

THE SPIRE



November 2016
Volume 4, Issue 10

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Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

Autumn this year has seemed particularly bright and beautiful to me. The trees have seemed especially colorful and I have appreciated the many sunny cheerful days.

As I have enjoyed this beauty I have often been filled with awe regarding God's creation, and I believe a few times I have whispered a "thank you" to God in my heart for being able to take it in.

The beauty of God's creation is, of course, one of the many things for which we can be thankful as we approach Thanksgiving.

We can be thankful that in the midst of this creation God cares for each one of us as individuals. As part of his care for our lives we can be thankful that he provides for our daily needs. We can be thankful for the family and friends he gives us. We can also be thankful for his many other tender mercies in our lives.

Most of all, we can be thankful that we can experience a relationship with this God through his Son, Jesus.

In this Thanksgiving season may we at times find ourselves welling up in thankfulness towards God for all of his goodness to us.

Thank you for the Pastor Appreciation card and gift. They were a real blessing to receive. Thank you for all your kindness to me. It is an honor to minister at First Lutheran.

God Bless,

Pastor Mark



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pastor's Column	1
Announcements,	2
Confirmation Classes	2
Sunday School, Bible Study News	3
Thank You's and	3
Baptisms, Birthdays and Anniversaries	4
Church Council Minutes	5
The November Calendar	6
Altar Committee & Sewing Meetings	7
W.O.W. News, Dorcas Society	7
Prayers of Concern	7
Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes	8
Video, Sound & Organists	8
Coffee Servers	8
Christian Humor to Tickle Your Life	9



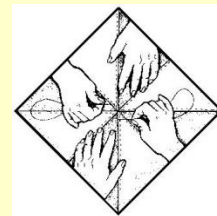
November 2016 Special Days

Some of the special days celebrated in November are:

- All Saints' Day – Nov. 1
- Daylight-Saving Time Ends – Nov. 6
- Veterans Day – Nov. 11
- Christ the King Sunday – Nov. 20
- Bible Sunday – Nov. 20
- National Bible Week – Nov. 20-Nov. 26
- Thanksgiving Day – Nov. 24
- First Sunday of Advent – Nov. 27

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The sewing ladies will be packing the quilts for Lutheran World Relief and Open Door Mission on Tuesday Morning, November 8th at 8:30 a.m. They would appreciate the help of some strong men to handle the heavy boxes of quilts. The ladies have made over 200 quilts this past year! WHAT AN AMAZING ACCOMPLISHMENT!!



If you are unable to give of your time but would like to donate monetarily ...for every \$1 you give to the LWR Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund, someone in need receives \$8 worth of essential personal items. Costs to ship one item: Mission Quilt - \$2.25; School Kit - \$1.40; Personal Care Kit - \$2.65; Fabric Kit - \$1.00; Baby Care Kit - \$1.30; Soap (18lb. carton) - \$11.60, \$100 would help send: 44 quilts, 71 school kits, 37 care kits, 100 fabric kits, 76 baby kits, 8 cartons. If you want to donate directly LWR this is the address: Lutheran World Relief, Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21198-9832.

Pastor Mark was awarded with a gift card during the October 9th service for Pastor Appreciation Sunday.

SAVE THE DATE! LCMC Heartland District Women of the Word Annual One-Day Retreat - "The Proverbs 31 Woman...Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow!" on Saturday, November 5, 2016 at the Word of Hope Lutheran Church - Ashland, Nebraska 9 am - 3 pm. The Presenter: Vicky Nielsen with Special Music: Patti Schofield Mission Emphasis: Orphan Grain Train & Youth for Christ.

AUTUMN DINNER - Sunday, Nov. 6th at the Craig Fire Hall from 11 AM to 1 PM by the Cancer Kickers Relay for Life Team. The meal includes a lettuce salad, meat loaf or ham, cheesy potatoes, green beans or corn, dinner roll, dessert and ice tea, juice or coffee. Tickets available at the door: \$10 /adult, \$7/5 to 10-year-olds and 4 & under free. Come enjoy good food, great friends, and help celebrate more birthdays.

Please come and enjoy a Sunday afternoon on November 6th with a Turkey Dinner at the Oakland Swedish Heritage Center. The meal will be served from 11-1PM. There will be a free will offering. Humanities Nebraska Speakers Bureau follows at 1PM with Oakland native Tim Anderson. Tim has recently finished his book "Lonesome Dreamer - The Life of John G. Neihardt". Tim will be speaking on The Romance of John & Mona Neihardt.

FRIDAY NIGHT PUB. The "Luther's Pub" date for the remainder of the year will be: November 22nd and December 9th. We have a few volunteers signed up to help us chaperone. If you would be interested in helping the signup sheet is located in the multipurpose room. If you have any questions, please contact Connie Larson (402)380-5101 or Tess Johnson (402)380-5660.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

- November 2, 9, 16, 30 - CONFIRMATION - at 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- November 23 - 6:00 pm - Confirmation- First Communion Dinner

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

We will plan to sing the second Sunday of every month. The next time we will sing will be November 13th. We will be performing our Christmas Program on Sunday, December 13 which is only eight short weeks away so please mark your calendars! The Pay It Forward plate will be passed around during each of these dates as well.

We had a wonderful turnout at the Harvest Moon Pumpkin Patch. We had nearly 100 in attendance. Harvest Blessings to all!

Thanks again. Angie

BIBLE STUDY NEWS

YOUTH GROUP will be meeting every Wednesday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. A meal will be provided. It is open to all current Junior and Senior High students in the community. **No Youth Group Wednesday, November 23rd.**

YOUTH GROUP MEAL SIGN UP SHEET - We have added a Youth Group Meal Sign Up Sheet to the bulletin board. We are looking for volunteers to provide a meal, side dish or dessert every Wednesday night for 25-30 students throughout the school year. If you cannot provide a meal, but are willing to contribute funds to help cover the cost of meals please let Pastor Mark or Tess know of your willingness to donate funds. For planning, we would like to have volunteers sign up for meals, side dishes, dessert or donations at least a month in advance.

Men's Bible Study is on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Koinoina Bible Study is the 3rd Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

Growing Together - Small Group Dates - Our Growing Together group will meet on November 2 and 16th at 5:00 pm. All are welcome to join us. If you have questions or would like to join us, contact Nancy Johnson at 402-620-5324 or njohnson40299@gmail.com

THANK YOU'S

- To all those who have provided food and serving the meal for our youth group Wednesday night.
- To Thrivent for the wonderful grant to help provide a new Ping Pong table for our Luther's Pub youth.
- From Cory Martin - "I would like to share the following quarterly report with you, as your church so generously supports this ministry. The Oakland community food pantry is an agency of the food bank of Siouland, which provides food for under 20 cents a pound. During the months of July, August, and September, the food pantry served 64 different families in the Oakland area, representing 182 individuals. During that same period, First Evangelical Lutheran has generously contributed \$1,800. Thanks for your support and donations! Contact Cory Martin ([402-687-2631](tel:402-687-2631)) if you would like more information or are interested in volunteering on Tuesdays for one hour at 1 p.m.
- Thank you to the Salem Covenant Church for the monetary donation of over \$550 for our Wednesday Night Youth Group funds!

BAPTISMS

We welcomed into membership Margot Hanna Johnson through holy baptism, Sunday at 9:30 a.m. October 30, 2016 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. Her parents are Jordan and Heidi Johnson. Her sponsors are Mackenzie & Dan Kahlandt and Jennings & Natalie Johnson. Margot was born April 28, 2016. She joins two sisters, Georgia and Ivy and a brother Graham. Her grandparents are Mark and Jill Johnson of Oakland, NE; Nancy Hanna of Phoenix AZ; Mike and Jenn Hanna of Leigh, NE. Great grandparents are Vernon and Emma Hanna of Cimarron, KS, Bonnie Goodrich of Oakland, NE and Frank and Janice Johnson of Oakland, NE. **WELCOME MARGOT!!!**



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Timothy Magnusson, Mindy Christofferson
- 2 - Rosemary Anderson, Dale Jones, Ivy Anderson
- 3 - James Peterson, Tom Meyer, Scarlett Johnson
- 4 - Dick Miller, Ashten Rennerfeldt
- 5 - David Pearson
- 6 - Jordan Johnson
- 7 - Ryan Nelson, Clohee Stucky
- 8- Rachel Wise-Nelson
- 9 - Julie Easton, Meghan Ahrens
- 10 - Preston Peterson Keesling,
- 11 - Charles Krutilek, Julie Ehlers
- 13 - Paula Modlin
- 14 - Keith Anderson, Megan(Corwine) Loeffler,
Tammy Schnick, Sam Schmidt
- 16 - Janice Case
- 17 - Earlene Paulson
- 18 - Larry Anderson, Ellen Magnusson
- 19 - Greg Ray
- 20 - Megan Bousquet
- 22 - Donna Larson, Robert Case
- 23 - Carla Corwine, Roger Ray, Makenna Miller
- 24 - David Deemer
- 26 - May Taylor
- 27- Holly Olson
- 28 - Norm Case, Blake Denton, Brenda Anderson,
Tammy VonEssen, Janet Wiltse
- 29 - Debbie Krutilek, Sandra Mallette, Ashlie Slatt
- 30 - Fauniel Paulson

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 - Reg & Pam Linder
- 7 - Perry & Teresa Rogers
- 8 - Kyle and Laura Schnoor
- 10 - Mark & Laurie Carlson;
Gail and Gary Elsasser
- 11 - Darrell & Cheryl Denker
- 14 - Norman & Janice Case
- 25 - Dan & AnnaBelle Olson
- 29 - Chad & Andrea Schiermeyer





**First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Oakland, Nebraska**

The church council met October 3, 2016 at 7:00 pm. In attendance were Greg Johnson, Jim Pelan, Cheryl Denker, Rachel Wise, Sam Schmidt, Sandy Husar, Carole Johnson and Mona Tanksley. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer’s Report was reviewed after which there was a discussion on ways to decrease waste in the church and save money. It was decided to ask Audrey Unwin, Treasurer, to come to the next meeting to discuss expenses. It was noted that currently through September expenses have exceeded income by over \$14,000.

Old Business: Greg reported that a great group of volunteers helped with the demolition of a wall between two Sunday school rooms. Max Christensen will be coming to install the electrical outlets, lights, etc. Jim reported on the bids he has received for the replacement of the southwest door downstairs. After reviewing the options, a motion was made by Sandy Husar to accept the bid from Lindy Glass for the replacement of the door in the southwest entry for a cost of \$1742.45 and to have Larry Shelly paint the door at a cost of \$160 using money from the memorial fund. Motion seconded by Cheryl Denker and carried. It was also decided to have Larry Shelly repair and paint the area on the west entrance of the building where it is chipping away. It was reported that the screen that is torn upstairs is not able to be removed. We will have Lindy Glass reps look at it while they are here to install the door. We discussed options on covering the window wells, but have decided to wait until next year’s budget to proceed with any work.

New Business: There was discussion about having a cleanup day at church to see if we can dispose of some items that are no longer needed. It was suggested to have the leader of each group present at the time as they would know what should be kept. Greg will compile a list of group leaders, set a date and plan to get this accomplished before Christmas. Council members offering to help are Rachel, Carole and Jim.

The Evangelism Committee are planning an outreach event on October 16 at the Harvest Moon pumpkin patch. Family members are encouraged to attend this outing

Greg will contact Clay Olson to check on the status of the air conditioning and furnace installation project.

The next meeting will be November 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Devotions for next meeting - Greg Johnson

Communion Helper Oct. 5 - Arla Ogden


Oct. 6 - Sandy Husar

Mona Tanksley, Secretary

October Attendance	
1 & 2165
8 & 9 170
15 & 16 140
22 & 23 140
29 & 30164

October Finances	
Commitments	\$15,500.00
Wed.Nite Youth	\$ 558.00
Designated	\$ 1,030.00
Supplies	\$ 152.00
Sunday School	\$ 46.00
Memorial	\$ 435.00
Misc	\$ 217.84
TOTAL	\$16,904.00

November 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<p>1</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS</p> <p>5:00PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION</p> <p>7:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE</p>
<p>6</p> <p>9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>10:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING</p> <p>7:00PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9AM 2 PM, 5PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS</p> <p>6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION</p> <p>7:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>11</p> <p>VETERANS DAY</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>13</p> <p>9:30AM PRAISE SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>10:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>5:00PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION</p> <p>7:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>20</p> <p>9:30AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>10:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:00PM CONFIRMATION (FIRST COMMUNION DINNER)</p> <p>7:30PM THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE</p> <p>NO YOUTH GROUP</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p> <p>THANKSGIVING DAY</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>27</p> <p>9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>10:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>30</p> <p>2:00PM DORCAS SOCIETY MEETING @ O.H.</p> <p>6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION</p> <p>7:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>			



Elaine Peterson and Shirley Lowe



SEWING GROUP MEETS every Monday & Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The Quilter's will have a Christmas Brunch on Dec. 8th and that will be the last quilting day through the holidays.



-NOVEMBER-

November 2.....Bingo @ Oakland Heights.....9:30 AM.....Hannah

November 7Executive Meeting 9:00 AM

November 9.....Group Meetings 9:00 AM, 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM

November 27....Devotions @ Oakland Heights 2:30 PMMary

Clean Kitchen - Ruth

WOW NEWS

Winter Coat Drive. The Women of the Word (WOW) are planning a winter coat, mitten, and hat drive. We are going to try to keep these items in the area as there is a desperate need here. Please bring all gently used coats in any size, hats, mittens or gloves.

WOW give a big Thanks to the sewing ladies for making 44 back packs and diapers for 6 layette sets. Those sewing ladies sure have been busy this year!!



Dorcas Society - November 25 @ 2:00 p.m.

@ Oakland Heights

PRAYERS OF CONCERN

IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE INCLUDE:

Robert Moate, Marty Stewart, Ed Anderson, Jean Korte, Patsy Andersen, Millie Sandquist, Alissa Bousquet, Jess Kroger, Ron Badje, Arizona Riecken, Stacy Long, Marilyn Bures, Lincoln Nobel Hangman, Janelle McClusky, Andy Kruse, Landon Johnson, Oliver Nimmo, Delwin Benne, and Grace Meints, all of our servicemen and women, the families of Delores Carlson, Jace Nebuda, Ila Engdahl, Margaret Moderow and LaMae Johnson, our shut-ins, and our youth ministry.



Nov. 2016 Ushers and Greeters

Ushers:

- Nov 6th - Roger Moderow, Sam Schmidt, Ed Hanna and Jerry Benne
- Nov 13th - Norm Case, Jarvis Guill and Isaiah Larson
- Nov 20th - Norm Case, Dr. Charlie Seagren, Jonathon Dixon and Tim Magnusson
- Thanksgiving Eve Nov 23rd - Zak Lierman and Job Egbers
- Nov 27th - Norm Case, Clare Wilste, Russ Peterson and Gene Poppe
- Dec 4th - Roger Moderow and Sam Schmidt



Greeters:

- Nov 6th - Betty Hanna and Linda Carlson
- Nov 13th - Amy, Conner, Corbin & Victor Guill and Connie, Elijah, Javar & Myesha Larson
- Nov 20th - Betty Dixon and Annie, Ellen, Nolan and Carolyn Magnusson
- Thanksgiving Eve Nov 23rd Zach Lierman and Job Egbers
- Nov 27th- Connie Peterson and Nancy Poppe

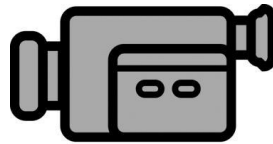
Greeters Schedule



ACOLYTES



- | | | |
|-----|----|--------------------|
| Nov | 6 | Mia Linder |
| | 13 | Ellen Magnusson |
| | 20 | Carson Thomsen |
| | 23 | Jonathan Dixon |
| | 27 | Carly Sewart |
| Dec | 4 | Ashten Rennerfeldt |



Video

VIDEO

- | | | |
|-----|----|-----------------|
| Nov | 6 | Ayden Lierman |
| | 13 | Mia Linder |
| | 20 | Ellen Magnusson |
| | 23 | Carson Thomsen |
| | 27 | Jonathan Dixon |
| Dec | 4 | Marissa Mulder |



- Nov 6 - Bryan Bohn
- 13- Youth Group- Billye Pearson
- 20- Ruth Wallerstedt
- 23 - Bryan Bohn
- 27 - Bryan Bohn
- Dec 6 - Bryan Bohn



- Nov 6 - Dan Tanksley
- 8 - Jim Pelan
- 15 - Jim/Dan
- 22 - Tess Johnson
- 25 - Tess Johnson
- 30 - Tess Johnson
- Dec 6 - Dan Tanksley



- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Amy Rost and Tammy Schinck | Sunday, November 6, 2016 |
| Laurie Schold and Janelle Seagren | Sunday, November 13, 2016 |
| Paula Stevenson and Mona Tanksley | Sunday, November 20, 2016 |
| Linda VonEssen and Tamera VonEssen | Sunday, November 27, 2016 |
| Sarah Wallace and Janet Wiltse | Sunday, December 4, 2016 |

Thank you for your help in these important areas. If you can't be here, please find someone to take your place.

CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



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We are committed to providing
spiritual enrichment to ALL who
seek the Lord.



We're on the Web!

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