

# Zion Lutheran Monthly

## November 2019

### Pastor's Corner

#### ***“We rejoice in our sufferings”***

2 Corinthians 5:3

Thanksgiving is coming. It is a time when we are supposed to give thanks. A lot of times we think of the concrete things: we give thanks for food, our clothes, our homes. These are all good things for which we give thanks to God. However, there is usually something we leave off of our list of thanksgiving. The apostle Paul often speaks of being thankful for . . . our sufferings.

Let me be the first one to say how odd I initially think it is to say we should be “thankful” for suffering. Being thankful for pain, for emotional trauma, for disease, for persecutions we face as Christians, just seems to go against our very grain, doesn't it? Who on earth wants to suffer? I don't. I doubt you do either. We try to shy away from every form of suffering imaginable. But in doing so, we also miss out on something: becoming so broken that we rely upon Christ for everything.

Every single one of us will go through suffering in this life. It's a fact. We will. Suffering is guaranteed in this fallen world (Genesis 3). We will each face horrendous diseases as our bodies breakdown. We will face spiritual sufferings and temptations. Our minds may become fractured and broken with mental illness. Our children will also face struggles no child should ever go through. And yes, then there is death. Each of us will watch the ones we hold dearest die. One day, we ourselves will also go through death as well. None of us is immune to it.

In spite of all these things though, Paul still had the guts to say, “we rejoice in our sufferings.” Was he mad? Some people might say so. I have another thought. Paul understood the secret of not just enduring suffering, but actually seeing it as a time God can turn into something good. Just as God turned the terribleness of the cross into the salvation of the entire world, the Apostle Paul was also able to see how God can “re-cycle” the terribleness of suffering we go through into something good, beneficial, and faith strengthening.

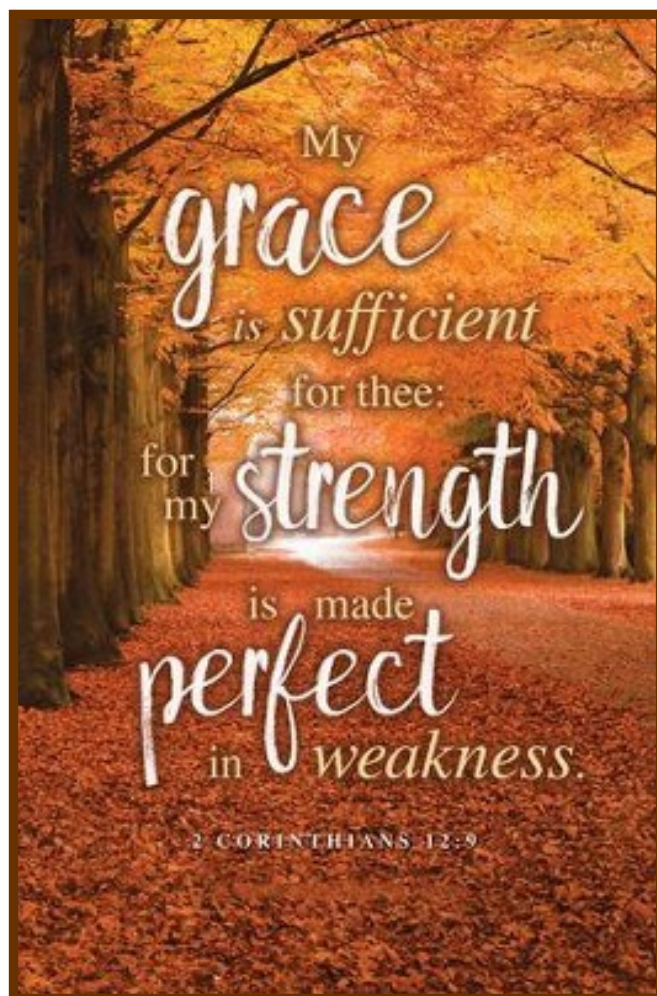
*Cont'd*

## Pastor's Corner

In 2 Corinthians 12, Paul speaks about an illness he was called by God to endure. We don't know exactly what Paul was suffering, but it was bad enough that Paul asked God to take this illness away three times. God's answer to Paul's request was basically a "no" as God said, *"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."* Paul didn't cry about this, or moan that this was unfair. Paul's response was, *"Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."*

*"For when I am weak, then I am strong."* Paul could say this because his strength did not rely upon Himself. Paul relied only upon the strength of Jesus Christ. It took a bit of a beating down for Paul to realize this. Suffering is serious business. Disease, death, sadness, heartache are not laughing matters to be ridiculed or taken lightly. They are serious. God is also equally serious in meeting all of you in those moments. Christ is there with Himself calling you to remember that indeed if anything "good" can be said to come from suffering, it is this: God is allowing you to become weak, so that He might become strong in you. Now, there is something we can truly be thankful for!

— Pastor Grimenstein



**Mission Moment:**

*Promoting Zion's internal, local, and international missionary efforts*



## Save the Seminary Campaign

*Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church  
(a partner church of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)*

[www.siberianlutheranmissions.org/](http://www.siberianlutheranmissions.org/)  
[www.facebook.com/siberianlutheranmissions](https://www.facebook.com/siberianlutheranmissions)

At the request of President Matthew Harrison and the LCMS Church Relations Office, the *Siberian Lutheran Mission Society* has been asked to build an endowment capable of rendering the Russian Seminary financially self-sufficient. The goal is to raise \$7 Million over the next five years (2019-2023).

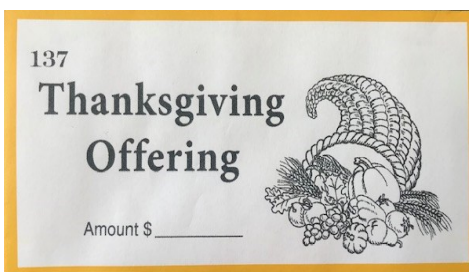


Siberian Pastor



Lutheran Women's Bible Study

The *Siberian Lutheran Mission Society* is working to help support our Siberian Lutheran brethren. They raise funds to support the Pastoral Office in the Siberian Lutheran congregations. They also gather funds to purchase Communion kits, Altar ware, Bibles, VBS materials, and so forth.



Zion Lutheran Church will be designating all CMS offerings at our Thanksgiving Eve Service to go toward the *Siberian Lutheran Mission Society's* work of creating a seminary endowment. You may donate via check or cash in your envelope (see pic). Please make all checks payable to

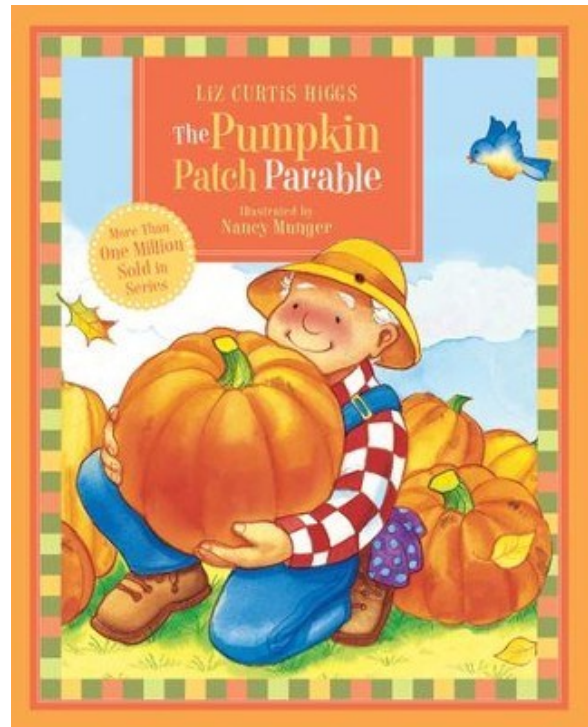
To watch videos of the seminary's work and life as a Siberian Lutheran, check out the videos at: [www.siberianlutheranmissions.org/videos](http://www.siberianlutheranmissions.org/videos)

# In the Spotlight

## Zion Lutheran Preschool Program

### The Parable of the Pumpkin—October's Chapel Lesson

Every October we do the “Parable of the Pumpkin” chapel lesson, and my newsletter article is always on this lesson. It’s not because I don’t have anything else to write about, it’s because this lesson never gets old, because it’s the lesson that children (and adults) need to hear over and over, and it’s what we are here to teach our 183 little children. Jesus is the Son of God, our one and only true Savior. The lesson is conveyed in a visual way using two carved pumpkins side by side. One pumpkin is cleaned out, smiling and lit from within. The other pumpkin is dark inside, still filled with seeds and pulp and frowning. Can you guess which pumpkin represents life with Jesus? Can you guess which pumpkin represents life without Jesus? I explain that the seeds and pulp (or slime as the children like to say) is like sin, and is why it’s dark and sad. To the contrary, the other pumpkin has been washed and clean out, with it’s light shining. It’s like baptism and the washing away of our sins. At this point, I ask the children to look to the cross and remember that Jesus died for us because He loves us and forgives us from our sins. “God said “Let the light shine out of the darkness, made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.



If you are interested in sharing this story with your child or grandchild, the name of the book is the “Pumpkin Patch Parable.” Feel free to contact me for some lesson pointers!

Blessings,

Tracey

# Chairman's Report

## Thanks-and-Giving

Well, looking back on 2019, I hope you all have some memories that move you to say "thank you" for whatever gifts those memories bring to you. I hope any bad memories of this past year are far outweighed by the good memories.

It's interesting that "Thanksgiving" day is a holiday described by the word, "Thanksgiving", and that word can easily be broken into two words, "thanks" and "giving". Did you ever notice that fact? It's interesting, because we always say a thank you when someone gives us something or does something for us. Hopefully, we also have a predisposition toward "giving" in some manner which draws a thank you and completes a circle of brotherhood and togetherness.

You have a Thanksgiving Day envelope in your CMS box of envelopes. This year, whatever you choose to put in that envelope will go directly to a special fund to promote and help sustain an important ministry in Russia for our Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. This is a five year fund drive, so we've decided to support it with that envelope. If you don't have an envelope, you can simply put your donation into any envelope and put it in the plate or mail it to the church with Russian Ministry in the memo line. This is a very worthy outreach that is going to help support a ministry that is truly on the front lines of the Church Militant.

I've always been told that God loves the happy giver, someone who gives of their time, talent and treasures in a manner that is both personal and passionate. Someone who isn't giving for the sole purpose to hear a "thanks" and just wants to focus on the "giving" part. I hope that is all of us in practice and not just theory. Know that every penny you put in your Thanksgiving CMS envelope for the next 5 years will go into a fund that builds interest to support the Russian Ministry.

We had our regularly scheduled Voter's Meeting last Sunday, October 27th. While the meeting progressed, we ended up without a necessary quorum to conduct the business of your church. IF you recall reading my past Newsletter blogs, I tried to remind everyone of the responsibilities of being a "member" and "communicating" and other themes that would hopefully draw people closer to developing a consensus as your church moves through decisions and tries to fulfill the missions to which we are dedicated. Please try to attend the four regular/quarterly meetings and the budget meeting in June as a member/voter/participant in your church.

**The next regular quarterly Voter's Meeting is January 26th, 2020 at 9:15; however, we will have a Special Voter's Meeting on Sunday, November 17th at 9:15 to present an important item that will impact our expenses for the current fiscal year.** Please try to "give" some of your time and attend these meetings of your church. In fact...you ARE the "church" so whatever you give sustains the fellowship in Christianity that our ministries represent.

Happy Thanks-Giving...!!!





[www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)



## 2019 Lutherans For Life Regional Conferences

### “Did God Really Say ... ?”

#### Speaking up For Life

**Abortions in the U.S. Hit Historic New Low** – On September 18, the Guttmacher Institute reported a seven-percent drop in abortions across the U.S. to a new all-time low. Guttmacher records the numbers through a national census of abortion providers. According to the comprehensive abortion data, 862,320 abortions were reported in 2017, a decline from 926,200 in 2014, the report showed. The abortion rate also fell to 13.5 per 1,000 women of childbearing age—down from 14.6 in 2014 and 16.9 in 2011. According to the report, 32 states passed about 400 pro-life laws during the time period, including informed consent, parental consent, and waiting-period requirements. The annual number of legal abortions shows a continued downward trend since its peak in the 1980s, with a slight uptick between 2006 and 2008. The analysis suggests the decline is at the lowest level of abortion on record since the U.S. Supreme Court legalized the procedure in 1973. (*CNA.com, LifeNews.com, 9/18/19; CLR LifeWire, 9/19/19*).

“It is our faith that compels us to venerate life from its moment of conception. It is by faith that we treat life not as an entitlement or possession but as a steward for the Creator who gives life. Only by faith do we accept that life at its earliest possible moment has culpability for sin before the Divine Judge and benefits from the sacrifice of our Savior.” *Rev. Robert Fleischmann, National Director of Christian Life Resources*

“So, let us say yes to the opportunities before us that God has prepared for us to do! To say ‘Here We Stand’ ... in defense and protection of the precious and vulnerable human lives that are the handiwork of God from the moment of conception to natural death.” *Lynette Auch, President of Lutherans For Life*

“God justifies sinners by grace through faith for Jesus’ sake. Salvation comes as a gift and not because of one’s own works. This truth stands at the heart of all Christians say and do ... God’s graciousness governs how we engage life issues. Not only are human beings forgiven, redeemed, and resurrected by grace, but every human life is valued and beloved by grace—age, appearance, and ability notwithstanding. Even after 500 years, we rejoice to proclaim and perform this Gospel.” *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life*

[www.lutheransforlife.org/media/life-quotes](http://www.lutheransforlife.org/media/life-quotes)

For those who have had  
an abortion there is a **Word of Hope**  
for a broken spirit  
and tormented heart ...

888.217.8679



**For over 100 years, Bethesda Lutheran Communities has been committed to supporting people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. We welcome you to come alongside us as a Bethesda Ambassador to help further our mission, "To enhance the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities through services that share the good news of Jesus Christ."**

### **What Is a Bethesda Ambassador?**

**The Bethesda Ambassadors, working together with other Bethesda staff in Development and Religious Life, exist to promote Bethesda's mission and ministry to and with people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. Our goal is to increase the awareness of Bethesda's work among congregations and congregational members of all ages, build connections to Bethesda's ministry and the people we serve and ultimately to generate increased financial support of our work. Bethesda Ambassadors accomplish this by:**

- Assisting in securing Bethesda Sunday presentation opportunities at local congregations by contacting/meeting with local pastors.**
- Conducting Bethesda Sunday presentations at local congregations as a representative of Bethesda. This will include 5-15 minutes before/after church services on an assigned Sunday as well as a longer (30-40 minute) presentation between services, often in place of a Bible study.**
- Conduct presentations for adult church groups or Lutheran schools as a representative of Bethesda.**
- Represent Bethesda at local church-related conferences or conventions.**

### **Who Is Eligible to Become a Bethesda Ambassador?**

**Bethesda Ambassadors work in all 50 states across the country and are active members of their communities. Pastors, Deaconesses, church leaders and staff and college students are eligible to apply to become a Bethesda Ambassador and bring the message and mission of Bethesda to share with churches in their area. Bethesda Ambassadors share information and updates about Bethesda's work and invite people to become a part of the mission in a variety of ways.**

**Visit <https://bethesdalc.org/get-involved/become-an-ambassador/> to learn more and watch a short video about the ambassador program.**

# Zion Youth News and Events

Our November meeting/activity will be on Saturday November 16th.

The youth will be volunteering at the Bridgeville Food Bank.

Meet at Bethany Church at 8:15am. We will volunteer until Noon. If you can only make it for part of the time no problem! Contact Megan Pasquini at [secretary@zlc.org](mailto:secretary@zlc.org) with any questions!



## Special VOTERS' MEETING



Join us for a Special Voter's meeting on a very important topic. We will be presenting a motion to modify the Church and Preschool secretarial roles and hours. This change would require an adjustment to the budget. We need a quorum for this motion to be presented and voted on. This will be the only order of business for this



## Food Bank— November



Collection for this month's Bridgeville area food bank is Sunday, November 10th . The "item of the month" is **canned meats and proteins** (tuna, salmon, nuts, etc.). You are also welcome to help at the food bank every third Saturday of the month between 7:45 am and 12:00 pm at Bethany Presbyterian Church.





# Giving Tree



Starting November 10, you will have the opportunity to participate in purchasing a gift of clothing or toy for a child registered with the Bridgeville Area Food Bank. If you wish to participate, choose an angel gift tag from the tree set up in the back of the church. Each red gift tag marked with a size is to be for clothing. Your unwrapped gift costing around twenty dollars will need to be returned with the gift tag attached no later than Sunday, **DECEMBER 15.**

Zion Lutheran Church is a part of the area ministerial. The ministerial is formed by many local churches in the surrounding Bridgeville area. Volunteers representing the area churches come together to serve the people in need who live in the South Fayette and Chartiers Valley School districts. Our ministry is ongoing throughout the year and serves around ninety families each month.

There are many ways in which you are able to support the food bank throughout the year. You may bring non-perishable food and place it in the Narthex. Financially, you may give a cash donation or write a check to the Bridgeville Area Food Bank. The third Saturday of the month between 8:00 AM and 12:00 PM is when we distribute food at the Bethany Presbyterian Church on Washington Pike. We would welcome your help.

If you have any questions about the food bank please don't hesitate to ask.

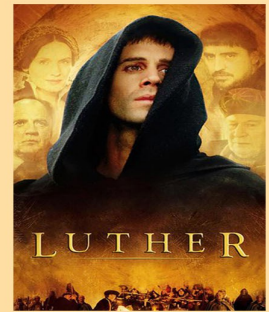


In Christ's Service,  
Barb Oechslein  
Bridgeville Area Food  
Bank Representative

# MOVIE & BONFIRE!

**SATURDAY NOV 2ND 4:45 PM**

**POTLUCK DINNER & "LUTHER" (2003)  
BONFIRE TO FOLLOW  
CHILDCARE PROVIDED**



**secretary@zxcb.org for more information**

## **Eighth Annual "Adopt a Grandparent"**

During the Holiday season, I enjoy brightening the lives of residents in local assisted living and nursing home facilities in Allegheny County. Many of these people have few, if any, visitors and receive little, if anything during the Holidays. Last year, through the generosity of local businesses and friends, I helped deliver almost 1000 gifts to residents of John J Kane Regional Hospital, Scott Twp, Washington Commons, Gracious Living, Marian Manor, Victorian Place, Washington Hospice, and shut-ins at Zion Lutheran Church and Good Shepherd Church. This year I hope to help deliver 1000 gifts again.



By partnering with me, your \$15 will provide each of the residents a fragrance-free hand cream and help them to have a very Merry Christmas. These items are specifically requested by caregivers for the benefits the residents receive. The lotions will soothe their hands and bring joy, as well, by the simple "touch therapy" of applying them. They will be delivered in December.

Please consider what a blessing this is for the men and women in these facilities who once lived and worked in our local communities. *Let them know they are remembered! THANK YOU!*

Make your checks payable to Ginny Granke-Kimberland, or if you have any questions about how you, your school or business can become a sponsor, please contact:

Ginny Granke-Kimberland

1610 Glenn St

McDonald PA 15057 412-427-9013



Share the Joy of Christmas  
with our homebound members ~  
Send them a card this Season!

Mr. Tom Bicusky  
Elmcroft Senior Living  
3275 Washington Pike  
Bridgeville PA 15017

Mrs. Laverne Eckels  
Manor Care  
113 W McMurray Road  
Rm 116 Bethany Unit  
McMurray PA 15317

Mrs. Gladys Cimarolli  
103 Greenwood Drive  
Bridgeville PA 15017

Mrs. Joan Cisko  
128 Phillips Drive  
McMurray PA 15317

Mrs. Irene Bourg  
Country Meadows  
3580 Washington Pike  
Apt. 220  
Bridgeville PA 15017

Mrs. Helen Erbrecht  
McMurray Hills Manor  
249 W McMurray Road  
McMurray PA 15317

Mrs. Florence Boehme  
McMurray Hills Manor  
249 W McMurray Road  
McMurray PA 15317

Mrs. Lois Dittmer  
Strabane Woods  
319 Wellness Way  
Rm 117  
Washington PA 15301

Mrs. Nancy Gielarowski  
73 Highland Drive  
McDonald PA 15057

Mrs. Dolores Preaux  
Manor Care Peters Twp  
113 W McMurray Road  
Rm: 204B  
McMurray PA 15317

Mrs. Gerry Hilldenbrand  
505 Hunters Path #14  
Bridgeville PA 15017

Dottie Heslop  
3580 Washington Pike  
Apt. # 110  
Bridgeville PA 1501



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# WOMENS MINISTRY



We are planning some wonderful ladies fellowship events for the upcoming Christmas season. Please mark your calendars and join us as we celebrate Christ's birth!

November 16th—Crafting Night with appetizers in the Fellowship Hall

December 17th—Ladies Dinner and Ornament Exchange at Burgh's (We have the Private Room). Start looking for your ornament now....and let the games begin!

These events are open to all Zion women (and young women in high school and up). More information will be coming soon.

## Video of Services Now Available!



You can now watch a video of the service if you missed church, or would like to see one of the services again.

It's easy! ... go to [zlcb.org/video](http://zlcb.org/video) to view the video, or download a QR

code reader then scan the QR code provided!



**Scan Me!**

# SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Please join us for our All-Church Christmas Dinner and Show!

We encourage all members to attend this special evening.

Tickets will be on sale for the dinner in the coming weeks.



**SAVE THE DATE!**

*Sing We Now  
of Christmas!*

the second stanza

2019 Zion All-Church Christmas Celebration!  
5:00pm Dinner • 6:30pm Show • Dessert to follow  
Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup> • Ticket sales start soon!

## Sing We Now of Christmas: the Second Stanza

written by Tess Carter

The program will be presented by the Sunday School children and some of our Zion musicians on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. They'll share the story of Jesus' birth and the history behind some of our favorite Christmas hymns.

We'll enjoy a congregational Christmas dinner prior to the program at 5:00 pm!

# SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday school begins at 9:15 am in classroom #205. Students from Preschool (age 3) through 6<sup>th</sup> grade meet for devotions before going to their classes. Parents with children in Preschool -4<sup>th</sup> grade should pick their children up at the classrooms by 10:20 am.

## November Teachers and Helpers

| Session 3 Dates  | Session 3 Lessons  | Pre - K       | 1 - 2          | 3 - 4         | 5 - 6        |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| October 20, 2019 | David and Goliath  | Megan Glasser | Megan Pasquini | Connie Canale | Mike Wallace |
| October 27, 2019 | David and Jonathan |               |                |               |              |
| November 3, 2019 | David Becomes King |               |                |               |              |

| Session 4 Dates   | Session 4 Lessons       | Pre - K            | 1 - 2             | 3 - 4       | 5 - 6        |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------|--------------|
| November 10, 2019 | God Forgives David      | Christine Chilcott | Carrie Lemonovich | Andy Weldon | Susie Bishop |
| November 17, 2019 | The Wisdom of Solomon   |                    |                   |             |              |
| November 24, 2019 | <b>CHRISTMAS LESSON</b> |                    |                   |             |              |

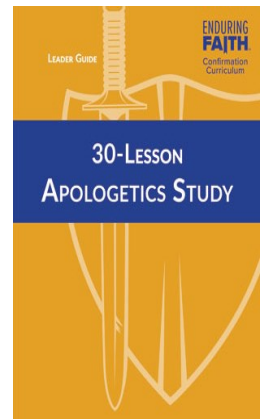
## Upcoming Events & Important Dates

November 3 – Christmas Program Practice begins  
 November 24 – Christmas Lesson  
 December 15 – Christmas Dinner (5:00 pm) and Program (6:30 pm)  
 December 22 – Sunday School Classroom Christmas Party  
 December 29 – No Sunday School classes

## November Apologetics Topics for Post-Confirmation Students

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| November 3  | Did Jesus really die and rise again?                |
| November 10 | When will Jesus return? Why does His return matter? |
| November 17 | Break   |
| November 24 | Break   |

**\*The apologetics class will resume on January 5, 2020. Students are encouraged to assist with the Sunday School Christmas program OR attend the Adult Bible Study.**





## What About...

### The Ordination of Women to the Pastoral Office

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Many denominations ordain women to the pastoral office, even some Lutheran churches. It is important that Missouri Synod Lutherans be able to give a kindly response and explanation to those who may question our position on this issue. We have an opportunity to speak the truth in love.

#### **What does God say about women serving in the pastoral office?**

The Lord teaches us through His Word that women are not given the responsibility of serving the church as pastors. We read the following statements: "As in all the churches of the saints, the women should keep silence in the churches. For they are not permitted to speak, but should be subordinate, as even the law says ...what I am writing to you is a command of the Lord" (1 Cor.14:33-34,37). "Let a woman learn in silence with all submissiveness. I permit no woman to teach or to have authority over men; she is to keep silent"(1 Tim.2:11-12). "The saying is sure: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Now an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife..."(1 Tim.3:1-2). "This is why I left you in Crete ...that you might appoint elders in every town as I directed you, if any man is blameless, the husband of one wife..."(Titus 1:5-6). God has given His church many gifts. Among them is the gift of the office of the public, pastoral ministry. We receive what God gives, in the way He has given it, and in the form He has given it. We do not tell God that His gift is not good enough for us, or that we don't like the form in which He has given the gift. We receive God's gifts as He gives them, with thanks and praise. We rejoice in the opportunities God has given us, as His redeemed people, to serve Him in the church, and in our daily lives. The church which wishes to remain faithful to the Word of God cannot permit the ordination of women to the pastoral office.

#### **The Bible says that we are all one in Christ. Don't these words imply that women may serve as pastors?**

There are those churches which believe that St. Paul's words in Gal.3:28 mandate the service of women as pastors: "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus." But this verse does not teach that there is no distinction

between these various groups; rather, it teaches the equality of salvation that all Christians have in Christ Jesus our Lord. Paul wants us to know that all individuals are equally sinful and equally saved by the work of God through Jesus Christ. Gal. 3:28 does not contradict or overturn St. Paul's comments elsewhere. This passage does not speak to the issue of the ordination of women; instead it is speaking of the equality of our salvation in Christ, for which we praise the Triune God, but it certainly does not mean that all may serve as pastors.

#### **If men and women have equal rights, why can't women be pastors?**

The issue of the ordination of women is not a matter of "human rights" or "church traditions" or various human opinions and customs. Nor is it a matter of "discrimination against women." Various social reformers in our culture would have us believe that men and women are totally interchangeable and that their God-given differences simply have no bearing on life in this world. Not only does this run contrary to the clear testimony of nature, it also contradicts the Bible. The Bible teaches us a different view of God's creation. The Scriptures teach us that both men and women were created in the image of God, but are two distinct and special creations of God. We praise God for His wisdom in creating human beings as both man and woman. We believe that God has gifted men and women with different responsibilities and duties. For example, men are gifted by God to be husbands and fathers; women are gifted by God to be wives and mothers. So also in the church, God has gifted men and women with different, though complementary, opportunities and responsibilities for service.

#### **What are the roles of men and women in the church?**

Together, men and women serve their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Men have the divine obligation to be the leaders of the church. Women are called to be of assistance to men in this capacity. An attitude of service guides what we do in the church, not a demand for "rights" or an attitude of "lording it over" one another. We have one Lord and one Master, Jesus Christ. We serve Him in the ways He desires.



## What About...

# The Ordination of Women to the Pastoral Office

God has given the responsibility to serve as pastors only to certain qualified men. The church calls these men to serve as representatives of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, in the pastoral office. Women are not called to serve in this way because God has not given this responsibility to women. Why didn't Jesus call a woman to serve as an apostle? Why, through the Apostle Paul, does He prohibit women from serving as pastors in the church? We must leave the answers to these questions to God. We remain with what has been given to us by God in His Word. God has not given the church the option of calling and ordaining women to the pastoral office. We honor and respect God's will in these matters and praise Him for the many gifts He has given us all, including the marvelous opportunities He provides to both men and women to serve Him.

### **Why then do some churches ordain women as pastors?**

Here again, as with so many issues, the reason for differences we have with other church bodies is based on their differing attitude toward the Scriptures. Our Synod affirms the truth that the Holy Scriptures are God's perfect and errorless revelation to us. We receive what God has given to us in His Word. We are not free to overlook that Word, ignore it, explain it away, or otherwise disregard what the Lord has revealed through the Apostle Paul. Churches that ordain women have chosen to regard St. Paul's writings as his own personal opinions. This is a difficult position to maintain in light of the fact that St. Paul goes out of his way, on more than one occasion, to repeat his position on this matter, and explicitly declares that this is not merely his personal opinion, but a command of the Lord.

### **How can faithful Lutherans respond to the ordination of women?**

First, we never should become defensive or antagonistic about this issue. Instead, we need simply to speak the truth in love, witnessing to our beliefs and recognizing this as yet another opportunity to say, "This we believe, teach, confess and practice."

Second, we need to be loving and gentle with people who belong to church bodies that ordain women. In many instances, they are simply unaware of why this has been done. They have been given incorrect information and

have no clear foundation in Scripture to understand why the ordination of women is contrary to the Word of God. We need to explain these issues in love, with gentleness and compassion. Third, it is important for us to explain how women may serve their Lord in the church in a fulfilling manner. There are many ways for women to serve as full-time church workers in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, including service as teachers, directors of Christian education, directors of Christian outreach, deaconesses and parish nurses. Laywomen have many opportunities for service through various church societies, guilds and leagues, along with the service they provide as volunteer teachers. They have additional opportunities to serve in their local congregations as members of various boards and committees. We thank God for the many blessings and gifts that come to the church through the service of women. We need to emphasize the opportunities that God has provided to all of us, both men and women, to serve Him in His kingdom. How unfortunate it would be if we permitted ourselves to become ensnared in self-centered demands for "rights," and thus take our eyes off of our Lord's call to service. Demanding from God what He has not given is contrary to what it means to be a child of God. When our focus is on love and service to one another, we realize that there is more than enough for all of us to do. We serve each other in love, conforming our service to the Word of God. Nobody in the church is called to be the "master" over anyone else. Pastors are Christ's servants who care for the people of God with Christ's Word and Sacraments. Thus, through these gifts, our Lord graciously gives Himself to us for our salvation, in humble sacrificial service, according to His Father's will. We are privileged to be able to follow Christ's example with thankfulness in our hearts for His many gifts, most importantly the gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. May God bless our service to Him, for the sake of the Gospel of Christ our Lord.

- Dr. A.L Barry  
Past President—LCMS





# Service Participants



| Date        | Time                | Greeters  | Acolytes                              | Nursery                               |
|-------------|---------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| November 3  | 8:00 AM<br>10:30 AM | Brent & Marianne Miller,<br>Millie Thielet, Janet &<br>Marian Oelschlager | Lauren Liberatore<br>Carly Garrubba   | Brittany Dill<br>Susie Bishop         |
| November 10 | 8:00 AM<br>10:30 AM | Wayne & Barb Oechslein<br>Jane & Mike Kozak                               | Alex Yellig<br>Max Gresh              | Megan Meyer<br>Barb Oechslein         |
| November 17 | 8:00 AM<br>10:30 AM | Jacque Oelschlager<br>John & Katie Gielarowski                            | Lauren Liberatore<br>Bella Bonacci    | Megan Glasser<br>Jessica Boyle        |
| November 24 | 8:00 AM<br>10:30 AM | Peter & Barbara Fisher<br>Kristen Neill                                   | Joshua Grimenstein<br>Luke Lemonovich | Carrie Lemonovich<br>Stephanie Eckels |
| December 1  | 8:00 AM<br>10:30 AM | Brian & Megan Pasquini<br>Ed & June Malachosky                            | Alex Yellig<br>Jack Bishop            | Sharon Bogden<br>Christine Chilcott   |



| Month           | Elders                           | Altar Guild                    | 8:00 AM Ushers  | 10:30 AM Ushers  |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>November</b> | Bob Schmidt<br>Jim Neill         | Kathleen Conn &<br>Mary Hutula | Brian & Megan<br>Pasquini, Barb &<br>Wayne Oechslein      | John & Kari Gresh,<br>Dwight & Andy<br>Weldon                        |
| <b>December</b> | John Gielarowski<br>Mike Wallace | Janet & Marian<br>Oelschlager  | Shane Bryant, Bill<br>Schrag, Ken Schrag<br>& Tim Sheldon | Susie Bishop, Anna<br>Gresh, Vince<br>Kimberland,<br>John Lemonovich |

If you are unable to participate on the assigned date, please find your own substitute and notify the church office (412) 221-4776 or [secretary@zxcb.org](mailto:secretary@zxcb.org) of the change.

Visit our website for past sermons, informative videos, thought-provoking articles, pictures from recent church events, and updated information about upcoming events. Check it out: [zxcb.org](http://zxcb.org)

# November Birthdays

1<sup>st</sup> Sam Bishop

2<sup>nd</sup> Salina Floweroft

3<sup>rd</sup> Roland Chilcott

8<sup>th</sup> Tom Carthy

9<sup>th</sup> Vince Kimberland

10<sup>th</sup> Rose Stranko

12<sup>th</sup> Janę Kozak

13<sup>th</sup> Ed Malachosky

13<sup>th</sup> Sydney Harris

14<sup>th</sup> Ruth Trudę



14<sup>th</sup> Kathy Kacvinsky

22<sup>nd</sup> Marian Oęlschlagę

24<sup>th</sup> Jacque Oęlschlagę

26<sup>th</sup> Jennifer Lewis

27<sup>th</sup> Marian Siek

28<sup>th</sup> Brent Miller

29<sup>th</sup> Brian Pasquini

29<sup>th</sup> Melissa Radovich

30<sup>th</sup> Adele Goodę



# November Anniversaries



11th- Bernie & Jean Blanco

20th- Dan & Tracey Harris

23rd- Gene & Sharon Koop



# November 2019



| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday                              | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday | Saturday  |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|--------|---|
| <p>This is the <i>Day</i> that the Lord has made,<br/>let us <i>Rejoice</i> and be glad in it.<br/><i>Psalm 118:24</i></p>  |   |                                      |  |  | 1      | 2   |
| 3   | 4   | 5                                    | 6  | 7  | 8      | 9   |
| <p>8:00 am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>9:15 am Sunday School &amp; Bible Class</p> <p>10:30 am Worship w/ Communion</p>   | <p>6:00 pm 1st Year Confirmation</p> <p>6:15 pm Grace Bell Choir</p> <p>7:00pm 2nd Year Confirmation</p> <p>7:00 pm Trustees Meeting</p> <p>7:15 pm Adult Choir</p> <p>8:15 pm Faith Bell Choir</p> |                                      | <p>7:00 pm Midweek Service &amp; Bible Study</p> | <p>10:00 am Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm Elders Meeting</p>                            |        | <p>8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast</p>  |
| 10  | 11  | 12                                   | 13   | 14   | 15     | 16  |
| <p>8:00 am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>9:15 am Sunday School &amp; Bible Class</p> <p>10:30 am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>FOOD BANK COLLECTION</p>   | <p>6:00 pm 1st Year Confirmation</p> <p>6:15 pm Grace Bell Choir</p> <p>7:00pm 2nd Year Confirmation</p> <p>7:15 pm Adult Choir</p> <p>8:15 pm Faith Bell Choir</p>                                 |                                      | <p>7:00 pm Midweek Service &amp; Bible Study</p> | <p>10:00 am Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm Council Meeting</p>                           |        | <p>8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast</p> <p>8:15 am Youth Group Volunteers at Bridgeville Food Bank</p> |
| 17  | 18  | 19                                   | 20   | 21   | 22     | 23  |
| <p>8:00 am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>9:15 am Sunday School &amp; Bible Class</p> <p>10:30 am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>11:45 am Youth Group</p>   | <p>6:00 pm 1st Year Confirmation</p> <p>6:15 pm Grace Bell Choir</p> <p>7:00 pm 2nd Year Confirmation</p> <p>7:15 pm Adult Choir</p> <p>8:15 pm Faith Bell</p>                                      |                                      | <p>7:00 pm Midweek Service &amp; Bible Study</p> | <p>10:00 am Bible Study</p>  |        | <p>8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast</p>  |
| 24  | 25  | 26                                   | 27   | 28   | 29     | 30  |
| <p>8:00 am Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>9:15 am Sunday School &amp; Bible Study</p> <p>10:30 am Worship w/ Communion</p>   | <p>6:00 pm 1st Year Confirmation</p> <p>6:15 pm Grace Bell</p> <p>7:00 pm Event's Meeting</p> <p>7:00 pm 2nd Year Confirmation</p> <p>7:15 pm Adult Choir</p> <p>8:15 pm Faith Bell</p>             | <p>7:00 pm Sunday School Meeting</p> | <p>7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Service</p>          |  |        | <p>8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast</p>  |

Sunday morning worship at 8:00am and 10:30am



Zion Lutheran Church

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Bridgeville, PA 15017

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