



NOVEMBER 2023

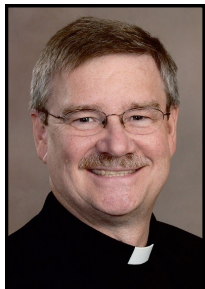
Volume 54, Issue 11

CALL TO SERVICE

A PUBLICATION OF ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ✠ FAIRMONT, MN

meet our STAFF

Our Pastors



Rev. Anthony T. Bertram
abertram@splpastor.org
 Ext. 102



Rev. Michael Holmen

rev.michael.holmen@gmail.com, Ext. 103

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)
 211 BUDD ST. • FAIRMONT
 507.238.9491

Music Director, Vacant

Church Office Staff

Lisa Rosburg lrosburg@splfairmont.org, Ext. 101
 Judy Berkland jberkland@splfairmont.org, Ext. 109

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN SCHOOL
 201 OXFORD ST. • FAIRMONT
 507.238.9492

Principal Brian Kube

bkube@splfairmont.org, Ext. 106

School Office Staff Eileen Boesch

splsecretary@splfairmont.org, Ext. 105

Principal Brian Kube 7th & 8th Grades Jana Holmen **5th & 6th Grades** Paul Engelby **3rd & 4th Grades** Leslie Wokasch **2nd Grade** Joan Abel **1st Grade** Rebecca Taylor **Kindergarten** Erin Simpson **Pre-K** Kathy Gratz, Kara Closs, Angela Preuss, Michelle Schultz **MLHS Band Instructor** Phillip Schult **Latin** Barb Matthees

SPL is a Full Association Member of

MARTIN LUTHER HIGH SCHOOL
 PO BOX 228 • NORTHROP
 507.436.5249

Principal Paul Steinhaus

Development Director Marge Thiesse
www.martinlutherhs.com

“Is the Lutheran Reformation still relevant today?”

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On October 31, 1517 Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses, or statements, against the sale of indulgences by the Roman Catholic Church. Luther's protest began a series of events that led to massive changes. European and World history would never be the same. The pope's power was broken. Christians began to learn and believe the Bible for themselves. Christendom, unfortunately, would be splintered into countless denominations and groups. Far-reaching consequences of the Lutheran Reformation continue to reverberate down to today.



REFORMATION

Although the importance of the Reformation can hardly be under-estimated, I think it is helpful to remember why and how it all began. Although Europe and the world were changed by the Lutheran Reformation, Martin Luther was not trying to change the world. He was concerned about people's faith. He was concerned about people believing falsely and going to hell as a result. Luther wanted people to believe what was true, to believe in Jesus Christ, and thereby be saved.

This can be seen with the issue that touched off the Reformation. The Roman Catholic Church has sold indulgences for centuries. (They still do, by the way!) An indulgence supposedly decreases the time that a person needs to spend in purgatory, and so on, but suffice it to say that people ended up believing that these certificates would do them a lot of good. In fact, people came to believe in these certificates *more* that what Jesus actually told us: “Repent and believe the Gospel” (Mark 1:15).

There is nothing more dangerous and harmful than believing in something that is fake instead of believing in what is divine and true. Lies do not help or save. Lies were what led Adam and Eve into sin and death. The truth saves. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6). When Luther took on the false practice of selling indulgences on October 31, 1517, he was fighting against lies and what was worthless. He was fighting for what was true and beneficial. All that later came up during the Reformation should be seen in this light. Luther was not trying to make history (even though he did). He was trying to do what was right, true, godly, and Scriptural.

If God is gracious to us so that we follow in Luther's footsteps, then the Lutheran Reformation will always be relevant. Most people today do not believe in indulgences or purgatory. (Maybe you don't know very clearly what these things are!) But we still have plenty of false and worthless beliefs that threaten our souls and the souls of those we love. The truth of Jesus Christ, crucified for sinners, remains as relevant as it ever has been, too. “Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word!” (LSB 655)

*In Christ,
 Pastor Holmen*



Weather Policy

If the weather is questionable, or if for some other reason you are wondering whether church services will be held or not, please check our website's Home page at www.splfairmont.org or call the CHURCH OFFICE (238-9491) before leaving home and listen to the entire first message on the answering machine (do not press "4").

If services are cancelled, an announcement will be made in place of the standard message WHENEVER POSSIBLE. If you do not hear a message cancelling services, then they will go on as scheduled.

2023 Martin County Fairstand Report

Here is the final report from the operation of the stand for the 2023 Martin County Fair.

Total income of \$30,038.83 with total expenses of \$14,548.90, with a total profit for 2023 fair of \$15,489.93.

Every day but Saturday (HOT!) the receipts were up over the 2022 fair.

We will also be doing some updating of our kitchen appliances in the stand.

We made donations to the following:

- \$750 Lutheran Hour
- \$750 Comfort Dogs
- \$1,500 LCMS Disaster Response
- \$750 MLHS Parking Lot
- \$500 Church Utilities
- \$1,500 Youth Group
- \$2,000 Anna Keck Fund
- \$1,852.25 Pastor Visiting Expenses and Pastor Holmen Moving Expense

The Lord again blessed us with great volunteers at all aspects of the operation of the Fairstand and also with great weather!

Again, thanks, and we hope to see all of our great volunteers next August 12-18, 2024, our 75th year at the Martin County Fair!

Greg & Nancy Gellert



DEADLINE

DECEMBER
NEWSLETTER/
CALENDAR
DEADLINE

Sunday, November 12

Email splcoffice@splfairmont.org

Worship Services & Bible Studies:

Worship Services:

Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. & Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School, Adult Bible Class, Youth Bible Class & Young Family Bible Studies

Sundays at 10:15 a.m.



Other Worship Opportunities:

Sundays, 9:00 am

Worship Service Livestream
(or watch on demand any time on our website)

Sundays, 10:00 am

Worship Service broadcast on KSUM

Saturdays, 12:00 noon

Worship Service on
local cable access channel 12

Council of Deacons

Meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Below is a listing of the Council of Deacons. If you have a concern, you may contact any one of the following:

POSITION

Name (Years) Phone

CHAIRMAN

Justin Jobe (1)236-2276

SECRETARY

Richard Eyerly (2)238-1802

BUDGET & FINANCE

Corey Simpson (3)605-480-1982

CALLING DEACON

Dan Driscoll (3)525-4490

CALLING DEACON

Richard Behrens (1)236-4955

CALLING DEACON

Jamie Tordsen (3)230-0186

EVANGELISM

Rod Elbert (1)320-894-6882

PARISH MINISTRIES

Duane Rosburg (1)920-9797

SCHOOL

Matt Singleton (2)848-0324

STEWARDSHIP

Jeff Eversman (3)236-9140

TRUSTEES

Merle Boesch (2)236-4641

WORSHIP ASSISTANCE

Matt Northwick (2)236-1531

Congregational Assembly

PRESIDENT

Chuck Northwick236-0257

SECRETARY

Pam Carlson236-5347

TREASURER

Brad Appel236-8455

This Month's Faithful Servants

You may also view the volunteer schedules on our website at www.splfairmont.org

Altar Guild

Nov. 4-5 DeAnn Eversman, Julie Wolf, Nikki Bremer, Peg Elbert
Nov. 11-12 Deb Eversman, Lori Chirpich
Nov. 18-19 Kristi Behrens, Renee Benschoter,
Karen Leiding, Kathy Wedel (Thanksgiving)
Nov. 25-26 Jan Bremer, Kathy Eyerly, Barb Matthees, Sandy Kopeschka

Ushers

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.—Dan Maday, Lee Stewart, and TBA
Sunday, 9 a.m.—Gene Austin, Randy Deling, Lowell Spee, Jamie Tordsen, Oliver Tordsen, Sawyer Tordsen, Ted Stusse, Duane Rosburg, Bill Bremer, Jim Hardt, Braden Kumm, Dave Kumm, Kirk Morris, Lucas Rosburg, Trevor Rosburg, Gary Stusse, Matthew Stusse

Worship Service Assistants

Sat., Nov. 4, 5:30 p.m. Rob True, Larry Behrens
Sun., Nov. 5, 9:00 a.m. Justin Jobe
Sat., Nov. 11, 5:30 p.m. Jim Harley, Jeff Eversman
Sun., Nov. 12, 9:00 a.m. Merle Boesch
Sat., Nov. 18, 5:30 p.m. Jon Eversman, Dave Kumm
Sun., Nov. 19, 9:00 a.m. Joe Kallemeyn
Wed., Nov. 22, 6:30 p.m. (Thanksgiving Eve) TBA
Thurs., Nov. 23, 9:00 a.m. (Thanksgiving Day) TBA
Sat., Nov. 25, 5:30 p.m. Matthew Northwick, Charles Northwick
Sun., Nov. 26, 9:00 a.m. Merle Boesch

Acolytes

November Tyson McKean, Malana Nigon

Sunday Greeters

Nov. 5 (DST Ends) Dawn Waterbury, Shirley Roloff, Greg & Jill Denton
Nov. 12 Russ & Joan Luedtke, Jim & Sara Utermarck
Nov. 19 Rod & Peggy Elbert, Kent & Erlene Milbrandt
Nov. 26 Jamie & April Tordsen, Dennis & Marianne Hagen

Fun Bags

Refill bags anytime during the week after Sunday listed below

Nov. 5 Sarah Becker
Nov. 12 April Tordsen
Nov. 19 Chris Engelby
Nov. 26 Angela Preuss

Attendance Cards/Pencils

Refill cards & sharpen pencils at least monthly (or as needed)

Deb Eversman and Amy Anders
(Ruth Engelby and Richard Schultz, Subs)

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Thrivent Choice Dollars received during October 2023 to SPL Church totaled \$20. If you are eligible to give Choice Dollars, please consider designating to SPL Church, SPL School, or MLHS. Brochures are located in the Welcome Center from Thrivent with information on the steps to give online or by phone. For more information, contact Scott Fuhrman at 235-9877.



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN SCHOOL CALENDAR November 2023 — May 2024

November

3End of 1st Quarter
9Grandparents Day (Half Day)
9P-T Conferences, 3:15-8:00 p.m.
10No School (P-T Conferences 9-noon)
22-24 Thanksgiving Break, No School

December

21 No School, Unless Make-Up
Snow Day Needed
22-29Christmas Break

January

1 & 2Christmas Break
15 No School, Unless Make-Up
Snow Day Needed
19End of 2nd Quarter

February

16 & 19No School

March

15 End of 3rd Quarter
21P-T Conferences, 3:15-8:00 p.m.
22No School (P-T Conferences 9-noon)
28 & 29No School, Easter Break

April

1No School, Easter Break

May

10Field Day
24Last Day of School (Half Day)



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN FAIRMONT

Gala Event

FUNDRAISER FOR SCHOOL TUITION & LWML MISSION PROJECTS

Friday, November 3, 2023 at 4:30PM

Fairmont Event Center / Green Mill

1201 Torgerson Drive, Fairmont, MN 56031

Cost: \$50.00 Per Person

4:30PM Check-In, Social Hour, Silent Auction & Games

6:30PM Dinner

7:30PM Silent Auction Closes

Live Auction Following Dinner

For more information, contact
SPL Church Office: 507-238-9491

This event is a Thrivent Action Project.

Go to splfairmont.org/spl-gala.html
to view a listing of auction items.

GIVE THANKS WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift! II Cor. 9:15 (ESV)



Mark Your Calendar

Dates/times subject to change

Circles

Clara Circle

November 8, 1:30 p.m.
Fellowship Room

Eve Circle

November 13, 7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Room

* * * * *

LWML

No November meeting

*Each woman of the LCMS
is a part of the LWML*

**Lutheran Women's
Missionary League,**
as the official women's auxiliary
of the LCMS, encourages
and equips women to live out
their Christian lives in active
mission ministries and to
support global missions.

* * * * *

Lutheran Laymen's League

November 4
9:00 a.m.
The Ranch Restaurant

* * * * *

Charity Club

(Subject to change)

Activity Days
November 14 & 15



You Are Invited to the LWML CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

Saturday, December 9 ~ 10 a.m.
in the
St. Paul Lutheran Church Basement
The brunch is hosted by Clara Circle

Christmas Brunch tickets will be on sale
at the Welcome/Information Center
after all church services on the
weekends of November 5, 12, 19 & 26.
Tickets may also be purchased
in the church office.

(Cut-off date is Thursday, November 30th at 12:00 p.m.)

Cost: \$7.00 per person

Brunch will be prepared by The Ranch Restaurant
Catering and Clara Circle ~ Served Buffet Style

Hashbrown Ham Cheese Egg Bake
Frozen Fruit Cup
Large Homemade Cinnamon Rolls with Cream Cheese Frosting
Coffee



Program: Preparing our Hearts



*Start off your Advent season with wonderful
fellowship and lots of Christmas songs
* Bring Guests **

*Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign.
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14 ESV)*

—STAYING— CONNECTED

CALL-EM-ALL OR TEXT-EM-ALL

**If you aren't already
signed up / receiving messages...**

register on our website's
Home page to be
included in all mass messages
sent out to our members.

* * * * *

Please note: You are able
to choose whether you want
a text or phone message.

* * * * *

www.splfairmont.org

Pastoral Care at Mayo, Rochester

Those hospitalized or receiving medical care at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN are now being cared for by the pastoral staff of Trinity Lutheran Church of Rochester. Members in need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Nate Schwartz at 816-806-6797 or chaplain@trinitylutheranchurch.org. The pastoral staff at Trinity is honored to assist you in caring for Christ's sheep.

There is also a list of LCMS pastors near other Minnesota hospitals that are willing to provide pastoral care, available by going to Minnesota South's website at www.mnsdistrict.org, then select News & Events—Publications—E-News.



PLANT A SEED
CREATE A
Legacy

*St Paul Evangelical Lutheran
Church Endowment Fund*

www.splfairmont.org
then select Church Endowment Fund tab

SPL Endowment Fund Committee

Greg Gellert, 238-2190
Rob True, 507-276-4651
Jan Bremer, 764-6961
Chuck Northwick, 235-3409
Dave Johnson, 235-6953
Kathy Eyerly, 238-1802
Ed Ritter, 235-6248
Jim Utermarck (Chairman)
238-5457, 236-3942

Automatic Giving: It's easy to give your offering automatically through a program called Give+ Online. You may set up regular giving or give one time. There are also options for giving to other funds in the drop-down list. Enroll or give online at splfairmont.org (click on "Church" then "Give+ Online.") There are also one-time and automatic giving opportunities available through PayPal on various pages of our website. (Please use your envelope number as your Member ID number when setting up your account; contact the church office if you need that information.)

LWML Mite Box: The Mite Box will be in the narthex for the collecting of mites the first Sunday of the month. Please empty your mite box into the large mite box and continue saving your coins for the mission of our district and international projects.

Free small catechism mobile app: Luther's Small Catechism with explanation is available free at Google Play (Item 223203DRD) or at Apple App Store (Item 223203APP). You can find other apps by searching "Apps" at www.cph.org.

Prayer Chain: If you would like to be part of the SPL **email** prayer chain or have a prayer request, please contact them at prayerchain@splfairmont.org.

Please Let Us Know: If you have a change of address, telephone number, etc.; if you or a loved one are hospitalized or ill; if you have had a recent death in the family.

Lutheran Singles on Facebook: This group is for like-minded single confessional Lutherans: marriage-seeking, liturgical, Christ-centered, Cross-focused.

Contemplating Marriage? If you are contemplating marriage in the coming months, be sure to contact the church office first before setting any wedding dates. The wedding booklet is available on our website, as well as other useful information.

Wanting to Earmark a Gift? On occasions such as anniversaries, birthdays, at the loss of a loved one, or when estate planning, members have asked for ideas to earmark their gifts. Here are some suggestions if you want to give an earmarked item (a complete list is on our website):

- SPL Church & School Operating Budget;
- Sanctuary Repairs;
- Debt Reduction;
- Church Endowment;
- School Endowment;
- Church or School Upkeep & Repair;
- Vernon H. Harley Scholarship;
- Anna Keck School Tuition Aid Fund;
- Operating Reserve Fund; or
- Ask in the church or school office for current special "wish list" items.





Providing a Quality
Christian Education
for 129 Years
*Accredited
Small Class Size*



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN SCHOOL
(PreK-8)
507.238.9492

MLHS News

Office Hours

7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

Phone: 507-436-5249

www.martinlutherhs.com



This is Most Certainly Brew Gourmet Coffee is available at MLHS or in the SPL church office. For more information, call MLHS.

MLHS has an immediate opening for an office manager position. We are looking for someone who loves Jesus, who has a heart for ministry and kids, is a good Christian role model, and who enjoys working as part of a team. This position is central to the success of our operations. It offers daily diversity which makes boredom impossible. Work hours are reflective of the school day and school year, meaning summer flexibility and SNOW DAYS. If you are interested in learning more, contact paulsteinhaus@martinlutherhs.com.

The MLHS Drama Department is presenting the comedy "Maid to Order" in the school gymnasium on November 3 & 4 at 7:00 p.m.

The MLHS National Honor Society is hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, November 6 from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. To register, call 1-800-RED-CROSS or go to www.redcrossblood.org and enter MLHSMN.

Tickets are available for the Mission Possible Benefit Knight on Saturday, November 11th at MLHS. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with valet parking. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Menu includes cashew lettuce salad, smoked grilled pork chop, garlic mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, roll and butter, and cheesecake. Tickets have been rolled back to 1986 prices at \$50/person. Please purchase before November 1st. They are available at the MLHS office, area churches, or online at www.martinlutherhs.com/mission-possible-benefit.html. Veterans may attend for free; please RSVP to 507-436-5249. A \$15,000 exit challenge for student tuition aid 2023-2024 will be offered, also.

Martin Luther Sunday will be observed in area congregations on Sunday, November 12th. The 2023 Advent devotions written by Martin Luther students will be available.

School Fundraisers

COCA-COLA GIVE PROGRAM — This fundraiser opens up new funding opportunities to help the learning environment for our students. The best part? Donations don't come out of your own pocket. When you make Coca-Cola purchases, you simply enter the product codes here: <https://us.coca-cola.com/give/schools/> and then search by zip code, and scan or enter product codes from participating Coca-Cola products. Each product code scanned or entered on their website has a unique donation value. To learn more, go to <https://us.coca-cola.com/give/>. Thank you!

RAISERIGHT FUNDRAISING: Raise money for St. Paul Lutheran School (or a specific family in our school) just by purchasing gas, groceries, and other items with these gift cards. You receive the full value of what you paid plus you earn an immediate rebate percentage of what you spent — typically between 3-15%, depending on the retailer. Use the proceeds to supplement the school budget, or families can receive credit toward tuition and other school expenses. Go to RaiseRight.com and use our enrollment code **24271B1C5147L** to get started. Questions? Contact Joan Abel, jabel@splfairmont.org or 507-236-9521.

HY-VEE & FAREWAY RECEIPTS: Save your Fairmont Hy-Vee and Fareway receipts — turn in to the collection bins located in the upstairs school corridor and church basement. For each \$200,000 in receipts collected from their store, they donate \$1,000 to St. Paul Lutheran School. Receipts must be from Fairmont stores only; remember to thank the stores for this program when you shop!

SUBWAY CARDS: If you purchase Subway cards, 2% of your purchase can go to SPLS. If you already have a card or when you purchase one, add our school's code (3TQF) to your card at www.subway.com or call 1-800-564-1343. Subway cards can be purchased at any Subway and are redeemed at full purchase price when you eat at Subway.

OTHER PROGRAMS: Scan Box Tops for Education receipts; save Tyson "Project A+" labels; and Pizza Ranch "wagon" symbols. We also collect used, workable cell phones.

WE ALSO APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT of our other school fundraisers, such as the Tour of Tables/Cakewalk and Basket Fundraiser.

THE SCHOOL ALSO collects aluminum pop tabs to help support the Ronald McDonald House in the Twin Cities. Families receiving care at any Twin Cities area hospital are eligible to stay there, provided their children are being treated for cancer or have other life-threatening illnesses and the family resides 45 miles or greater from the Twin Cities. Yearly, more than 600 families stay there.



God's Blessings on Your Birthday!



HAPPY Anniversary

Brian & Jodi Hackett	Nov 4
Nathan & Amy Anders	Nov 5
Dennis & Marjean Breitbarth.....	Nov 7
Oliver & Eunice Meyer	Nov 12
Duane & Lisa Rosburg.....	Nov 14
Robert & Rosa Milow	Nov 14
Martin & Kathy Meixell	Nov 19
Richard & Loretta Behrens	Nov 19
Stephen & Ronna Roesner	Nov 25
Kevin & Mitsy Rasmussen	Nov 25
Timothy & Kelly Oelgoetz	Nov 25
Derek & Norah Laven	Nov 25
Todd & Betsy Steuber.....	Nov 27
Jeffrey & Debra Eversman.....	Nov 30


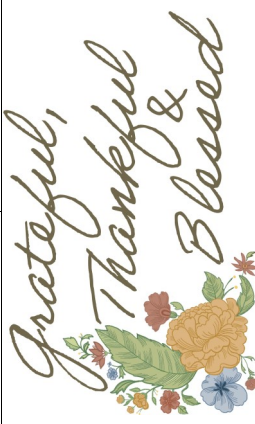


Steve Pomeranke	Nov 1
James Glienke.....	Nov 1
Rod Elbert.....	Nov 1
Michael Soucek	Nov 2
Jana Holmen	Nov 2
Matthew Krumholz.....	Nov 3
Sarah Wendler	Nov 3
Connie Garrison.....	Nov 3
Brandon Bassett.....	Nov 4
Pauline Mau.....	Nov 4
Sandra Penning.....	Nov 6
Harland Wedel.....	Nov 6
Lisa Rosburg.....	Nov 6
Allye Olson.....	Nov 7
Steven Wedel.....	Nov 7
Kaitlyn Harris	Nov 7
Marcia Rooney	Nov 8
Jared Breitbarth	Nov 9
Ryan Luedtke	Nov 9
Sheila Jensen	Nov 9
Kelly Chen.....	Nov 9
Jennifer Jorgensen	Nov 11
Brent Rieland.....	Nov 11
Ty Wintheiser	Nov 12
Terie Larson	Nov 13
Jadyne Lingl	Nov 13
Mariko Peterson.....	Nov 14
Leon Schleiningner.....	Nov 14
John Huttemeier.....	Nov 14
Deanne Fritchman	Nov 15
Alex Kallemeyn.....	Nov 17
Jaymes Kitzerow	Nov 17
Russell Luedtke	Nov 17

Jacob Peymann.....	Nov 17
Derek Laven	Nov 17
John Preuss.....	Nov 18
Riley Lingl	Nov 18
Sarah Musser	Nov 21
Janet Northwick	Nov 21
Heidi Breitbarth.....	Nov 22
Kenneth Simmering	Nov 23
Bill Meyeraan.....	Nov 24
Ronda Cone.....	Nov 24
Mary Williams	Nov 25
Kris Behrens.....	Nov 25
Verlyn Sandersfeld.....	Nov 25
Marion Olson	Nov 25
Lynn Harris	Nov 25
Doug Abel.....	Nov 26
Sharon Crysler.....	Nov 27
Jeremy Wedel.....	Nov 27
Randy Martinson	Nov 27
Jordan Ehlert	Nov 28
Ellena Laven.....	Nov 29
Ryan Elbert.....	Nov 29
Quinn Simpson.....	Nov 30

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
KEY: ChB = Church Basement FR = Fellowship Room ABC = Adult Bible Class YBC = Youth Bible Class YFBS = Young Family Bible Study SS = Sunday School AC = Adult Catechumenate DL = Deadline			1 <i>All Saints' Day</i> 8:25am-School Chapel 3:30pm-Weekday Catechism 5:30pm-School Board, FR 6:00pm-Bells 6:00pm-Trustees, ChB 6:30pm-Parish Min., ChB 7:00pm-Choir	2 8:25am-School Chapel 9:00am-Messenger DL <i>No LW/ML</i>	3 <i>SPLS End of 1st Quarter</i> 8:25am-School Chapel 12:30 & 7:00pm-MLHS <i>Drama Production, FOH</i> 3:30pm-Goldfinch Comm. 4:30pm-SPL Gala Event, Fmt. Event Center/Green Mill	4 9:00am-LLL, The Ranch 12:00pm-Worship Service on Local Cable Access Ch. 12 5:30pm-Worship Service 7:00pm-MLHS Drama <i>Production, FOH</i>
5 <i>All Saints' Day (Observed)</i> <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends</i> 9:00am-Worship Service 10:00am-Worship Service on KSUM YFBS 10:15am-SS, ABC, YBC, 6:30pm-Jr Youth Group, FR	6 8:25am-School Chapel Pastors' Day Off 12:30-5:00pm-MLHS Blood <i>Drive</i>	7 8:25am-School Chapel 6:30m-Stewardship, FR	8 8:25am-School Chapel 1:30pm-Clara, FR 3:30pm-Weekday Catechism 6:00pm-Bells 6:00pm-B&F, FR 7:00pm-Choir	9 8:25am-School Chapel <i>SPLS Grandparents' Day;</i> <i>Half Day of School</i> 9:00am-Messenger DL 10:00am-Pastor's Circuit <i>Meeting</i> <i>Deadline to Order</i> <i>Office</i> <i>Poinsettias with Church</i> <i>Conferences</i>	10 <i>SPLS No School</i> 9am-12pm-P-T Conferences MLHS Grandparents Day & NHS Induction	11 12:00pm-Worship Service on Local Cable Access Ch. 12 5:00pm-MLHS Mission <i>Possible Benefit Knight</i> 5:30pm-Worship Service
12 <i>24th Sunday after Pentecost</i> <i>MLHS Sunday</i> 9:00am-Worship Service 10:00am-Worship Service on KSUM YFBS <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	13 8:25am-School Chapel Pastors' Day Off 7:00pm-Eve, FR	14 8:25am-School Chapel Charity Club Activity Day	15 8:25am-School Chapel Charity Club Activity Day 3:30pm-Weekday Catechism 5:30pm-Deacons, FR 6:00pm-Bells 7:00pm-Choir	16 8:25am-School Chapel 9:00am-Messenger DL	17 8:25am-School Chapel	18 12:00pm-Worship Service on Local Cable Access Ch. 12 5:30pm-Worship Service
19 <i>25th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:00am-Worship Service 10:00am-Worship Service on KSUM YFBS	20 8:25am-School Chapel Pastors' Day Off	21 8:25am-School Chapel	22 <i>Thanksgiving Eve</i> <i>SPLS No School</i> 9:00am-Messenger DL <i>No Weekday Catechism</i> <i>No Bells</i> 6:30pm-Thanksgiving Eve <i>Service</i> <i>No Choir</i>	23 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i> <i>SPLS No School</i> 9:00am-Thanksgiving Day <i>Service</i>	24 <i>SPLS No School</i> 3:00pm-LMHCC	25 12:00pm-Worship Service on Local Cable Access Ch. 12 5:30pm-Worship Service
26 <i>Last Sunday of the Church</i> <i>Year</i> 9:00am-Worship Service 10:00am-Worship Service on KSUM YFBS 10:15am-SS, ABC, YBC, 6:30pm-HS Youth, FR	27 8:25am-School Chapel Pastors' Day Off	28 8:25am-School Chapel	29 8:25am-School Chapel 3:30pm-Weekday Catechism 6:00pm-Bells 7:00pm-Choir	30 8:25am-School Chapel 9:00am-Messenger DL		

November
Heaven
and earth
will
pass away,
but
My words
will not
pass away.
~ Mark 13:31

November 2023

CALL TO SERVICE

November 2023
Volume 54, Issue 11



Happy Thanksgiving



Let us give thanks!



Our Father in heaven has claimed us as His own. By the shedding of His Son's blood, His death for our sins, and His resurrection for our justification, God the Father has received us back into His family. By water – combined with His Word, promise, and Name – the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in us. We belong to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is in us, and we are in Him. And, being in Him, all things are ours. In Him, we are richly and abundantly blessed.

Our true treasure is that we belong to the most Holy Trinity, and everything that is His – righteousness, peace, eternal life – also belongs also to us. Even our temporal treasures are gifts from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy.

We receive our treasures from Him, and thus, as good stewards of His varied grace, we manage them in such a way that they may be returned to Him. We bring them to Him, hallowed through prayers of thanksgiving and God's holy Word, as a sacrifice.

Thus, all our possessions, as gifts from God, are also sacrifices to Him. We eat to nourish our bodies. We share with our family, neighbors, fellow Christians, the poor, and even our enemies as holy things given by the holy God. His temporal gifts are blessings to and for us, and they bring blessings upon us even as they are pressed into His service for His kingdom.

Thus, we place all that we have into God's hands, and He never fails to remember us. He pours out the fullness of His promises upon us. We give thanks for all that He has done, is doing, and will continue to do. We give thanks by not taking for ourselves, but, giving to all even as our heavenly Father has given to us.

As we prepare for the celebrations of Thanksgiving, may we all give thanks continually for all that we are and all that we have because of God's providential care. And may we be all the more diligent in bringing everything that we have received from God to Him, so that He may bless it and employ it for the good of all – even for us. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance.

~LCMS Stewardship Ministry
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