



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 2022

Tues. Nov. 1

Quilting 930-12

Elders Meeting 7

Wed. Nov. 2, 16

Adult Choir

Wed. Nov. 2, 9, 16, 30

Ladies Bible Study 10

Sun. Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27

Worship 930

Sun School & Bible Study
1045

Mon. Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28

Support Group 7

Tues. Nov. 8

Church Council 7 pm

Fri. Nov. 11

Veterans Day

Tues. Nov. 15

Christian Ed Mtg 7

Thurs. Nov 17

Fellowship Mtg 430

Bunco 6 pm

Wed. Nov. 23

No Ladies Bible Study

Adult Choir 630

Thanksgiving Worship

Service 7 pm

Thurs. Nov. 24

Thanksgiving Day

Home Alone Thanksgiving

Dinner 12 pm

Sun. Nov. 27

No Sunday School or

Adult Bible Study

Wed. Nov. 30

Advent Dinner 6 pm

Advent Worship 7 pm



Thanksgiving Food Baskets

Monetary donations will be collected on Sunday,
November 6, 13, & 20.

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.



LET US GIVE THANKS

Thanksgiving Worship Service—Wednesday, November 23

24th Annual "Home Alone"

Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 24 12 pm

Sign up in the Narthex to attend and thanksgiving
dish or dishes to bring.



Advent Schedule

Midweek Advent Worship

Wed. Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 & 21

Dinner—6 pm

Worship 7 pm

Semi Annual Voter's Meeting

Sunday, December 4

Please come to this important meeting.

Main topic will be the 2023 Budget



Pastor's Thanksgiving Message



Preacher David Jeremiah tells the story of a woman who was approached by a man who had a sour expression on his face. She encouraged that grumpy-looking man to be thankful. He replied, "Thankful for what? I don't ever have enough money to pay my bills." The woman thought for a moment, then said, "Well, then be thankful that you are not one of your creditors!"

I'm sure it wasn't the compassionate response he was hoping for, but the Word of God says something very similar.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

Don't be confused. God's will is not for you to be impoverished or defeated or broken. You don't need to be joyful and thankful that you cannot pay your bills. You don't have to be thankful that you were injured however it happened. You don't have to be joyful and thankful that someone stole from you or cheated you. It doesn't say you should be thankful "for all circumstances." Rather it says "in all circumstances." What the Apostle Paul is saying is that whatever hardship or trial comes our way, we can still be thankful.

Most people do not aspire to the life of Paul after his conversion. Hardship does not begin to describe his life of witness to Christ. All did not go well. But he understood something we all need to understand to work through our own trials and tribulations in this life.

Paul longed to visit the church in Thessalonica but was not being able to because Satan stopped them from coming (1 Thessalonians 2:18). We don't know how Satan was preventing his visit. Whatever the obstacle, he assigned the obstacle to Satan's work. He expresses his love for them and prays for them (1 Thessalonians 3:11-13). In chapter 4, Paul is instructing the believers in Thessalonica on how to live, in Christ Jesus, a holy life (1 Thessalonians 4:1-12). Paul goes on to instruct them of a misconception they had. He tells them that the people who have died in Christ Jesus will also go to heaven when He comes back (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 5:1-11).

Through compassionate instruction the blessed apostle reminds the church that God is at work despite the demonic influence. Going back to our sad friend who couldn't pay his bills, we understand that poverty is a problem. People need shelter, food and clothing. Jesus said as much but reminds us to "seek first His kingdom and His righteousness," and gives the promise that "all these things (needs) will be added to you" (Matthew 5:6).

In the Gospel of John, Jesus attributes our impoverished state to Satan, describing him as a thief who "comes only to steal and kill and destroy." Whatever horrible circumstance we find ourselves in the middle of, you can be sure Satan is instigating it and putting into motion.

On the other hand, Jesus asserts His mission is to bring us the "abundant life." How He does that is by "laying down his life for the sheep" (John 10:10-11).

Peter makes the same point and makes a life altering promise in his first letter declaring:

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 5:8-11).

Believe it or not, there is a reason to be thankful "in all our circumstances," even the bad ones. I think Rick Warren sums up very well why we should be thankful in every circumstance:

"There is a lot of bad in the world, and these days, you may see more of it than you think you can bear. You shouldn't be grateful for those things."





(Pastor Vern article continued from page 2)

But here's is what we *can* all be thankful for. Warren continues, "God is bigger than sin. He can bring promises out of pain, blessings out of suffering. He turns crucifixions into resurrections."

Someone recently said to me, "This has been a rough 3 years." I think you might agree. Covid and quarantines have kept us from church and each other. When we miss church, we miss hearing the Word of God and the precious promises that inspire us to do battle against Satan and his ways. When we miss gathering with each other, we lose the encouragement and care we get from human contact. That's a big deal!! Jesus took on human form to give us that social connection we all need. Yes, it's been a long and tough three years. I'm not thankful *for* the circumstances we have found ourselves in with all the problems that have come with Covid's arrival, but I am thankful *in* that circumstance because it forces me to look to God for comfort and assurance and hope!

Paul wrote the following to help us get through whatever circumstances we find ourselves in today. I hope its promise brings you comfort, assurance and a reason to be thankful!

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28).

Happy Thanksgiving Month, Pastor Vern.

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



24th Annual “Home Alone” Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 24-12:00 p.m.

Please sign up in the Narthex if you and your family would like to attend. Also, sign up for the thanksgiving dish or dishes you would like to bring.

This Thanksgiving marks the 24th anniversary of the “Home Alone” Thanksgiving dinner. (We lost 2 years because of Covid) This annual tradition of Blessed Savior was started so no one would be “Home Alone” on Thanksgiving. So, if you don’t have anyone to spend the day with, please come! There’s always plenty of food, fellowship and fun.



The Fellowship Committee would like to hear from you! Please let us know if there is something special you would like to see us do.

The month of October we were involved in the Following Functions: Paul Kjos’s funeral, Bunco, and the Fall Festival. It was a busy month for

us.

We would like to remind you that without everyone in the congregation’s involvement, the functions we provide would not be possible. We are here to support you. It takes us all working together to make this Congregation like a second home.

To those that took a turn during the Month of October for Snacks for Fellowship, THANK YOU!

Sundays in November are still available. Please do so in the Narthex.

For those that missed the Fall Festival, we had a whopping 14 Chili’s for the Chili Cook-off. We also had 9 cars for Trunk or Treat and Lots of families and children in their Best Costumes! Thank you all for participating; if you weren’t there, we missed you! The Fall Festival has now been set for the 4th Sunday of Oct, so make your plans to attend next year.

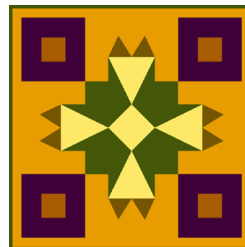
We would like to do HOME ALONE again this year. Everyone would bring a dish to share, (Pot Luck) on Thanksgiving Day. It’s a great way to get to know members of the congregation. If you are interested, please let either Pastor Vern, Gwen Borsch or Ginger Kieffer know. A sign- up sheet is posted in the narthex.

Thanks again for your participation!
The Fellowship Committee

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING MEAL

Please join us for the 9th Annual Community Thanksgiving Meal

Arrive between serving hours of 11 – 1:30 p.m. for Dine-in Service on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 24. Located at Faith Lutheran Church 520 East Hwy 50. Cost is Free! Sponsored by Citizens for O’Fallon Community Thanksgiving Meal



Join the Lutheran World Relief QUILT-ERS on **Tuesdays, November 1, December 6 and January 3** from 9:30–12:00 p.m. to tie quilts. (We don’t actually quilt by hand. Instead we secure the layers by hand tying them.) Come and join us for a time of good ole fellowship. 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.

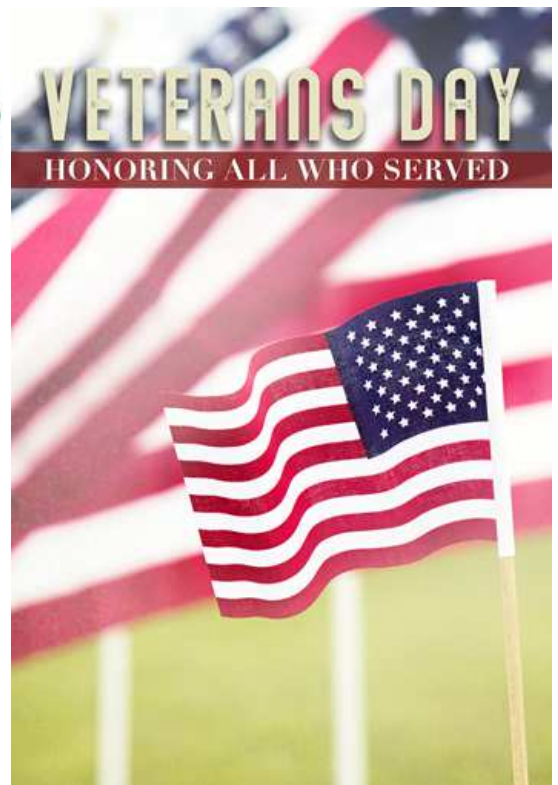


On Veterans Day

While we were here at home,
They traveled land and sea,
To make sure we stayed safe,
To protect and keep us free.

Words are not enough;
To give them what they're due.
On Veteran's Day please thank them
For their service, to me and you.

By Joanna Fuchs
Poemsource.com



Veterans Day

It was at 11 a.m. on November 11, 1918, that the bugles blew the cease fire that signaled the end of the first world war. This was a day of rejoicing and a time of hope for peace.

While we in this country went back to our daily work, to enjoy our lives and make the most of the years granted to us in this world, the people of other lands were suffering from poverty and the despair brought upon by economic hardship. This intensified the struggle for existence until war again became almost inevitable.

A second world war was fought and this was followed by military action in Korea and later Vietnam and the Persian Gulf. The hope for peace heralded by the World War I armistice still appears dim in the distance. For this reason the holiday known as Armistice Day has been changed to Veterans Day so that all veterans of recent wars, including World War I, may be remembered and honored. - The Speechmaker's Complete Handbook

A Veteran's Service

American hero Eddie Rickenbacker (1890-1973) led a life of daring and risk, from racing cars as a teen to piloting warplanes. Throughout his experiences, Rickenbacker grew in faith while discovering that "life had no meaning except in terms of helping others."

In the first issue of *Guideposts* magazine, Rickenbacker described spending four agonizing months of 1941 in the hospital after an accident. While recovering, he pondered life and death, concluding that he couldn't give up because he still "had work to do, others to serve."

Less than two years later, that ordeal came in handy. After crashing in the South Pacific, Rickenbacker and "seven other starving men" were adrift on a raft for 21 days. Most were "so young they needed the strength and understanding of a man who had been down in the valley of the shadow, who had suffered and made sense out of his suffering," he said. "It was clear to me that God had a purpose in keeping me alive. ... I had been saved to serve."

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



Stewardship



What Makes for a Cheerful Giver?

St. Paul wrote to Church of Christ in Corinth: "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7). *God loves a cheerful giver.* But who is a cheerful giver?

Abel was. By faith, he gave the firstborn of his flock, and it was acceptable in God's sight. Abraham was. By faith, he prepared cakes and a tender choice calf for God and entertained angels unaware. So also were David and Solomon. By faith, David would not make a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing, so he paid Araunah his due. By faith, Solomon built a house for God, where his name would dwell and thereby where He would dwell to be Israel's God and they His people.

What more shall we say? For time would fail us to tell of all those who gave not simply for the joy of giving but for the joy of knowing the One to whom they gave.

So also our Lord, who for the joy set before Him, gave everything – yes, even His life – enduring the cross and scorning its shame. He gave to the shedding of His blood, willingly and resolutely setting His face toward Jerusalem to die for the life of the world. Though He was rich in every way, He became poor, so that by His poverty, we might be rich beyond measure.

So then, let us like Abel and Abraham, like David and Solomon, and even like our Lord Jesus Christ, give cheerfully to God for the work of His kingdom in our midst. Like them, let us decide in our heart for the joy set before us. It's the joy of knowing the One to whom we give is the One who gives us all good things. – LCMS Stewardship Ministry



Thinking about Stewardship

Christians give to the Lord because they are grateful. The giving of themselves in totality - body, mind, spirit, talents, time and material resources - is the Christian way of expressing their thankfulness to God for all that they have. Responding to the immeasurable love and grace of God, dedicated Christians open their hearts and hands toward God in a spirit of appreciation and love.

The Generosity Cycle

God makes us rich in every way so we can be generous on every occasion, which will result in thanksgiving to God. ... God doesn't bless us to provide for our own needs; he blesses us so we can be generous.



What is Stewardship?

Stewardship is not just raising funds; It's raising Christians. Stewardship is not a matter of budgets; It's a matter of faith.

Reflections on Gratitude

- God is in control, and therefore in everything I can give thanks — not because of the situation but because of the One who directs and rules over it. —Kay Arthur
- It is not happiness that makes us grateful. It's gratefulness that makes us happy. —David Steindl-Rast
- Gratitude is the least of the virtues, but ingratitude is the worst of vices. —Thomas Fuller
- A proud man is seldom a grateful man, for he never thinks he gets as much as he deserves. —Henry Ward Beecher

1—Charlene 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

15—Thomas Brecks

16—Gus Williams

If we have overlooked your anniversary or birthday, please notify the church office. 632-0126.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

22—Andrea Wiesner,

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



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

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



Boar's Head Christmas Festival

Four choirs, period instrumentalists, and an elegantly costumed cast of over 150 invite you to the Boar's Head Christmas Festival, a 1300's medieval Christmas pageant celebrating the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ at Peace Lutheran Church, 737 Barrackview Rd. St Louis.

Performances are Thur. Dec. 1 at 7:30, Fri. Dec. 2 at 7:30, Sat. Dec. 3 at 7:30 and Sun. Dec. 4 at 2:30 & 6:00 p.m. Doors open one hour before each pageant, with pre-service music beginning 30 minutes before each service. A reception follows with homemade Christmas cookies, wassail, punch and coffee. Free tickets (limit 6) are available at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 1 on a first come first served basis by call the church office at 314-892-5610.

CHOIR NEWS

Adult Choir will practice:

Wed Nov 2 at 7pm

Wed Nov 16 at 7pm

Choir will sing during Thanksgiving Eve Worship. Pre-service practice at 6:30pm



CHOIR PRACTICE

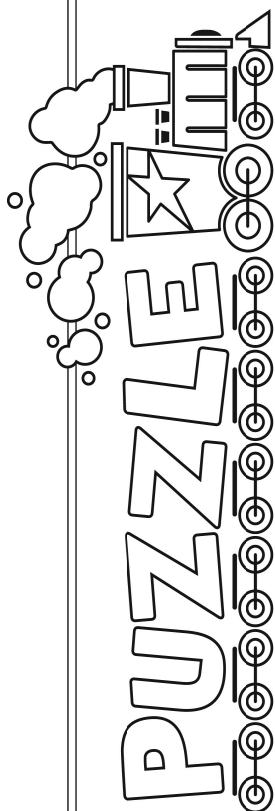
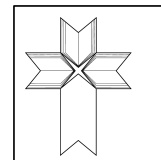
Church

Triumphant Hymn Festival on Sunday November 6

Come join as saints on earth singing hymns of the Church Triumphant! Hymns will include "For All the Saints," "Lord, Thee I Love With All My Heart," "Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying," "E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come" by Paul Manz, and more! The Hymn Festival will also feature brief meditations on the hymns presented by President Scharr and area pastors. The Hymn Festival will be held on Sunday, November 6, 2022 at 3:00 pm at Zion Lutheran Church, 1810 McClintock Ave., Belleville, IL 62221. This Hymn Festival is a combined effort of several Metro-East area congregations, and will feature choir members from Zion Lutheran, Mascoutah, Trinity Lutheran, Millstadt and Zion Lutheran, Belleville. The event will also include a Brass Choir and Organ. Make plans to attend the Church Triumphant Hymn Festival on Sunday, November 6 at 3:00 PM at Zion Belleville!



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



Piles of praise

Every autumn, the ground is overflowing with leaves.
What does Paul encourage us to overflow with?

Directions: Use the key to match the leaves and complete the Bible passage.



So then, just as you _____ Christ Jesus as _____,

_____ to live your lives in him, _____ and _____

_____ up in him, _____ in the _____ as you _____

were taught, and _____ with _____ .

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7, NIV

Answer: received, Lord, continue, rooted, built, strengthened, faith, overflowing, thankfulness