



The

Sanctuary

You are God's Temple

...God's Spirit Lives in You. 1 Cor. 3:15

BLESSED SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH + 1205 NORTH LINCOLN AVE. + O'FALLON, IL 62269 + 618-632-0126 + WWW.MYBSLC.ORG

Upcoming Events

November 2021

Mon. Nov. 1

Elders Mtg 7

Mon. Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Support Group 7 pm

Tues. Nov. 2

Quilting 10-?

Wed. Nov. 3, 10, 17

Ladies Bible Study 10

Sun. Nov. 7

Daylight Savings time ends

Sun. Nov. 7, 14, 21

Worship 9:30 am

Sun School 10:45 am

Thurs. Nov. 11

Veteran's Day

Office Closed

Gary Williams Wedding 5:30

Savers Clothing Drive

Ends—drop off 6-8

Tues. Nov. 16

Christian Ed Mtg 7

Thurs. Nov. 18

Fellowship Mtg 430

Perfect Pastries Pick up day

430-8 pm

Sun. Nov. 21

Voters Meeting 11 am

Last day for Pantry

donations

Wed. Nov. 24

Thanksgiving Eve

Worship 7 pm

Thurs. Nov. 25

Thanksgiving Day

Office Closed

Sun. Nov. 28

No Sunday School

No Confirmation

Wed. Dec. 1

Midweek Worship

Dinner 6 pm

Worship 7 pm

**Happy
Thanksgiving!**



**VOTERS
MEETING**

Semi Annual Voter's Meeting

Sunday, November 21

Immediately following the 930 service

Please come to this important meeting.

Main topic will be the 2022 Budget

Thanksgiving Worship Service

Wednesday, November 24, 2021—7:00 p.m.

Thanksgiving Food Baskets

Monetary donations will be collected on Sunday, November 7, 14, & 21.

Donations collected will be given to the O'Fallon Food Pantry. Aldi gift cards will be purchased to give to those in our congregation in need.

Please give names for gift cards to Pastor Vern.



Thanksgiving Baskets



Midweek Advent Worship

Wednesdays December 1, 8 & 15

Soup & Salad Dinner at 6 pm

Worship 7 pm



“Keep on praying and guard your prayers with thanksgiving.” (Common English Bible)

There’s a famous story that came out of the Civil War regarding 22 year old Private William Scott of Groton, Vermont, who had responded to President Lincoln’s plea for volunteers to support the Union’s cause. The Vermont Co. K had been assigned to serve sentinel duty to protect the perimeter of our nation’s capital. Pvt. Scott had volunteered to cover for another sick soldier, but exhausted from serving his second successive night on duty, he was found asleep at his post. Pvt. Scott was court martialed and sentenced to be executed by firing squad. Fellow soldiers and officers had begged for clemency because of the situation and when word reached President Lincoln, he agreed to the pardon.

According to one report (possibly sensationalized) the private was brought out before the firing squad for his execution and the judgment was read. However, attached to the judgment was his pardon. Below is an excerpt of that part of the document.

This act of clemency must not be understood as affording a precedent for any future case. The duty of a sentinel is of such a nature, that its neglect by sleeping upon or deserting his post may endanger the safety of a command, or even of the whole army, and all nations affix to the offence the penalty of death. Private William Scott of Co. K. of the Third regiment of Vermont volunteers, will be released from confinement and returned to duty.

By command of Maj.-General McClellan, S. WILLIAMS, Asst. Adjt.-General.

We see in the pardon just how critical the role of sentinel was to the security of the army. Falling asleep at the post could be detrimental to not just fellow soldiers but to the entire army. That’s why the penalty was so severe.

But in Colossians 4:2, St. Paul encourages the church at Colossae to keep on praying, guarding their prayers **with thanksgiving**. I would have thought he would say, “guarding them with perseverance.” Sustained vigilance of our prayers are so important, they deserve our utmost attention! Why then, does Paul encourage the guarding of prayers with thanksgiving?

Contemplating this thought, my mind immediately ran to the night of Jesus’ arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-46). Jesus had gone there with His disciples to pray. He knew what was ahead and we now know just how monumental His sacrifice would be for all mankind! Taking Peter, James and John with Him a little further away from the others, He asked them to “remain and watch with me.” When he returned He found them sleeping, not once, not twice but three times, while He poured out His heart to God about His work for THEIR salvation. He who was to die on the cross for the sins of the world remained alert in prayer while the disciples slept.

If you look at your own prayer life you might see just how many times we throw a prayer to God asking for safety for one person and healing for another. And then, just as quickly as we make our petition it is forgotten. Sometimes we might ask someone else to pray what God has laid on our hearts, not necessarily to ask them to join us, but to put the burden on someone else so that we can forget about it and go back to our spiritual slumber. How often we have fallen asleep at our Prayer Post! That’s why this passage from Colossians intrigues me.

God knows our spirits are willing but our flesh is weak. But we can guard our prayers with thanksgiving because we have Jesus Christ ever interceding for us before our Father in heaven. You see, Jesus never falls asleep at His post.

So this month of Thanksgiving, as we remember St Paul’s encouragement to “keep on praying,” let us also guard those prayers, not out of fear of punishment when we in our weakened condition fall asleep at the post, but with thanksgiving on our hearts. For Christ (Praise be His Name!) did more than rescue us from our enemies of sin, death, and hell when He went to the cross, but He has also taken His place at the right hand of God as our eternal Sentinel, so that even while we sleep we are safe! Imagine that! Jesus, the King of heaven and earth, is still taking the role of a lowly Servant, as our personal Sentinel! Thanksgiving indeed!

Blessed Thanksgiving!

Pastor Vern

Chairman Chat



Well, it's November and time to turn back the clock an hour on Sunday, NOV 7th, attend Thanksgiving gatherings and be thankful for family among other things. Of course, we should always praise and thank God for all of his gifts to us.

This year for Thanksgiving, instead of the annual Thanksgiving Baskets, the church will be collecting and donating money to the O'Fallon Food Pantry. Please review the information regarding this project in this newsletter and future bulletin announcements and emails.

Besides celebrating the Thanksgiving holiday, the council will have their monthly council meeting (Tuesday, NOV 9th) and the annual Fall Voter's meeting (I believe **tentatively** scheduled for Sunday, NOV 21st at 11:00 am).

At the Voter's meeting, the council will present the budget for the BSLC 2022 calendar year, current church financials, and some information regarding the Post-COVID plan. PLEASE plan on attending this meeting in order to voice your questions/opinions as well as cast your vote on the budget.

Remember it is still **recommended** that everyone wear a mask while inside the church. We want to do our part in stopping the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

The council appreciates all the support you have provided the church during the pandemic. THANKS to everyone in trying to keep the church operating as "normal" as possible during this time.

Happy Thanksgiving (and try not to eat too much turkey)!!!

In God's Name,
Curtis Kuppler, BSLC Congregational Chairman



Thanks to everyone who came out to the Fall Festival! It was wonderful to see so many families enjoying the afternoon and evening.

The Sunday School Christmas Program will be on December 12 during the worship service, so please attend that day to encourage our young performers and enjoy their enthusiasm for the Christmas story. Most program practices will be during Sunday School classes between now and Dec 12 so please make an extra effort to have your children attend the next few weeks. Additional de-

tails will be posted as they are available.

Sunday School will NOT be held on November 28, December 26 and January 2.

If your family has someone in college or the military please send their mailing address to Donna Brockmeyer at brockmeyerfamily@gmail.com, text to 618-977-6888 or leave a note in her church mailbox. The Christian Education committee would like to send encouragement from their church family.



November 2021 Newsletter Article LCMS Foundation Gift Planning

Do you like to build puzzles? Some have thousands of pieces. As the pieces come together, so does the picture. Often, when someone gets stuck on a puzzle, a new set of eyes can insert a piece that gets the whole project running again.

Your life is a puzzle. It has many beautiful pieces, all constructed by our Lord. As we move through life, more and more pieces get put in place, reflecting God's marvelous plan.

But sometimes, we need that special someone to come along to figure out how to put a piece in place when things have been stuck for a while. That can be true about getting your estate plan in place, or your plan for gifts to family and ministry found inside of that estate plan.

Your trusted advisors can help get you going again. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can be the encourager and organizer to keep you on track. Working together we get to see God's good things unfold in front of our eyes, enabling us to do far more than we could have ever imagined. For help getting started, contact Scott Radden, Gift Planning Counselor at (618) 977-4049 or Scott.Radden@lfnd.org for more information.



amazon

smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Amazon Smile

Doing some online shopping with Amazon?

Did you know that Blessed Savior is signed up as a charitable organization on AmazonSmile? Please consider starting at Amazonsmile next time you order from Amazon and designate Blessed Savior as your charity.

AmazonSmile is a program that donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases on Amazon to a charity of your choice. All you need to do is start your shopping at smile.amazon.com. The donation will be made at no extra cost to you and you can choose from nearly one million public charitable organiza-

Christmas Giving Tree

We have been informed by Lutheran Child and Family Services that they will not be doing the Christmas Giving Tree this year due to the Covid-19 virus.

Instead they are asking for monetary donations. Your donation will put gifts under the tree for the children in their care. Foster parents will receive money specifically to buy Christmas gifts for

each child—assuring they receive what they want and need. With continuing COVID concerns this ensures we all stay safer.

To donate you may do in several ways:

Write a check to BSLC and place in the offering plate. Make sure you note LCFS in the memo portion. One check will be written for all donations received through Blessed Savior.

Mail a check directly to LCFS Christmas Drive, One Oakbrook Terrace, Suite 501, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

Donate online: www.LCFS.org/ChristmasDrive

There is also more information available at the online website.

Thanks for your participation and generosity.

Give from your heart and help children have a Merry Christmas!



GIVING TREE

Thanksgiving Food Drive – Reorganized for 2021



Monetary donations will be collected on Sunday, November 7, 14, & 21.

A \$30 donation is suggested but not required. No food will be purchased this year.

Donations collected will be given to the O’Fallon Food Pantry.

Aldi gift cards will be purchased to give to those in our congregation in need.

Please give names for gift cards to Pastor Vern.

BSLC Launches Shoe Drive Fundraiser

Blessed Savior Lutheran Church is conducting a shoe drive fundraiser beginning **NOW** to raise funds for the BSLC Elder’s Benevolent Fund and the Mary Rust Mabry Scholarship Endowment Fund. We will earn funds based on the total weight of the pairs of gently worn, used and new shoes collected, as Funds2Orgs will issue a check for the collected shoes. Anyone can help by donating gently worn, used and new shoes at Blessed Savior.

All donated shoes will then be redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of micro-enterprise (small business) partners. Funds2Orgs works with micro-entrepreneurs in helping them create, maintain and grow small businesses in developing countries where economic opportunity and jobs are limited. Proceeds from the sales of the shoes collected in shoe drive fundraisers are used to feed, clothe and house their families. One budding entrepreneur in Haiti even earned enough to send her son to law school.

We know that most people have extra shoes in their closets they would like to donate to us. By doing so, we raise money for our causes and we have the chance to help families in developing nations who need economic opportunities. It’s a win-win for everyone.”

By donating gently worn, used and new shoes to BSLC, the shoes will be given a second chance and make a difference in people’s lives around the world.

For more information contact Ginger Kieffer at 622-5171 or gkief-fer24@gmail.com.



Perfect Pastries and so much more!

Check out the info in the Narthex to order! Or use the link below

Pastries, pizza, cookie dough, and coffee too!

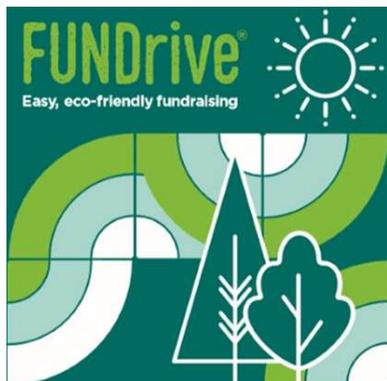
Benefit to raise funds for BSLC outreach and Believe Memorial Foundation to go toward cancer research and McKendree College endowment for teacher grants to further their education.

<https://my.perfectpastries.biz/2021-fall-blessed-savior-lutheran-church/sandy-rust/>

Last day to order Sun. October 31

Pick up will be Thurs. Nov. 18 from 4:30-8 p.m.

Clean out your closets for Blessed Savior Lutheran Church!



FUNDrive® Coordinator
Sandie Rust
(618) 420-1060
sandie2angels@gmail.com

Our Goal: \$1000
278 Tall Kitchen Bags + Large Yard Bags
Fundraiser Dates:
09/20/2021 - 11/07/2021
Community Collection Days
September 15 06:00 PM - 08:00 PM

Blessed Savior Lutheran Church, Lower Level
1205 North Lincoln - O'Fallon, IL

We are doing the fundraiser to help people in our community who are facing hard times due to COVID, loss jobs, and etc. and towards The Rust Mabry Endowed Scholarship at McKendree College in memory of Mary Rust Mabry who lost her life from cancer. It is an educational Endowment for teachers furthering their education.

We Are Collecting:

Clothes: men's, women's and children's clothes, coats, shoes, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, ties, belts, backpacks, etc.

Household Textiles: bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen, tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

Please gather clothes and household textiles in bags. All items must be clean and in sellable condition.



**Last day to bring your items:
Thursday, November 11
From 6-8 p.m.**

Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee tagged along with Fall Festival and Chili Cook Off and this year added Trunk Or Treat. For those how missed it, we had a lot of Fun and we missed you! We had 8 cars participate for this event. An estimated 75 children from near-by neighborhoods came and received lots of goodies from the cars. Christian Ed provided games and a great Balloon Lady who provided lots of great designs. Chili was judged and the winners were announced at 5pm. Chili, hot dogs and S'mores galore were the flavor of the day..

COMING UP..... Mark your Calendars- Advent Dinners will be starting Wed 1 Dec at 6pm. And continue each wed for 3 weeks. We will be having Soup and Salads. Hope to see you there for food and fellowship before the Wed night services.



A Veterans Day Prayer

God of all nations, you are our Strength and Shield. We give you thanks today for the devotion and courage of all those who have offered military service for this country ...

We ask today that you would lift up by your Spirit those who are now at war; encourage and heal those in hospitals or mending their wounds at home; guard those in any need or trouble; hold safely in your hands all military families and bring the returning troops to joyful reunion and tranquil life at home. Give to us, your people, grateful hearts and a united will to honor these men and women and hold them always in our love and our prayers until your world is perfected in peace and all wars cease. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen. — Rev. Dr. Jennifer Phillips

A Life OF Stewardship

LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter article – November 2021

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 wherever than it is to think about what our daily life in Christ is supposed to look like and how we are supposed to love our neighbor.

The fact that we don't like it certainly means we ought to face it. So, here are a few simple and practical realities.

God calls us to first-fruits, sacrificial giving. That means that 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 then 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 stuff we 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%? The ceremonial law of the Old Testament was never arbitrary. In the Old Testament, the Levites received this tithe so that 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% is what it took 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?

By first-fruits, sacrificial, and generous giving – that's how. We shouldn't fool ourselves into thinking that we've outgiven God's goodness or that we've given plenty. We might be tempted to think that way, but consider that 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.

St. Paul brought the Good News of Jesus into the discussion of our giving to support the Lord's work in the Church when he wrote: "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. So if first-fruits, sacrificial giving has you squirming, that's the point.

In Mark's account of the feeding of the 4,000, Jesus took the disciples' seven loaves 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 that 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 and however grudgingly they do so – He blesses. He not only blesses those whom He feeds with it, but He blesses them – the givers. He blesses the givers not just in that they wind up with a basketful for each loaf, but they are blessed by learning to trust and rejoice in Him.

The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away. The Lord gives abundantly, or He asks us to fast. We do not know what will happen. Blessed be the Name of the Lord. He does all things well, and He 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, because they love Him, and because they trust Him. Let us go and do likewise.



- 1—Chareen Rust, Anne Siron
- 2—Isaiah Siron
- 3—David Boggs
- 4 – David Ziegler
- 6—Wendi Gorney
- 7—Kathy Husemann,
Dean Krantz,
Peggy Russell
- 10—Kaitlyn Jackson,
Christi Poteet, Liv Colvin
- 11—Judy Hopper
- 16—Gus Williams
- 22—Andrea Wiesner,

We are sorry if your birthday or anniversary has been overlooked. Please call the church office, 632-0126 or email Nancy at nancy@mybslc.org so we may add your name to our list. Thanks for your help.



- 23—Lynn Bartimus,
Trey Stake
- 26—Katie Hauptert,
Jason Rust
- 27—Collin Jackson,
Brandon Gass
- 27—Michael Sotiropoulos
- 27— Niki Huff 29—Chris Rust
- 30—T.T. Maxheimer, Georgia Trefftz

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

- 2 – Gus & Stephanie Williams
- 4—Emilie & Chris Wickline
- 11—Erik & Jayni Lintvedt
- 15 Todd & Wendi Gorney
- 20—Kevin & Amy Calzada
- 24 – Ken & Cheryl Vohlken



THANKS
FROM THE
HEART

Letter from Evelyn Raabe

Dear Friends of Blessed Savior Lutheran Church
Thank you so very much for the many issues of The Sanctuary. Our Family has enjoyed reading them very much.

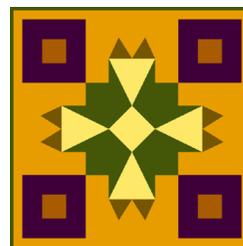
This is to inform you that Rev. Bernard Raabe passed away unexpectedly on July 21, 2021. He was 98 years old and suffered a stroke. His memorial service was held at Christ Lutheran Church here in Phoenix. His entire ministry was spreading the Gospel and starting mission churches.

Our family now lives here in Phoenix.
Love in Christ,
Evelyn Raabe (wife)

Choir News

The Adult Choir rehearsals scheduled for November have been canceled due to small response. We will try again in December with practices immediately following Advent services.

Thank you. Marty



Join the Lutheran World Relief QUILTERS on **Tuesday, November 2, Tuesday, December 7, and Tuesday January 4** from 10:00 - ? to tie quilts. (We don't actually quilt by hand. Instead we secure the layers by hand tying them.) Bring your lunch and join us for a time of good ole fellowship. Stay the entire time or as long as your schedule permits. Hope to see you there! Mark your calendar for the 1st Tuesday of each month. If you have any fabric pieces, thin blankets, curtains, drapes, sheets, etc you no longer need, the quilters would love to recycle them into quilts.



A “HOME ALONE” DINNER ALTERNATIVE

Drive-Thru, Curb Side Thanksgiving Luncheon

Thursday, November 25 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church

520 E US Hwy 50 – O’Fallon

8th Annual Community Thanksgiving Feast with Covid restrictions.

Free and open to all.

Please note BSLC will NOT be having a “Home Alone” dinner again this year.

This might be an option for those not wanting to cook!

Thankfulness in Action

Thanksgiving is a spiritual exercise, necessary to the building of a healthy soul. It takes us out of the stuffiness of ourselves into the fresh breeze and sunlight of the will of God. Elisabeth Elliot, *Keep a Quiet Heart*

To speak gratitude is courteous and pleasant, to enact gratitude is generous and noble, but to live gratitude is to touch heaven. —Johannes Gaertner

Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good. —Maya Angelou



A Gratitude Game



Years ago, ads for a toy-store chain featured an animated kangaroo jumping on a frown to turn it upside down. That reminds me of family life, which can feel like a non-stop attempt to keep everyone happy. Busy schedules, grumpy kids and tired parents can be a bad combination.

When our family needs to turn frowns upside down, we play the thankful game. The rules are simple: We take turns sharing one

thing we’re thankful for. Everyone plays. No one can pass. No repeats are allowed. Our kids, now teens, still chime in.

Present tense

After “turkey day” came and went last year, a pastor challenged church members to ask one another not “How was your Thanksgiving?” but “How *is* your Thanksgiving?” After all, giving thanks should be an ongoing act.

That doesn’t always need to be profoundly deep, either. A.J. Jacobs, author of *Thanks a Thousand*, once asked a philosophy-professor friend what he was grateful for. The shockingly simple reply? “Sometimes I’m just grateful I have arms.” That odd but spot-on answer shows the importance, Jacobs says, of being “thankful for things so omnipresent that they can escape our notice.”

So ... how *is* your Thanksgiving?

Thanksgiving Beatitudes

Be thankful that you don’t already have everything you desire. If you did, what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don’t know something, for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times. During those times you grow.

Be thankful for your limitations, because they give you opportunities for improvement.

Be thankful for each new challenge, because it will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes. They will teach you valuable lessons.

Be thankful when you’re tired and weary, because it means you’ve made a difference.

—Author unknown



A New Thanksgiving Tradition

At Thanksgiving, we give thanks for things (food, home, clothing, work) and loved ones (family, friends, pets). But if the people we name aren't present, they may never know how precious they are to us. This November, start a new tradition by writing notes of thanks to people you appreciate.

Follow Paul's model of starting letters with thanksgiving: "First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world" (Romans 1:8, NIV). Notice how he thanks his addressees by thanking God for them. Paul is specific too, not writing, "Thanks for everything!"

Expressing genuine thanksgiving to God and another person, you might write something like this:

Dear Judy, This Thanksgiving I'm thinking about special people in my life. You are one! I thank God for our friendship, for your strong witness for Jesus and for your willingness to lend a hand as a substitute teacher. (Your chocolate cookies are icing on the cake!) I praise God for you! Sincerely, Joan



Strangers no more

Some people open their holiday meals to strangers, and one host even did so inadvertently. In 2016, Wanda Dench texted 17-year-old Jamal Hinton about Thanksgiving dinner, thinking she was contacting her grandson. When a skeptical Hinton requested a photo and received a selfie of someone with a different skin color, he chuckled — but then asked if he could still come eat! Thus began a new friendship and a new annual tradition, which Hinton documents online. "Family is more than blood," says Dench. "It's the people you want to be with."

This year's meal will be bittersweet, with an empty chair for Dench's husband, who died of Covid-19 in April. To show support after that loss, Hinton sent his "grandma" a collection of loving video messages. Strangers worldwide expressed condolences to a woman who'd fully embraced a stranger.



Happy Thanksgiving

"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 com-pote 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

"Time to Thank, Time to Share"

Thanksgiving is a time to share. A roasted turkey stuffed with care, potatoes, yams and buttered rolls are passed around in festive bowls. But first we thank our God above and share with others his great love. The dish served last is always best — a slice of pie for every guest.

—MaryAnn Sundby



Heartfelt thanks

He who thanks but with the lips thanks but in part; the full, the true Thanksgiving comes from the heart.

—J.A. Shedd



Where Do You Live?

A man who resided near the border of two states had been told for years his house was in Minnesota. But when a new survey revealed that he actually lived in Wisconsin, he proclaimed, "Thank goodness! I never could bear those cold Minnesota winters."

Defining where we live certainly affects our attitude. Followers of Jesus, or saints, consider their true home to be in God's dynamic presence. St. Paul was so connected to God through prayer that mystical experiences left him not knowing whether he was in or out of his body (see 2 Corinthians 12:1-10). Living with one foot in heaven and the other on the way there, Paul could know peace. "Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's," he concludes (Romans 14:8). Christian saints who are still living on earth can rest assured: Our true home is always with the Lord.

thrivent

Thrivent is working to help impact the lives of kids in the St. Louis metropolitan area and would like

to extend this unique opportunity to our congregation.

They have partnered with the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis to provide four "volunteer in a box opportunities," free of charge, to members of our congregation, their friends and families to complete and return. These Kynd Kits contain everything needed to create a resource impacting either: early childhood literacy, teen mental health, STEM or teacher appreciation.

It's a simple process for those who wish to participate:

1. Go online and order up to two kits (free of charge)
2. Receive kit in the mail & assemble (directions are online, takes approximately 45 min to 1 hr. per box)

Using the mailing label included with the kit, place on the box and put in the mail (all mailing costs are covered)

The completed kits will then be distributed by the Urban League to partner schools and non-profits in the St. Louis metro area. Kits may be ordered through the end of November (they are a great family activity over Thanksgiving).

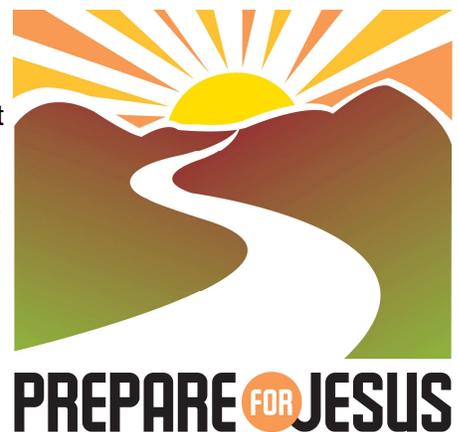
Website: www.projecthelping.org/thrivent

There are 2 kits in the Narthex to look at and get an idea of what needs to be done.

The Journey Begins at Advent

When Advent begins on November 28 this year, so does a new church year for liturgical congregations. The church seasons, which correspond to key events in Jesus' life, begin with the four-week Advent period of preparation for our coming Savior at Christmas. After the 12-day season of Christmas is Epiphany, which begins January 6 and continues through Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. That period of preparation culminates in Holy Week, and then Easter marks the pinnacle of every church year. Forty days after the Resurrection we celebrate Ascension, and 10 days after that, the Pentecost season begins; it lasts until Advent, when the cycle begins again.

"Like a great waterwheel," writes Joan Chittister, "the liturgical year goes on relentlessly irrigating our souls, softening the ground of our hearts, nourishing the soil of our lives until the seed of the Word of God itself begins to grow in us, comes to fruit in us, ripens in us the spiritual journey of a lifetime."

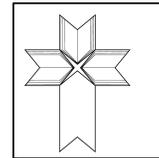


Coming Attraction

Advent, which marks the beginning of the church year, is "the first gleam of Christmas," writes W.E. Sangster. "It heralds the entrance of the Divine into human history; it is heaven descending to earth; it is a great event casting its brilliance before it." Sangster adds: "It is as though a trumpeter had taken his stand upon the turrets of time and announced the coming of the King. 'Get ready,' he seems to say. 'Get ready. He is coming!'"



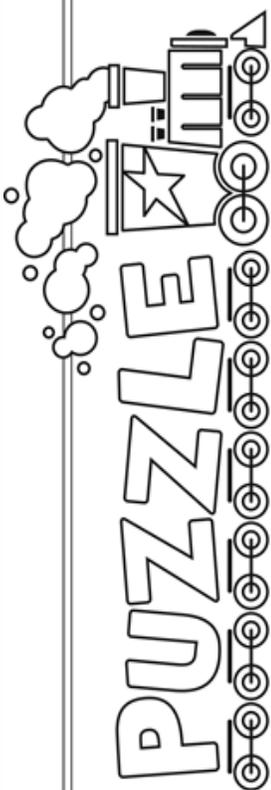
The Sanctuary
 Blessed Savior Lutheran Church
 1205 North Lincoln Ave.
 O'Fallon, IL 62269



NOVEMBER



2021



GOD'S WILL

God wants us to follow his will, but how can we know what that is?

Directions: Write the letters on each vine in the correct order on the lines provided to complete 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV.

e
 7 2 4 1 6 3 j
 w y i a s a
 3 5 2 4 6 a
 _____ 1
 _____ 1

p y r a
 1 4 2 3
 continually, _____

e g v i
 4 1 3 2
 in all circumstances; for this
 is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
 h n t a s k
 2 4 1 3 6 5

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18, NIV

Answer: rejoice, always, pray, give, thanks