

THE SPIRE



November 2015
Volume 3, Issue 10

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Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

In November we celebrate Thanksgiving and it can be a wonderful time of gathering with our family and friends to remember God's goodness to us.

As we gather to give thanks it can be a blessing to remember specific things in our lives for which we can be thankful. For many of us these specific areas of thanks may be very similar. We may be thankful for God's watchful care in our lives, for the family and friends he has given us, for his help in a difficult time in our lives and for answered prayer. We can also be thankful for the fellowship we can have with God as we walk with him.

Yet, wonderfully in addition to these specific areas where perhaps we share a common thread of gratitude with other people there may be something very unique to our own individual lives for which we can give thanks this year. As Thanksgiving approaches may this unique praise in our lives be something we find to be a special blessing in sharing with God in our hearts.

As we trust in Jesus, may we find joy in thanking God for his specific goodness and tender mercies in our lives.

God bless,
Pastor Mark



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

God Bless,
Pastor Mark

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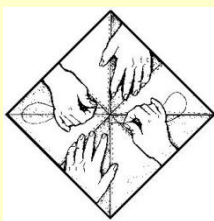
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November 2015 Special Days

- ✂ All Saints' Day — Nov. 1
- ✂ Daylight-Saving Time Ends — Nov. 1
- ✂ Veterans Day — Nov. 11
- ✂ Christ the King Sunday — Nov. 22
- ✂ Bible Sunday — Nov. 22
- ✂ National Bible Week — Nov. 22-Nov. 29
- ✂ Thanksgiving Day — Nov. 26
- ✂ First Sunday of Advent — Nov. 29

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The sewing ladies will be packing the quilts for Lutheran World Relief and Open Door Mission on Monday Morning November 2nd 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. Be sure to note "Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund" in the memo line.

Be sure to check out our bulletin board updates in the coming weeks for volunteering opportunities.

CHRISTMAS BUS TRIP - Join us for the annual December trip. This year we are going to the Holland Center to see the Celtic Tenors on Wednesday, December 2nd. Before the show we will enjoy a meal at Jack and Mary's. Restaurant. The bus will leave around 3:45. The cost of the show ticket is \$31.25 + bus ticket@\$13 + meal = \$60. You may reserve your ticket (50 available) by contacting Candace Johnson at 402-685-5718.



WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK NANCY JOHNSON for being a delegate to the LCMC assembly in Dallas TX. We would also like to thank her for giving her report during the Sunday Morning Church Service on October 18.



These words were spoken to Pastor Mark at the end of the October 11th service, Pastor Appreciation Sunday:

"We can often take people for granted, so it is good to take time to say 'Thank You' to someone special to us at First Lutheran. We are thankful that God has placed you, Pastor Mark, in this congregation. We appreciate you and your ministry here at First Lutheran and on behalf of our congregation, please accept this card and gift card for you. You are a blessing to us. We enjoy our relationship with God....and you."

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

We had an awesome turnout last Sunday to the Harvest Moon Pumpkin patch. Thanks everyone who could come and enjoy the day! The beautiful October weather was perfect! I am so thankful to have a wonderful pumpkin patch so close. We had a total of 86 in attendance.

Due to scheduling conflicts, we are not going to sing in the month of November.

We will be performing our Christmas Program on Sunday, December 13 which is only eight short weeks away so please mark your calendars!

Thanks again, Angie



BIBLE STUDY NEWS

YOUTH GROUP will be meeting every Wednesday of the month from 6:30-9:00 pm. A meal will be provided. It will open it to all current Junior High and Senior High school kids in the community. There is a sign-up sheet in the multipurpose room for anyone who wishes to donate for the meal.

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

Our small group concentrates on taking what scripture says and learning to apply it to today. If you are interested in joining us, we meet at church for 1 hour on either Tuesday afternoons or Wednesday evenings.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

November 11th & 18th - Confirmands will meet.

November 4th - Come to Youth Group

November 25th - 6:00 pm - Confirmation- First Communion Dinner

NEW MEMBERS

We extend our Congratulations and ask for God's blessing on Natalie Johnson and Mitchell Anderson. They were joined in holy matrimony at First Lutheran Church on October 17, 2015. Natalie is the daughter of Alan and Renee Johnson.

PRAYERS OF CONCERN

IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE INCLUDE:

Cella Scott (Tess's Grandmother), Fauniel Paulson, Andy Kruse, Jeff Richards, Donna Larson, Kedron Koehler, Darlene Husen, Bill Johnson, Warren Gregg, Brian Meyer, Sandy Abney, Tara Wallesen, Sandra Johnson, Wilma Neitzke, Don Andersen, Landon Johnson, Lillian Mueller, Donna Johnson, Kaylee Fujan, Vernelle Nelson, Bill Dix, Allen Schrock, Charlie Ray, Rich Tomasek, Oliver Nimmo, Delwin Benne, Joseph Vandry, Grace Meints, The Family of Betty Krutilek, The Family of Gerald Brand, The Family of Gary Rosenboom, The Family of J.C. Anderson and all of our servicemen and women, our shut-ins and our youth ministry.



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
- 9 - Julie Easton, Meghan Ahrens
- 10 - Preston Peterson Keesling,
- 11 - Charles Krutilek
- 13 - Paula Modlin
- 14 - Keith Anderson, Megan Corwine, 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
- 26 - May Taylor
- 27- Holly Olson
- 28 - Norm Case, Blake Denton, Ila Engdahl, 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
- 27 - Harold and Donna Baldwin
- 29 - Chad & Andrea Schiermeyer





**First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Oakland, Nebraska**

The Church Council met October 5, 2015 with Cheryl Denker calling the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were Jim Pelan, Greg Johnson, Carl Magnusson, Rachel Wise, Sandy Husar, Sam Schmidt, Mona Tanksley, Jan Wiltse, Jon Seagren, Kylie Penke and Roger Moderow. Pastor Eldal was attending the LCMC convention so was not in attendance.

The devotions were given by Mona Tanksley after which the minutes of the previous meeting were read. A motion was made by Jon, seconded by Rachel to approve them. Motion carried.

The Evangelism Committee reported that they will meet in November. The sign up calendars for assisting with activities will be posted for the remainder of the year in the multipurpose room. Members are encouraged to sign up to assist with the various activities. It was reported there were 17 young people attending the gathering last Wednesday evening.

The financial reports for September and year to date were reviewed noting expenses exceeded income by \$3,500 so far this year.

The Property Committee noted the new white tables were up in the multiple purpose room and ideas of what to do with the tables that were discussed. It was felt that some of the windows need to be caulked and we will get a quote for this from Linde Glass. We will also check on the piece of glass that was ordered to go on the top of the organ to protect the wood. Jim Pelan reported that the television should be arriving soon and will be installed as soon possible. It was also reported that the Dorcas organization has agreed to contribute to the purchase of the television. Other items discussed included seeding of grass north of the parking lot, a light fixture downstairs that needs tightening, carpets in need of cleaning for which Jim will check on getting a bid for this service. Jim offered to post the directions for using the elevator in the elevator. We will find a place to store the Vacation Bible School supplies to have them available at another time.

Old Business: Church organizations were reminded to store left over food to help control the problem with mice. Plans for updating the church's phone service are still in the works and this should occur in the near future.

New Business: Interviews were conducted for the clerical position and Vanessa Nelson ultimately was hired. She will begin this month and will start by being in the office two mornings a week for now. Sunday October 11 is Pastor Appreciation Sunday and it was decided to purchase a gift card for Pastor and present it to him on that day. It was reported that there is still some money in the organ fund and the parking lot fund and it was decided to return this money to the memorial fund.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with all praying the Lord's Prayer.

Devotions for November - Kylie Penke

Communion Helpers - Oct. 31 - Arla Ogden
Nov. 1 - Sandy Husar

The next meeting will be November 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Mona Tanksley, Secretary

**October
Attendance**

3 & 4	159
10 & 11.....	206
17 & 18	158
24 & 25.....	168

October Finances

Commitments	\$17,124.87
Building Use	\$ 240.00
Designated	\$ 1,030.00
Supplies	\$ 124.00
Sunday School	\$ 5.31
Memorial	\$ 1,140.00
Misc	\$ 217.84
TOTAL	\$19,882.02

November 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP and SUNDAY SCHOOL DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS	2 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:00PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS	3 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	4 9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS 6:30-8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP	5 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	6	7 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
8 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP and SUNDAY SCHOOL	9 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 4:00PM WOW EXECUTIV E MEETING	10 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 3:45PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	11 9AM 2 PM, 6PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS 6:30PM – 8:30 P.M CONFIRMATION 6:30PM – 8:30 P.M YOUTH GROUP VETERANS DAY	12 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	13	14 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
15 9:30AM CONTEMPORAR Y SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP and SUNDAY SCHOOL 6PM KOINONIA MEETING	16 8:30AM SEWING GROUP	17 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	18 6:30PM - 8:30 P.M CONFIRMATION 6:30PM - 8:30 P.M YOUTH GROUP	19 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	20	21 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
22 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP and SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY & BIBLE SUNDAY	23 8:30AM SEWING GROUP	24 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 3:45PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	25 NO YOUTH GROUP 6:00PM CONFIRMATION- FIRST COMMUNION DINNER 7:30PM THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE	26 8:00 PM N.A. MEETINGS THANKSGIVING DAY	27	28 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
29 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP and SUNDAY SCHOOL FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	30 8:30AM SEWING GROUP					

USHERS

THIS MONTH

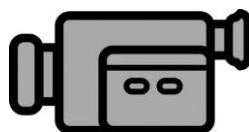
1st - Roger Moderow, Ed Hanna and Sam Schmidt
 8th - Norm Case, Jim Nelson, Zakk Lierman and Kent Johnson
 15th - Dr. Charlie Seagren, Norm Case, Norman Johnson and Gary Case
 22nd - Clare Wiltse, Norm Case, Terry Johnson and Ian Lundquist
 25th Thanksgiving Eve - Norm Case, Garrison Dodge and Jacob Deemer
 29th - Norm Case, Dr. Charlie Seagren, Johnnie Johnson and Josh Mulder



1st - Betty Hanna and Elaine Peterson
 8th - Janice Johnson and Joan Johnson
 15th - Sally Johnson and Tammy Case
 22nd - Julie Johnson and Judy Dix
 25th - Thanksgiving Eve
 29th - Melinda Johnson and Mary Alice Pearson



Nov 1-Josh Deemer
 8-Jared Krutilek
 15-Megan Bousquet
 22-Lane Peterson
 29-Ian Lundquist
 Dec 6-Braeden Case



Video

Nov 1-Katie Miller
 8-Josh Deemer
 15-Jared Krutilek
 22-Megan Bousquet
 29-Lane Peterson
 Dec 6-Ian Lundquist



Nov 1-Bryan Bohn
 8- Youth Group
 15- Ruth Wallerstedt
 22 - Bryan Bohn
 25 - Bryan Bohn
 29 - Billye Pearson
 Dec 6 - Bryan Bohn



Nov 1 - Dan Tanksley
 8 - Jim Pelan
 15 - Jim/Dan
 22 - Tess Johnson
 25 - Tess Johnson
 30 - Tess Johnson
 Dec 6 - Dan Tanksley



Shirley Olson and Sandy Mallette



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 4..... Bingo @ O.H. 9:30 a.m.....Hannah
 November 9 Executive Meeting9:00 a.m.
 November 11 Group Meetings 9 AM, 2 PM, 6 PM
 November 15 Devotions @ O.H. 2:30 p.m.Mary
 Clean KitchenRuth



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

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



Paula Stevenson, Amy Rost
 Tammy VonEssen, Linda VonEssen
 Sarah Wallace, Sally Johnson
 Nancy Wonka, Julia Wuestewald
 Mary Paulsen,
 LeAnn Jorgensen, Delaney Brudigam

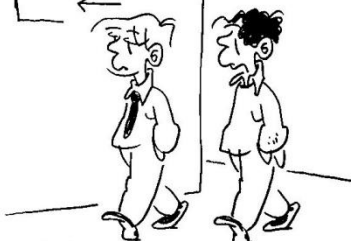
Sunday, November 1, 2015
 Sunday, November 8, 2015
 Sunday, November 15, 2015
 Sunday, November 22, 2015
 Sunday, November 29, 2015
 Sunday, December 6, 2015

CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



"Thank you for this turkey and dressing which you have provided, and the broccoli which the devil has slipped in."

CHURCH
FAMILY
THANKSGIVING
DINNER
6 PM.



Campbell.

"Don't be fooled by the pumpkin pie. It's just squash casserole with sugar."

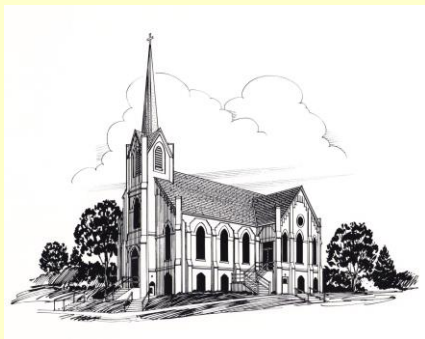
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We are committed to providing
spiritual enrichment to ALL who
seek the Lord.



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