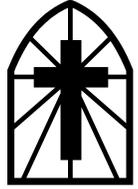


ST. JOHN LUTHERAN LCMS
11400 WEST PANAMA ROAD, CRETE, NE 68333



Come to the cross and learn of God's great love for all His people. There is friendship, fellowship, and the gift of God's word of forgiveness.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 33 ISSUE 11 NOVEMBER

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

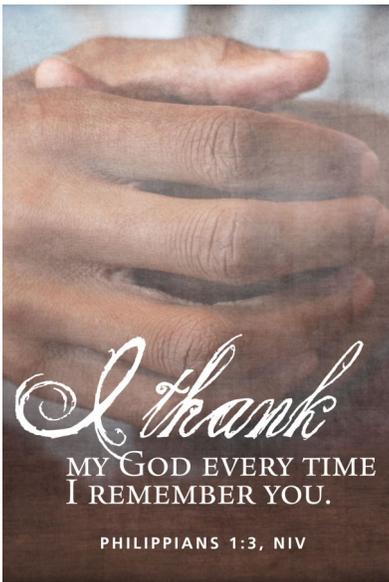
1 Corinthians 1:4 (ESV): "I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus."

Years ago there was a woman in a congregation I served that was stepping out from serving as choir director. And I remember her requesting that I should not thank her—but, that we should thank God for the privilege of serving him with our talents. Such thankfulness is on my mind as we enter this month of November. Obviously are looking toward the weekend of Thanksgiving later this month. And of course, there may ring in your ears or thoughts that cliché statement from pastors, "We should give thanks always—not just on Thanksgiving." It may be cliché, but it really is true. Scripture says so in so many ways.

So, with the celebration of Thanksgiving coming up I certainly want to give an expression of my thankfulness, for I am tremendously blessed. God has given me great blessings in my family. I am thankful for the gift of my wife and the things she supports me and the patience she has with me. I am grateful for the many things I have learned from her and all that we have grown in grace and knowledge with her.

And I am thankful for my church family. I have been blessed in many ways by your care for me and my family. I am thankful for the many volunteers and partners in the work of the church at St. John. There is much good work and mutual encouragement that I observe in working with you. Thank you. But even more, I thank God for you.

St. Paul reminds me in his letters that true thanksgiving, however, goes to God for all the good that we receive. You see his thanksgiving in the verse above. He writes similar things in many of his letters.



Ephesians 1:16 (ESV): "I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers."

Philippians 1:3 (ESV): "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you."

Such are my prayers. I thank God for you and for the grace that is yours in Christ Jesus. God is the Giver and we have received all that is good from Him. I pray that the Lord will bless you most of all with a faith that trusts only and completely in God for salvation and for all that is good. May God bless and keep you in His grace and give you hearts that are ever thankful for all His blessings—especially for Jesus Christ in whom we have our life and our eternal salvation.

The Peace of Christ be with you. Pastor Toensing

PLEASE HAVE ALL INFORMATION OR ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER TO CHRIS HOLLMAN BY 25TH, THANK YOU!

Clothing for Orphan Grain Train: We can once again send used clothing to Orphan Grain Train. When leaving clothes in the drop box outside the church by the back door, please mark them for either OGT or PCM (People's City Mission).



2019 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The Evangelism Committee has completed the 2019 Membership Directory. They are located in the Narthex. Please take one copy per family. A heartfelt thank you to the members of the Evangelism Committee for their special efforts to make this project a success!



WEATHER---If a worship service needs to be canceled due to bad weather conditions, we will notify Channel 10/11 TV with cancellation information. The Elders will make best efforts to make telephone calls in this situation, also.

HOSPITAL VISIT---There are circumstances in life that might land someone in the hospital. As your pastor, I consider it a high priority to visit when one of our members is in the hospital. But I might not always get the message. Sometimes people forget. Sometimes you might assume that someone else will let me know. If I should know that someone is in need of a pastoral visit in the hospital, please let me know. I would rather get five calls or messages letting me know than none. Thank you. Pastor



BIRTHDAYS

1 Haylee Shore, Chauncey Ziemann
 3 Roger Brunelle
 6 Kay Jordan, Gerald Reetz
 7 Mersadies Kvasnicka
 8 Gwendolyn Dewey, Eric Dewey Jr.
 9 Dawn Smith, Lewis Clark, Kelsie Warta, Olga Weidner, Heather Wendelin
 10 Teagan Kalkwarf, Irene Reiss
 12 Andrew Kahle, Kasey Murphy
 15 Carol Brinkmeyer, Ed Skillet
 16 Jeff Meinke

19 Brad Hestermann, Amy Munro
 22 Judy Wohl
 23 Caleb Markey
 25 Robert Kvasnicka, Alayna Poole, Sharon Wendelin
 26 Ken Kahle
 27 Fred Weidner
 28 Judi Korte
 29 Jayne Vanasperen

BAPTISMS

1 Trevis Trautman
 2 Abbie Reitz

3 Jerad Reetz
 7 Abigail Scott
 10 Donna Brunelle, Scott Brunelle, Jaclyn Ourada
 13 A. J. Ellingson
 17 Brady Ellingson, Eric Ellingson
 18 Fran Sieck
 19 Chloe Davis
 20 Tim McDermott, Sean Murphy
 22 Cheyenne DuBray
 25 Jeff Meinke
 26 Kelsie Warta, Gerald Reetz
 27 Slane Kvasnicka, Kourtney Tarnick
 29 Kay Jordan, Gwen Kalkwarf



ST. JOHN CHOIR – It is time to consider joining the choir here at St. John. We will begin on Sunday, November 3 at 8:20 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We welcome all voices to praise their Lord.



Choir Practice Resumes

OUR MISSION Share the Joy of His News by growing inward through God's Word, Sacraments and fellowship and by growing outward through words, actions, and mission outreach.



Thank you, thank you, thank you, for all the cards, the gifts, the prayers, and the appreciation you have expressed and given me and Shelley over the past month. We are truly blessed by God through you. We thank God for you all and we pray that our Lord will continue to bless you in

LADIES AID MINUTES

St. John Ladies Aid met on October 30, 2019, with LaVonne Nitzel as hostess. The meeting opened by singing "What A Friend We Have in Jesus". Pastor Toensing led us in a Bible Study on the friendship of David and Jonathan.

Roll call was taken with seven members present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved and the treasurer's report was given.

It was decided that we will have the cookbooks ready in 2023 when the ladies aid will celebrate its 100 anniversary. We will also have them for the church's 150 anniversary in 2024.

A motion was made and seconded for the officers to continue their jobs for another year. Motion passed. A motion was also made and seconded to move next months meeting to November 20 because of Thanksgiving. Motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded to move our December meeting to December 18, because of Christmas. Motion passed. We invite the congregation to join us for lunch on the 18 after the Advent service. We will then have our Christmas party.'

Dianne Kouba celebrated a birthday in October; also, Donna and LeRoy Hillgren celebrated their anniversary.

Donna Hillgren will be our hostess for November. We closed with the Lord's Prayer and the common table prayer.

Shirley Reetz, secretary

MAIN STREET NEWS

Today we broadcast on eight TV stations, in six LCMS districts, in the five state area. With the expansion of the program, and the additional Federal government requirements, it costs about \$1100.00 per station per week. We do not ask either the Synod or the District to finance this program...the main source of support is from viewers and their families who want this program to continue. The local address for donations is: Main Street Living – Lincoln, 3825 Wildbriar Ln, Lincoln NE 68516.

Schedule for November programs in Lincoln area on KLKN television station at 10:30 am on Sunday mornings...

Nov 3-Rev. Marcel Kohlmeyer-St. Johns Lutheran -Tecumseh, NE

Nov 10-Rev. Wes Hafner-St. John Lutheran-Oxford, NE

Nov 17-Rev. Paul Duffy-St. Paul Lutheran-Kenesaw, NE

Nov 24-Rev. Richard Snow-President Nebraska District-Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

LAMBS OF CHRIST PRESCHOOL**Thank You**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the gift card and special recognition as a member of the staff of Bethlehem. It is truly a privilege to teach the wonderful children of Lambs of Christ.

Community Helpers

The classes were blessed to have both the Crete Fire and Rescue Department as well as a member of the Police Department visits us this month. The children were quite attentive and really enjoyed all that each department had to show and tell us about how they keep our community safe.

Prayer Partners

At this time we still have 2 children that do not have a partner. The information about each child is on our bulletin board in the hallway by the church office. Becoming a partner is a blessing to both you and the child, stop by and sign up to be part of a child's life.

Pumpkins / Halloween

We learned a lot about pumpkin this month, from the life cycle to carving of jack o lanterns we did some experiments with them and grafted our hypothesis. Each class enjoyed a Halloween party in their costumes.

Pancake Feed

Our annual pancake feed will be held November 17th in the fellowship hall following the church service. The children will sing during church and also at 11:30 during the feed. We would love to have you come and enjoy the morning with us.

God's Blessings,

Kathy Oelschlager

lambsofchrist@gmail.com (402)826-4375

CONTRIBUTIONS**IRA DISTRIBUTION DIRECTLY TO CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION.....**

A Qualified Charitable Distribution can be made directly from your IRA if you are 70 ½ or older. The distribution must be made directly to the charitable organization from the trustee of the IRA for it to be nontaxable to the taxpayer. The taxpayer must receive an acknowledgment from the charitable organization. He/she will also receive a 1099-R reporting the distribution, however it is not included in taxable income (but is reported on the tax return). If this is done the distribution does not qualify for a charitable deduction. The distribution does count toward the taxpayer's Required Minimum Distribution.

FARMERS GRAIN CONTRIBUTIONS...

Farmers, you can make donations of grain to the church at either AGP or Farmer's Cooperative. When making such donations, verify the correct St John Lutheran church is receiving the donation. Farmer's Cooperative account number for our church is 111690. At AGP, make sure the church address is 11400 West Panama Rd Crete NE. There are several St John churches at AGP. Please notify the Treasurer, Finance Secretary or President of grain transferred to the Church account so timely sales can be made.

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
CHURCH –LCMS**
 11400 W. Panama Road
 Crete, NE 68333
 4 miles East & 2 miles South of Crete
 Office: 826-3883
 secretarystjohn@hotmail.com
 www.stjohnkramer.org
 Rev. Maynard Toensing, Jr.
 pastortoensing@gmail.com

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER GROWTH

Schedule at a Glance

Worship Service (Sundays)	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School/LYF/Bible Class (Sundays)	10:30 a.m.
Midweek/Confirmation Classes (Wednesdays)	6:30 p.m.
Ladies Bible Study (November 2)	10:00 a.m.
Elder’s Meeting (November 4)	6:30 p.m.
Evangelism Committee Meeting (November 5)	7:00 p.m.
Men’s Bible Study (November 12)	7:00 p.m.
Lutheran Women in Mission (November 19)	7:00 p.m.
Ladies Aid Meeting (November 27)	2:00 p.m.
Thanksgiving Day Worship (November 28)	9:00 a.m.



FROM THE ELDER’S

Meaning of Thanksgiving - Praise to God

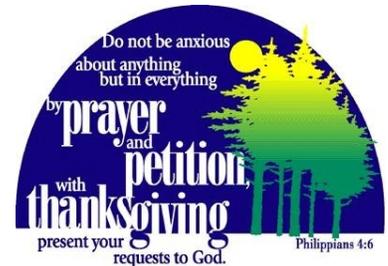
In the Bible, the meaning of thanksgiving reflected adoration, sacrifice, praise, or an offering. Thanksgiving was a grateful language to God as an act of worship. Rarely, if ever, was thanksgiving extended to any person or thing, except God.

The true meaning of Thanksgiving focuses upon relationship. Thanksgiving is a relationship between God and man. Upon their arrival at New Plymouth, the Pilgrims composed The Mayflower Compact, which honored God. Thanksgiving begins with acknowledging God as faithful, earnestly giving Him thanks, in advance, for His abundant blessings. “. . . In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God” (Philippians 4:6). Thanksgiving is an attitude of the heart that reinforces an intimate relationship with God.

I hope you all celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday by doing just that "giving thanks".

Does anyone know how Moses makes his coffee? ... Hebrews it.

God bless, The Elders



THOSE SERVING DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

DUTY	November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24	Thanksgiving Day—Nov 28
Organist	Jayne VanAsperen	Jayne VanAsperen	Jayne VanAsperen	Jayne VanAsperen	Jayne VanAsperen
Elders	Terry Dittmer	James Walker	Roger Koch	Gary Meinke	Mitch Homolka
Greeters	Mr & Mrs Elmer Reetz and Mr & Mrs Brent Wohl	Darleen Dittmer, Diane Gropp and Chris Hollman	Mr & Mrs Art Brinkmeyer and Mr & Mrs Glen Louch	Mr & Mrs Roger Brunelle and Mr & Mrs Tim McDermott	Mr & Mrs Terry Dittmer
Acolytes	Ted Muff & Hugo Pomajzl	Colton Homolka	Nick Hollman & Jacob Meinke	Cole Novak & Skye Hoyer	Madison Hestermann & Katelyn Novak

