



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Greetings of joy and peace in the name of our resurrected Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ.

During the month of November we observe two special holiday. First there is Veterans Day and National Day of Thanksgiving. St. Paul wrote, "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thess. 5:16-18). We are to continuously offering our gracious God thanksgiving and praise for all that He has done for us, does for us, and will do for us.

We take time to remember those veterans, living and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure the freedoms we enjoy and the land where we live. We remember the sacrifice of our veterans and their families who may often be forgotten.

We remember the story of Jesus healing the 10 lepers. Luke records how ten lepers cried out, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" Jesus directed them to go and show themselves to the priests." Luke writes "And so they went, they were cleansed." Luke concluded the story of this healing by having Jesus speak, Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well". All ten lepers were healed but only one returned to give thanks to the Lord.

Someone has come up with a number of suggestions concerning the nine who did not return to give thanks. The included the following:

One waited to see if the cure was real.

One waited to see if it would last.

One said he would see Jesus later.

One decided that he had never had leprosy.

One said he would have gotten well anyway.

One gave the glory to the priests.

One said, "O, well, Jesus didn't really do anything."

One said, "Any rabbi could have done it."

One said, "I was already much improved."

(Charles L. Brown, Content The Newsletter),

How often do we join the nine lepers in finding reasons not to give thanks to our gracious God. We are all very busy and don't take time to think of our blessings. We often take them for granted. We conclude that it was by our own strength, wisdom and ability that we received a certain blessing. St. Paul wrote, "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." The psalmist wrote, "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good and his mercy or love endures forever."

Our thanksgiving come from hearts filled with faith in Jesus Christ. We remember his sacrifice and what it means for us. We remember how richly and daily God has blessed us with material and spiritual blessings. We can stop and remember God's hand of blessings and protection in our lives. We then give Him praise and thanksgiving for all the blessings we have received, blessing that we do not deserve. With joyful hearts, hearts filled with faith we pause and praise our gracious God and thank Him. Not only one day but every day we have life on this side of eternity.

No matter our circumstance in life this year, we can all pause and thank our gracious God for the blessings (spiritual and material) that He has given to us. Join us for our Service of Thanksgiving on Wednesday, November 26, and rededicate ourselves to being God's thankful people in all circumstances.

May our gracious Lord bless and keep each of you in His care as we give Him thanksgiving and praise. On behalf of Barb, Steve & Joy, Myka and Joslyn may you have a blessed thanksgiving. May you make this a blessed thanksgiving.

In Christ,
Pastor Raether

Pastor Raether

Showing our Gratitude

God gives us His love, goodness, and mercy daily. He has given us victory over sin and death through His Son. Christ has given us the blessings of forgiveness of sins, justification, a new life, and an eternal hope. Because of His bountiful blessings, we should be compelled to show our gratitude. Do we? Could we, at times, be taking all that we receive for granted?

If Christ were to come into our homes in physical form, certainly we would express our thanks in tangible ways. Before He arrived, we would clean our homes thoroughly, and, when He arrived, we would make Him comfortable, run errands for Him, offer Him our best food, and give Him our time and attention. Since we don't have that opportunity, we show our gratitude in other ways.

One way that we express our gratitude is to give thanks throughout the day. When we see life and its blessings as gifts, we are prepared to offer our thanks. Our thanksgiving is demonstrated when we use the faith God has given us to live in obedience to His Word. God hears and sees our gratitude through the lives we live. When we generously share our time and money with others in Christian love, we show our thanksgiving for our gifts. Our giving reflects Christ's love in us. We express our thanks to our heavenly Father when we joyfully receive His gifts in private and corporate worship.

As stewards, we find that gratitude to God opens our hearts to receive more of God's love which enables us, in turn, to be more faithful with our time, talents, and treasures. In response to God's love, grace, and mercy, we give ourselves and our resources. When we acknowledge God as our creator and redeemer, Who is the core for everything good in our lives, we will serve the Lord faithfully out of gratitude for all His amazing blessings and gifts to us. Our gratefulness to God will enable us to experience joy in Him even during bad times because God promises to comfort and sustain us in all things. When we know that heaven awaits us, in Jesus, it changes the way we look at life here and now.

Through the eyes of faith, we understand that being thankful to God is the key to living life.

FROM: Stewardship Advisors

Abraham Lincoln's
Thanksgiving Proclamation
of 1863

It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon; and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord.

We know that by His divine law, nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world. May we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people?

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown.

But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father Who dwelleth in the heavens.

A. Lincoln, October 3, 1863.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Max Lucado's
"Tame Your Thoughts"

In Tame Your Thoughts, bestselling author and pastor Max Lucado explores three key thought management tools and then applies them to the most common thought problems: anxiety, guilt, rejection, and others. God loves us too much to let us lead a life marked by poor thinking. He made our brains; he can retrain our brains. God has not left us alone in this battle of the mind.

Stuck in your head? Hounded by regrets? Weighed down by worry? Change is possible! The thoughts that have characterized your past need not characterize the rest of your life. You will learn to:

- Take thoughts captive
- Test each message against the truth of Scripture
- Interrupt poisonous thought threads
- Think and act like Jesus

If God can resurrect the dead, can he not resurrect hope? Defy depression? Clarify confusion? Silence shame? Destroy doubt? Banish bitterness?

The tentative schedule is as follows:

Nov. 5	"The Power of Your Thoughts"
Nov. 12	"Three Tools for Thought Management"
Nov. 19	"Getting Unstuck from Anxiety and Guilt"
Nov. 26	Thanksgiving
Dec. 5	"Finding Joy and Avoiding the Lure of Lust"
Dec. 12	"Navigating Overwhelming Situations and Pain"
Dec. 19	"Facing Rejection and Dissatisfaction."

THE VACANCY

When Pastor Meyer accepted the call to Blue Springs, Missouri, the St. Paul and Prince of Peace dual parish became vacant. We have received word that Pastor Thackery, of Good Shepherd Lutheran, will serve as vacancy pastor for the dual parish. Pastor Pierson, of St. Paul's Lutheran in Webster City will cover the Saturday Evening service at St. Paul in Fort Dodge and Pastor Thackery will cover the Sunday Morning service or services. Pastor Raether will continue to serve the vacancy at Prince of Peace. More details for the vacancy will be announced the first part of November. This is the information that we have at this time and thought that you should have this info. PR

NOVEMBER SERVICES

Nov. 2	Remembering the Reformation
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day Service (Holy Communion Celebrated)
Nov. 16	23rd Sunday After Pentecost
Nov. 23	The Last Sunday in the Church Year (Holy Communion Celebrated)
Nov. 26	(Wednesday 1:00 PM) Thanksgiving Service
Nov. 30	1st Sunday in Advent

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

November 27, 2025– 1:00 p.m.

We will gather as God's people to celebrate Thanksgiving on Wednesday November 27 at 1:00 p.m. While every day we should offer our gracious God praise and thanksgiving, we gather on this special day to give thanks to God for His love and many blessings." We encourage you to invite friends and neighbors to our worship.

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES

Midweek Advent Services will begin on Wednesday December 5. There will be three midweek services (December 5, 12, 19) this year because Thanksgiving was later than usual. The Advent Sermon series is called "All About Mary." This series will examine the Virgin Mary. The main focus will not be on Mary but Mary's son, God's Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus

Christ. He is the one who gained human flesh and blood from his mother so that he could go to the cross and sacrifice himself for us there to take away our sins. So as we get to know Mary, we are going to learn about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The Midweek Advent Services will be held on Wednesday at 1:00PM. The tentative Schedule is as follows:

- Dec. 3 Midweek Advent I – Luke 1:26 – “All About Mary”
- Dec. 10 Midweek Advent II – Luke 1:27 – “She Was Betrothed to a Man”
- Dec. 17 Midweek Advent III – Luke 1:46-55 – “And Mary Sang”
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve – Luke 2:7 – “She Gave Birth”
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day – John 1;1-18 – “Idols and Lies, Word and Flesh”

SUNDAY SERVICES DURING ADVENT

This years Sunday Advent Service will center on the Gospel readings for the Sunday. They focus on the coming of our Lord and Savior, as we prepare to celebrate His birth. The tentative Sunday schedule for December, beginning with the first Sunday in Advent November 30th, is as follows:

- Nov. 30 Ad. I - Matthew 21:1-11- “Who is this Man?”
- Dec. 7 Ad. II – Matthew 3:1-12 – “Are You Ready?”
- Dec. 14 Ad. III - Matthew 11:2-15 – “Waiting Without Wondering” (Holy Communion Celebrated)
- Dec. 21 Ad. IV - Matthew 1:18-25 – “Nothing to Figure Out”
- Dec. 28 Christmas I - Galatians 4:4-7 – A Son and Heir of God” (Holy Communion Celebrated)

Pastor and Barb wish to thank the member of Prince of Peace for the gifts and cards received from the members of Prince of Peace during the month of October, which was Pastor Appreciation Month. It is a privilege and honor to serve the Lord and the members of Prince of Peace Lutheran church Thank You.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

“Operation Christmas Child” is a project of Samaritan's Purse, which is headed by Franklin Graham. The project gives Christmas Boxes (shoe boxes fill with Christmas gifts) to children in the US and around the world. The cover material for this project tells of a church in the Ukraine that was a haven for 165 people, including children, as bomb fell in the surrounding area. The promotional material stated, “During the war time, God took our children into His hands because we received shoeboxes from Operation Christmas Child. It was like holidays from them. They forgot about the war. They forgot about the explosions outside. It was a difficult time. It was a scary time, but in the same way, it was a perfect time to share the Gospel. People were very open.”

Prince of Peace will be sharing in this project. Shoeboxes will be made available to those who would like to participate. The items that can be included in the shoebox include the following:

- “WOW” items - Soccer ball with pump, doll, stuffed animal, shoes
- TOYS – toy cars, jump ropes, yo-yos, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries)

- PERSONAL CARE – toothbrushes, washcloths, combs, hairbrushes, small water bottles
- SCHOOL SUPPLIES – pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, and markers, notebooks and paper, coloring and picture books, solar calculators.
- ACCESSORIES- socks, sunglasses, jewelry and watches, flashlights (with batteries)

DO NOT INCLUDE - soap, candy, toothpaste, gum; used or damaged items, scary or war-related items, seeds, food, liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins, breakable items or glass containers, aerosol cans.

Christmas shoeboxes are available now and are to be returned by November 16th. Each box has list of suggestions (for boys on one side and for girls on the other side). There is also an insert of what not to include. Don't forget to include \$10 per shoebox to provide for shipping and other costs. Thank you for considering this special project.

Board of Education

October 1, 2025

Members: Kari Johnson, Sue Macek, Pastor Raether.

Meeting called to order at 5:16 pm. Pastor opened with a prayer. September minutes were approved as written.

Library: We have Season Five DVD of "The Chosen". The people of Israel welcome Jesus as king while His disciples anticipate His crowning, but instead of confronting Rome - He turns the tables on the Jewish religious festival. Disc #3 covers the Passover meal. We have available DVD Season One-Four for your viewing.

St. Paul: October 1st is Teacher Convocation, 10/6 is Picture Day, 10/9 is VB Saints vs CCS, 10/13 is a fire drill and Saints vs Denison, 10/21 is VB Saints vs Latimer, 10/23 Saints vs Boone, 10/24 is the Fall Fest, and 10/29 is VB Saints vs Mt. Olive.

Catechism report: none

Sunday School report: Bible Stories this month include Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and the Exodus. We are studying the Lord's Prayer and its meaning. Bibles will be given to Remington Trushcheff, Dre'Shaun Brookshire, and Tru Rochon.

Family Fellowship report: We will meet on October 19th after church. The theme is "Reformation". Games and a craft will be included. A sign-up sheet and menu is listed on the Office bulletin board.

Wednesday Bible Study: Continuing on the Book of Judges (theme of Deborah). Coffee and donuts will also be served.

Cradle Roll: The Barber baby was baptized.

Old Business: The Board will set-up for Family Fellowship on Saturday 10/18 at 9:00 am.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer. Meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm. Next meeting is November 5, 2025 at 5:15 pm.

Sue Macek
Chairman

Lutheran Women's Fellowship

October 2, 2025

The Lutheran Women's Fellowship met on October 2 at 1:00 p.m. Nine members attended the meeting. Pastor Raether began the meeting with prayer. Sally Zuspenn called the October meeting to order. Mlissy Huseman presented the mites devotion with Psalms 131 and Mites Prayer. The minutes of September 2 were given out in the meeting, were read and approved.

Committee reports:

Treasurer, Card Counter, and Funeral Fund reports were all approved.

Old Business

Rally Sunday Prince of Peace: Twenty-Six attended and guest speaker, Dani Rogers from S.A.L.T. center. Suggestion that S.A.L.T. be possible 2026 Mission.

New Business

Honoring Pastor: Women's Fellowship honored Pastor Raether with a card and gift. Sally Zuspenn gave a prayer, "Prayer of Ministry".

October 10 Set up time for Quilt/ Craft/Bake Sale: 1 P.M. Vickty Escobedo handed out sign up sheet for Quilt/Craft/Bake sale. Baked and craft items need to be priced when bringing them on Friday.

October 11 – Quilt/Craft/Bake Sale: Time: 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. Mission: D/SAOC and Home Missions

Lunch menu: Loose meat sandwiches, chips, bars, coffee and water. Items not sold at sale will be in church basement to purchase after church service.

October 19 LWML Sunday.

October Mission: D/SAOC.

October Funeral Committee: Carol Locke, Nancy Herzberg

Shut-ins' birthday: Mary Escobedo

Birthdays: Sue Macek

October Hostess: Jean Martinson, Connie Tyrrell.

Sally Zuspenn closed meeting with Lord's Prayer and table prayer at 1:40 PM. All in favor to adjourn meeting.

LaVonne Peters
Secretary

ORGAN FUND UPDATE

Received in 2024	\$28,453.15
2025 YTD Received	\$ 5,489.60
Reimbursed to Foundation	\$31,000.00
Organ Fund	\$ 2,942.75

Membership Report for October 2025

No Change

**Communicant =155
Baptized (not confirmed) =51
Total baptized souls =206**

Financial Report October 2025

Income (Offerings)

Home/Current \$8,163.60, Missions Budget \$142.00, Loose Offerings \$9.00, Special \$100.00, Miscellaneous \$952.00, Organ Fund \$604.40.

Total Offerings \$9,971.00

Expenses

Pastor \$2,000.00, Payroll \$1,123.78, Organist \$240.00, Pastoral Expenses \$463.80, Ministry Expense \$155.04, Television Ministry \$51.01, Office Supplies \$105.76, Computer/Internet \$190.74, Church Supplies \$69.11, Water \$113.75, Pest Control \$41.00, Gas & Electric \$615.00, Sanitation \$42.80, Miscellaneous \$26,000.00, W/H Tax \$184.24, Missions \$142.00, Charities \$100.00, Advertising \$240.00.

**Total Expenses \$ 31,944.13
Net Income \$ -21,880.03**

***\$26,000.00 of the expenses was a check to LCEF for a CD. Not counting that, October's net income would be \$4,119.97.**

ATTENDANCE

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Communion</u>
10/5	29	
10/12	39	36
10/19	44	
10/26	31	30

NOVEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sue Heistand-(11/7), Vickie Claude -(11/10), Christiana Christian - (11/21), Dorothy Holtorf -(11/23), Jackson O'Brien -(11/24), Margaret Lawrence -(11/25), and Rusty Hansen -(11/27).

No Anniversaries.