDC POSSIBILITIES

If you are interested in working with the children at the CDC, there are openings for substitutes. If you would like to pick up an application, please do so. Thank you.



The love of the Lord does endure forever because the Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, is risen from the dead, lives and reigns for all eternity. He was crucified for our transgressions, but He is raised and lives forever for our justification. We are acceptable to God in Christ Jesus.

This is indeed something for which we give thanks. We give thanks in our prayers. We give thanks in the hymns we sing in church. We give thanks by talking about it with our friends and neighbors and teaching it to our children and grandchildren. And we give thanks by giving to the church a generous, first-fruits portion of the income He provides us.

Giving is giving thanks. It is one of the concrete ways in which we thank God for all He has done for us. This includes not just what He has done for us here in time, but what He does for us for all eternity. He provides for all that we need in both body and soul. He is more ready to give than we are able either to receive or even ask. That is who He is. That is His character. He is good and His love endures forever.

Let us then give thanks in all these ways, not in one way or the other. But rather in all things, everything that we do and say, whether it be in word or deed, in prayer and praise, in teaching and giving, let us give thanks to God for He is good.

<https://blogs.lcms.org/2016/stewardship-bulletin-sentences-and-newsletter-articles-november-2016>

STEWARDSHIP POSSIBILITIES

Need a Ride? Able to Give a Ride?



The elders want to find out if there are members who are unable to get themselves to church and, therefore, need a ride. If you, or someone you know, falls into this category, please let Jimmy Damron (aldamron@bellsouth.net) know.

Alternatively, if you are able to offer a ride to and from church please let Jimmy know. He will coordinate lining up rides for people who need them.

Also, if you are unable to drive at night (in the dark), please contact Jimmy and he will work to find a ride for you so that you don't miss out on evening services and other nighttime activities.

(For real - we'll use cars. . .)



The choir introduced a new hymn Reformation Sunday. It was written especially for the 30th Anniversary of the Association of Lutheran Musicians (ACLM) and the coming celebration of Martin Luther's 500th Anniversary.

Luther stated "next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world." Luther encouraged more congregational singing and I hope you will appreciate the hymn, choir, instrumentalists, and all others who enhance the worship at Ascension. I know I always feel inspired when I hear enthusiastic congregational singing.

Keep Singing!

MISSIONAL OUTREACH

BOB SMITH

Two Choices for Missional Outreach Worship

Starting November 8, there will be a new place to go with worship services to those not able to make it to church every Sunday. The new location will be the Regency, located on Max Luther Drive in Huntsville. This service will take place on Tuesday afternoons, starting at 1:00 PM. Interested members are invited to be a part of these visits, so please let us know if you are willing to spend some time with people you haven't met, yet!

We are still taking a worship service to HHR every other Wednesday at 10:00 AM, so check out the options! Our services run something like this:

Introduction (Ascension & Purpose of Visit) – Pastor

1st Song

2nd Song

First Reading – Old Testament

3rd Song

4th Song

Second Reading – New Testament

5th Song

6th Song

Third Reading – Gospel

7th Song

Benediction Song

One-on-One Visits (30 to 60 minutes)

HHR Visits for November: 2, 16, 30

Regency Visits for November: 8, 22



SIGN OF THANKFULNESS

Create this festive sign, which will serve as a yearlong reminder to be grateful.

What you need:

- Hole punch
- Large piece of cardboard or cardstock
- Twine
- Twigs
- Glue
- Acorns, leaves (real or silk) and raffia

What you do:

1. Punch two holes in the top of the cardboard.
2. Thread twine through the holes and tie it in a knot (for hanging).
3. Using twigs, spell out "Be Thankful," "Thank God" or a similar phrase about gratitude. Glue the twigs onto the cardboard.
4. Decorate the sign by gluing on acorns, leaves and raffia.
5. Hang up your sign. Whenever you see it, think of something for which you're grateful to God.



PUZZLE

Give Praise

Solve this puzzle to read a Bible verse about praising God for all his blessings.

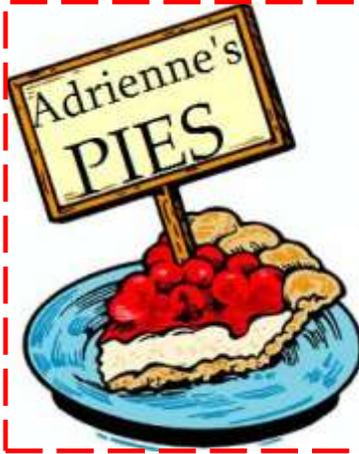
Directions: In each group, underline the word that doesn't belong. Then write the underlined words on the lines below.

- | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Give
Take
Grab | 2. peanut
praise
pear | 3. temple
house
Loro | 4. proclaim
past
present | 5. name
boy
lad | 6. ruin
destroy
make |
| 7. pine
acorn
known | 8. train
nations
bus | 9. done
donut
muffin | 10. Sing
Sleep
Yawn | 11. she
him
girl | 12. sun
praise
moon |
| 13. tell
fast
slow | 14. red
all
blue | 15. horrible
dreadful
wonderful | 16. acts
sisters
aunts | | |

" _____ to the _____, _____ his _____ ;
 _____ among the _____ what he has _____ .
 _____ to _____, sing _____ to him; _____ of _____ his
 _____ ." PSALM 105:1-2, NIV

Answers: 1. Give, 2. praise, 3. Loro, 4. proclaim, 5. name, 6. make, 7. known, 8. nations, 9. done, 10. Sing, 11. him, 12. praise, 13. tell, 14. all, 15. wonderful, 16. acts.
 Give praise to the Loro, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done; Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. (Psalm 105:1-2, NIV)

This 'n That

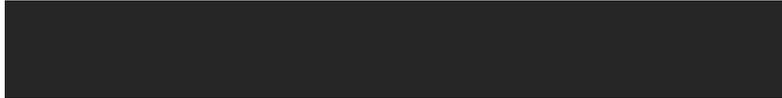


I will be taking orders for homemade holiday pies. The three choices are Pumpkin Pie, Chocolate Pecan Pie and Pecan Pie. I also have a sugar-free version of my Pumpkin Pie. I will take orders until November 1 and will deliver them to the Church a week before Thanksgiving. Cost per pie is \$10.00.

Thank you!

Adrienne Bowling

(You can reach Adrienne on Facebook and send her a message (your best bet); or you can call her at (256) 679-1824.)



It is that time of year, again! There will be two dates for which you can volunteer your time to help decorate the sanctuary and church for the Advent/Christmas season! November 25 and November 26, starting around 10:00 AM. The more, the merrier!

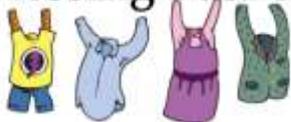


The final dates for bringing foodstuff for the Thanksgiving bags that we support through St. Mark's, and the items for Operation Shoebox are due in November. We are shooting for 100 boxes of dressing mix to take to St. Mark's by November XX, and any of the items you still want to donate for Operation Shoebox, in case you missed our "month" during which we collected specifically for that item, are due by November 18. See Meredith Cheney if you have any questions.



The Blessing Basket workers have been busy as bees this past couple of months! You know how you'll pray for God to answer your prayer...how you might ask Him to send you what you need? Well, be careful what you wish for. . .

Blessing Basket



As you know, the BB mission is to provide children's items to those in need. Specifically, we want to help families who struggle to provide their families with the basic necessities in life....like clothing.

Well, just down the hall from us, in the SAME building as the BB on Oster Drive, is a very small day care center run by True Witness Ministries: **In the Beginning Childcare**. We have met with the Director, Joyce Blay, several times. We find her to be sincere in her desire to provide loving care to children to single mothers who are trying to work and provide for their little ones.

Dare To Share



She is running this Christ-based center on a shoe-string budget and is very, very thankful for all we give :). Thank you, Harold Lawson, for alerting us to this ministry opportunity, literally at our backdoor!



As we have become accustomed to (THANK YOU, LORD!), Marcia Pate brought back 100's of clothing items from her daughter's Georgia church semi-annual mega sale. Our workers have given 'back to school' clothes to several area schools. Also, Sue Ellen Smith identified a dire need for cold weather coats, jeans, etc. at Brewer High School. She will deliver several bags of things to them, soon.

for outgrown clothing? We would greatly appreciate clean, gently used items for children newborn through size 16.

(A reminder: We donate things that are age-appropriate for children to wear. No adult-type clothing, please.)



In service to Him,

The Blessing Basket Workers

THANKS to everyone who supported the LWML Crock Pot Cook-off fundraising event! The event was very successful due to all those who entered their prize-winning recipes, those who came to eat and judge the food, those who made donations, and of course, LWML members who worked so hard in hosting the cook-off. The quantity, variety, and flavor of all the food was outstanding!

Blue ribbon "First Place" winners were:



Pastor Bernie for his "Special Kraut" in the "German Dish" category;
Lavon Hellebrand for "Potato Soup" in the "Soup/Chili" category;
Cyndi Peebles' "Specialty Dish" of "Oriental Chicken" ;
Annette Duckworth for her "Cherries in the Snow" dessert; and
Susan Bridges won the door prize.

All proceeds from the event will go to LWML missions.

November Birthdays

Andre Cowart	11/01	Bob Hartwig	11/11
Abrielle Mwakabumbila	11/01	Jordan Reynolds-Gleason	11/12
Ron Salem	11/03	Mark Williams	11/12
Daniel Jeziorski	11/03	Harrison Grott	11/17
Robert Gehring	11/05	Carl Engel	11/17
Carol King	11/05	Ellen Rosson	11/18
Lynne Heape	11/08	Bob Beamer	11/18
Raven Jones	11/08	Lincoln Hartwig	11/18
Victoria Salem	11/09	Steve Booze	11/22
Jonathan Glenn	11/09	Edward Naumann	11/23
		Constance Bowling	11/24

Flowers TO THE Glory of God

November 6 -

November 13 -

November 20 - Bob and Sue Ellen Smith

November 27 -

November, 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:00 & 10:45 AM – Worship 9:00 AM – Meet & Greet 9:30 AM – Bible Study/SS	6:00 PM – Worship	1 10:00 AM – Ladies Bible Study	2 10:00 AM – HHR	3	4 8:00 PM – Youth Lock-In	5 5:00 PM Prayer Service
6	7	8 10:00 AM – Ladies Bible Study 1:00 PM – Regency Missional Outreach	9 4:30 PM – Bells 6:00 PM – Directors 7:00 PM – Choir	10	11 Veterans Day	12 10:00 AM – LWML
13 12:15 PM – Lunch & Congregational Meeting	14	15 10:00 AM – Ladies Bible Study 6:00 PM – Elders	16 10:00 AM – HHR 4:30 PM – Bells 7:00 PM – Choir	17	18	19
20 Special Meal at Noon to Celebrate Alex's last Sunday with us	21	22 10:00 AM – Ladies Bible Study 1:00 PM – Regency Missional Outreach	23 7:00 PM – Choir	24 9:30 AM – Worship Thanksgiving Day	25 10:00 AM – Decorating for Advent & Christmas	26 10:00 AM – Decorating for Advent & Christmas
27	28	29 10:00 AM – Ladies Bible Study	30 10:00 AM – HHR 4:30 PM – Bells 5:30 PM – Meal 6:30 PM – Advent Svc 7:30 PM – Choir			