

FOCUS ON FAITH

NOVEMBER 2020



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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OUR STEWARDSHIP IN THREE ESTATES

“Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him and to which God has called him....each one should remain in the condition in which he was called.” (1 Corinthians 7:17)



How many of us realize that our stewardship of what God has blessed us with, both physical and spiritual blessings are to be administered in service to our neighbors? God does not need our good works, but our neighbors do. A vocation, ‘*vocatio*’ in Latin is simply a calling from God. It is a particular occupation, business or profession. It can be a religious vocation or something like marriage and family. We are called to service in God’s kingdom within these vocations. You could also think of vocation in terms of the different hats people wear: mother, father, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, single man or woman, grandparent, tax payer, church member, citizen of the U.S., S.S. teacher, choir member, board member, lawn maintenance, shopper, car repair man, the person who cleans the house, cook, baker, doctor, nurse, the list is seemingly endless. The point is this, our stewardship of God’s blessings, His gifts of love to us, are to be employed in the service of others, not ourselves. And we certainly don’t have to look very far to come into contact with people who would benefit from our faithful stewardship. Yes, stewardship involves tithing and pledges made in the congregation to support the gospel ministry so that many people, our neighbors, can know of Jesus’ love for them. But what about the people in our own families and extended families? What about the people who live next door? What about our fellow citizens in America? What about our brothers and sisters in Christ in His Body? We are God’s agents to administer the gifts He has given to us for the good of our neighbors. Where has God placed you to make this happen? God has assigned to each of us our place in this world? We were born at a certain time and date. We live geographically in a particular “neck of the woods.” We need to accept where He has placed us and seek to serve our neighbors in these callings. God has placed you where you are because only you can reach those people whom He wants to bless. Every calling God assigns to us is an important one in His big picture, His eternal plan. Since God is Lord over all, he wants faithful stewardship to be lived out in the three estates of church, home, and state. Really, faithful stewardship is a way of life for believers. What we receive from God, His blessings each and every day are to be employed to help our neighbors on a daily basis, wherever and wherever the opportunity presents itself. In summary, vocational stewardship teaches us to consider things not primarily from our perspective, but to look to our neighbor and his or her needs when figuring out how God wants us to use the things He’s given us. The following schedule will be used for November’s Stewardship Campaign:

- ❖ Sunday, November 15 - Matthew 25:14-30
Serving our Neighbors in the **Church** (Talents)
Stewardship Talk – Max Ayers





❖ Sunday, November 22 – Matthew 19:1-12
Serving our Neighbors in the **Home** (Table of Duties)
Stewardship Talk – Kevin & Mandi Forward

❖ Wednesday, November 25 - Thanksgiving –
Deut. 8 & 1 Timothy 2
Serving our Neighbors in the **State**
Guest Preacher - Rev. William Wingfield



Note: Pledges can be turned in during the offering portion of the Liturgy in each of these services.

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and give His life as a ransom for many!” Mark 10:45

~ Pastor Johnson



Dan continues to teach 4 courses via Zoom. The future pastors hail from Bolivia, Chile, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, and Venezuela. Please keep these future kingdom workers in your prayers as they prepare to serve the Lord in Latin America. ~ The Conrads
lcms.org/Conrad

Missions



NOVEMBER 11 VETERAN'S DAY CURRENT FAITH LUTHERAN MEMBERS WHO HAVE SERVED IN THE MILITARY:

Grace Adkins
Jeremy Bartlett*
Steven Bartlett
Fred Bohm
Richard Boyer
Don Brace
Steve Davis
Patrick DeWitt
JD Doesken
Bruce Dopfel
Sierra Dopfel
Gerry Faley
Lars Fischer
Kevin Forward

Gus Fry
Robert Garcia
Larry Hare
Dickie Helzer
Charles Henderson
Chris Jensen
Kerry Lehman
Marten Leimer
Jerry Newbury
Jo Newbury
Michele Poss
Lloyd Schmidt
Bill Smith
Melvin Srader

Robert Starr
Gregory Stockebrand*
Charles Trapp
Kevin Trapp*
Tim Trapp*
Miles Vincent*
Aaron Voss
Austin Voss
Fred Voss
Russ Wallace
Jeremy Watson
Merlyn Wetzel
Robert Worman

**Active Military*

*If you have served in the military and are not listed above,
please contact the church office. Thank you!*

Faith Lutheran School News



Principal:	Sue Kleber	Para:	Mandi Forward
Kindergarten Teacher:	Deb Doesken		
Grades 1 & 2 Teacher:	Anita Norris	Preschool Director/Teacher:	Karen Holt
Grades 3 - 5 Teacher:	Cheryl Voss	Preschool Clerk:	Cheryl Judd
ELA Teacher:	Peggy Johnston	Preschool Teacher:	Angela Beeson
Aide:	Jennifer Brownlee	Preschool Teacher:	Dawn Meade
Aide:	Rebecca Doesken	School Office Administrator:	Becky Pankratz
Aide:	Vickie Kalous		

This Month's Events ...

Wed Nov 11 Veterans Day-No School Thurs Nov 26 Thanksgiving Day
Wed Nov 25-27 No School – Thanksgiving Break

HOW WOULD YOU RESPOND?

In the last FLS Next Week email, Principal Sue Kleber asked staff members, "Where are you seeing Jesus?" She received the following response and is delighted to share, with permission, FL Preschool 4-year-old Teacher Dawn Meade's response:



I'm not sure if your question "Where are you seeing Jesus?" was meant to be rhetorical, to get us to think, OR if you're wanting answers. Excellent question! I am going to answer . . . (John 1:1-3) I see Jesus Christ / God in many things. I see Him in each new day that HE gives us to live. (Psalm 118:24 "This is the day the Lord has made. . . ") I am teaching this verse to my preschool class this month. Each day is a gift. I see Jesus Christ / God in all of creation (Genesis 1:1).

I see Jesus Christ / God in the miracle of life. Children are a gift from the Lord. Whether our own children or the children we teach at the school, they're all gifts and masterpieces of God's handiwork (Psalm 139: 13-16). We have the great privilege of teaching them and sharing Christ with them.

I see Jesus Christ / God working in my own life. Something I have practiced for all of my married life (22 years) is asking the Lord to change my heart first. Rather than pointing the finger and wanting others to pay for their wrongs, I ask the Lord to work in me, to change my attitude, to change the way I look at a person or situation. This isn't always easy to pray. We naturally do not want to be worked on. . . We want others to know how they have wronged, offended, hurt, betrayed, etc. . . We want to see others pay for what they have done. I can attest to how the Lord has truly changed my heart over the years. I still have to go before the Lord on a regular basis, asking Him to work in me. I will always have to do this, for my heart is deceitfully wicked (Jeremiah 17:9). All of us have deceitful hearts, but praise the Lord for Christ in us!!! I can do all things through Christ . . . (Philippians 4:13).

Well, I hope this wasn't too long. I wanted to share since you presented such a great question. Thank you for reading. ~ Dawn Meade, Preschool Teacher 4-yr-old's

WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP REALLY ABOUT?

By Janea Trapp, School Board Treasurer



Ah November, the month when congregations begin their Stewardship Drives, requesting commitments for the operations and missions of the church in the upcoming fiscal year. When approach with the mere mention of “stewardship,” many of us immediately think about our financial giving and overlook, or maybe even ignore, our time and talents. For a congregation to grow and be successful in its ministry, ALL three, i.e., time, talents, and treasures, must be considered by the individual and shared.

Beyond the needs of our church, stewardship has an even greater purpose; to develop our individual relationship with God. Instead of seeing stewardship as simply those things we do or give to God, let us consider that stewardship is a partnership we enter with God to do everything He wants. In Genesis Chapter 1, God created man in His image and gave man charge over everything He placed on the earth. God entrusted us with the responsibility to look after and care for all His creations. We do this through utilizing and managing all the resources God brings into our lives in a manner that honors God and edifies others. We are the stewards of God’s creations.

In entering our relationship with God, we become stewards. The question then becomes, how do we know if we are being good stewards? It is simple; ask yourself “What would Jesus do?” That saying has been around for as long as I can remember, but it certainly holds true. In the Gospels, everything Jesus did points to stewardship:

- He possessed nothing, yet gave everything He had.
- He finished His work here on earth, completing the Father’s will to provide for our salvation.
- He continually humbled Himself and remained obedient to God up to the point of His death.

Yes, we truly live a Christian life through stewardship. It is the one word that defines our role and purpose as we partner in a relationship that seeks to honor God in all that we do. God’s love and blessings are not meant to be hoarded, but shared. God’s will can only be done if we utilize all our resources - time, talents, and treasures - to bless others and grow His kingdom.

The need is great within our congregation; I encourage all of us to reflect and pray on our relationships with God and ask ourselves if is there something more God wants and needs one of us to do to serve our family, church, school, community, country and perhaps the world. Many hands make the work light. Together in Christ, we will always be stronger and more resilient.

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.” Matt. 18:20 NIV

“...but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary.” Isaiah 40:31 NIV



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday...

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Nancy Brace | 16 Jay Holt |
| 2 Dustin Schneider | 16 Stacie Stark |
| 3 Robert Worman | 18 Ruth Ulrich |
| 4 Timothy Johnson | 19 Brandon Bartlett |
| 4 Noah Trapp | 19 Kaitlin Biggs |
| 5 Robin Vincent | 19 Brad Bohm |
| 5 Jordan A. Voss | 19 Cheryl Judd |
| 7 Michael Way | 20 Mark Doesken |
| 8 Dan Faley | 22 Kristen Jarvis |
| 10 Kay Thorpe | 23 Chris Jensen |
| 11 Emmit Ohlde | 23 Jolinda Oster |
| 11 Robert Starr | 25 Leann Dopfel |
| 15 Aaron Trull | 26 Haley Marshall |
| 15 Alexis Williams | 26 Phog Stark |
| 16 Michael Doesken | 27 Katherine Adams |

30 Jeremy Bartlett

Happy Anniversary...

- 10 Brad & Sheryl Bohm
- 12 Michael & Isabella Way
- 13 Nathan & Britton Voss
- 19 Larry & Mary Hare
- 25 Lee & Cynthia Darby
- 28 Dan & Robin Groskurth

If we have incorrect information or have missed your special date, please contact the church office so we can correct our records.

GRACE FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

All grocery donations to help the Grace Lutheran Food Pantry are appreciated! **The suggestion for November is powdered instant milk.** Donations may be placed in the shopping cart in the breezeway.



Lutherans Engage the World magazine, a source of stories about our LCMS churches work in the world, is transitioning to an electronic version this fall. As a result, our church will no longer have hard copies available for your reading. The magazine's staff has decided to suspend printing of the magazine in an effort to be good stewards of the generous gifts given to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

The Fall 2020 issue is now available at engage.lcms.org. The issue features stories on how Lutherans are helping each other and the community in the aftermath of the devastating storm destruction in Iowa, as well as how church workers and laypeople are sharing Christ's mercy and the Gospel at home and abroad.

To sign up to receive email notifications for *Lutherans Engage the World* magazine, go to engage.lcms.org/subscribe.

CONCORDIA ACADEMY-WICHITA Generous supporters of Concordia Academy have offered a \$200,000 matching grant opportunity! They are matching all donations, dollar for dollar, up to \$200,000! What a blessing as the upcoming capital campaign approaches. Lord willing, the school will open to 9-12 grade students in the fall of 2022. To take advantage of this match, donations may be given through this website, www.concordiaacademywichita.org



Circle of Peace Christmas Project



For over 20 years, the Grace Lutheran Food Pantry, located at 3300 E. Pawnee in Wichita, has shared the love of Christ by providing food and other necessities to families in need.

Our Faith Lutheran LWML sponsors a **year-round collection** for the pantry using the shopping cart located in the breezeway. Circle of Peace is sponsoring a **special collection at Christmastime** for this ongoing mission. A list of requested items will be available mid-November. Please consider donating some of the items on the list and place them in the boxes that will be located throughout the church.

There will be a special ingathering during the Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 25, 7:00 pm.



Faith Thanksgiving Service

November 25 • 7:00 pm

Share our bountiful blessings...

We will have an ingathering of non-perishables for Grace Lutheran Food Pantry. You will be invited to bring items forward to be placed in the boxes in the chancel area during the service. The final day for Christmas donations will be Wednesday, December 16. Thank you and God bless!

Advent Dinners

Would your group like to host a dinner?

Sign-up with the church office.

Plan to eat with us and support various projects with a donation during the approaching Advent Season.

Dinner will be served in the Fellowship Hall: 5:30 – 6:30 pm

December 2: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**

December 9: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**

December 16: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**



NEW OFFERINGS FROM *THE LUTHERAN WITNESS*

The Lutheran Witness has changed its presence on the web. The updated website is: witness.lcms.org and is more user-friendly. *The Lutheran Witness*, which has been teaching Lutherans for 140 years, will now offer the following on its new website:



- Print content from each month's issue, including the Synod president's letter, the editor's letter and table of contents, and one featured article.
- Online-exclusive content, including monthly articles from a team of regular Lutheran authors, such as former *LW* editor Rachel Bomberger, Dr. Gene Veith, the Rev. William Weedon and the Rev. Dr. John Pless.
- Article series written by Lutheran pastors, theologians or laypeople, released in installments. The first two series will be on the intersection of faith and technology (by the Rev. Trevor Sutton) and seeing world problems in light of God's Word (by the Rev. Dr. Adam Koontz).
- A new *LW* podcast with recordings of each article published on the website. The podcast is also available on iTunes, Spotify, Stitcher and other podcast platforms.

To subscribe to the monthly email newsletter, featuring the most popular posts from the preceding month, go to witness.lcms.org/subscribe. If you'd like to be notified of new content as it is posted, follow *The Lutheran Witness* on Facebook or Twitter. If you'd like to submit an article for publication, go to witness.lcms.org/contribute.

Graphic Design

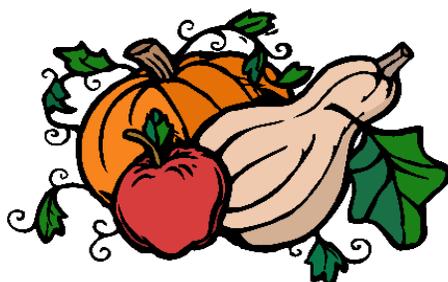
Needed



KANSAS LWML NEEDS YOUR ARTISTIC TALENTS!

The next LWML convention will be in 2022! The theme is *His Cross is Our Compass* and is based on Psalm 25:5, "Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long."

Kansas LWML President Kim Burdett is asking for designs for the Convention logo. This logo will represent the convention in publicity, shirts, totes, etc. Please email your ideas to president@kansaslwml.org by November 22, 2020.



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD’S STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

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.

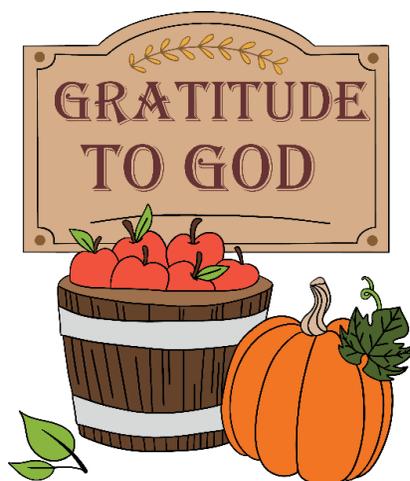
We receive our treasures from Him, and thus, as good stewards of His varied grace, we manage them in such a way that they may be returned to Him. We bring them to Him, hallowed through prayers of thanksgiving and God’s holy Word, as a sacrifice.

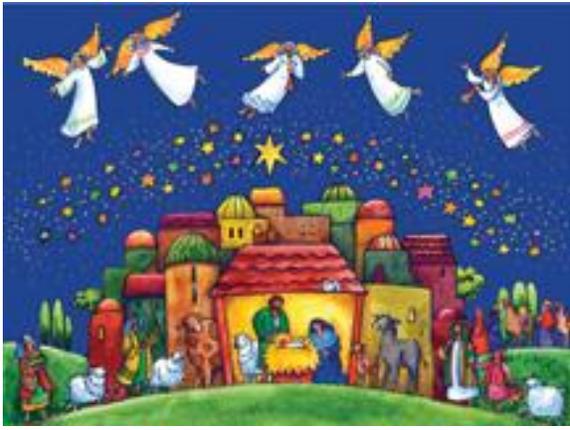


Thus, all our possessions, as gifts from God, are also sacrifices to Him. We eat to nourish our bodies. We share with our family, neighbors, fellow Christians, the poor, and even our enemies as holy things given by the holy God. His temporal gifts are blessings to and for us, and they bring blessings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





CHRISTMAS ADVENT CALENDARS have 25 pop-open doors that reveal a Bible Scripture reference and a colorful picture that direct children to God's promises to send a Savior. Get yours from Circle of Peace in time to open the first window on December 1!

WATCH FOR beautiful 2021 wall calendars with Scripture references and Christmas greeting cards, available from Circle of Peace toward the end of November.

Commitment Sundays, Nov. 15 & 22, & Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 25

"For even the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve and give His life as a ransom for many."

Mark 10:45

Pledge forms will be in the mailboxes November 7.

Max Ayers, Stewardship Chairman

Note: Pledges may be turned in during the offering portion of the Liturgy in each of these services.



NOVEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

ALTAR GUILD: Pam Greene & Pat Morrison

1st Service – 8:15AM

USHERS: Tim Hamer
Steve Klepacki

November 1

Elder Tim Trapp
Acolyte Alivia White

November 8

Elder Duane Way
Acolyte Zachary Forward
Crucifer Chareity Forward

November 15

Elder Duane Way
Acolyte Alivia White

November 22

Elder Tim Trapp
Acolyte Brooke Forward
Crucifer Dahkotta Forward

November 29

Elder Duane Way
Acolyte Taylor Williams
Crucifer Haley Nelson

November 25

Elder Pat DeWitt or Max Ayers
Acolyte Noah Trapp
Crucifer Tim Johnson

2nd Service – 10:45AM

USHERS: Gerry Faley

November 1

Elder Max Ayers
Acolyte Troy Ohlde

November 8

Elder Pat DeWitt
Acolyte Abby DeWitt
Crucifer Colton Ohlde

November 15

Elder Max Ayers
Acolyte Carter Wahlenmaier

November 22

Elder Pat DeWitt
Acolyte Addie Jensen
Crucifer Colton Ohlde

November 29

Elder Max Ayers
Acolyte Emmit Ohlde
Crucifer Caris Johnson