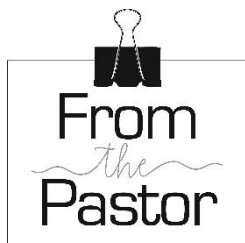


PLATTE, SD

Trinity Lutheran Church

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2022



Thanksgiving & Worship, Birds of the Same Feather

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. Psalm 100:4

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Romans 12:1

I knew I wanted to write about gratitude for November's newsletter. It only makes sense in a month dedicated to a special day for Thanksgiving. But I wasn't quite sure how I wanted to approach the subject. During worship on Sunday, the Lord showed me what He wanted me to write about. He reminded me of the close link in scripture between thanksgiving and worship, and He wanted me to pass that reminder on to you.

I believe God is pleased we've set aside a special day on which to bring Him thanksgiving and praise, and I pray each one of us does a powerful job of doing just that on November 24th. But even more than that, I believe God wants us to live out what scripture directs us to do in regard to worship.

Psalm 100:4 is a tried-and-true formula for entering into the presence of God. When we bring our thanksgiving before Him, God swings open the gates of heaven. When we lift our praises to Him, it is as if we are standing in the courts of heaven with Him. The key to feeling God's presence is dependent on us opening our hearts to Him and telling Him just how much we love and adore Him.

While it is perfectly understandable that we might prefer one style of worship over another, or prefer certain songs over others, our worship shouldn't be

based on our love for the music we are singing. Our worship should be based on our love for God. Whether we are singing hymns or praise songs shouldn't matter. Whether our accompaniment is coming from the organ, the piano, a guitar, or a recording shouldn't matter. All that matters is that we so love God that we must tell Him how we feel about Him. Our love compels us to exalt His holy name. Embrace the lyrics you are singing. Consider them your personal praise before the Lord. Let them draw you closer to Him in body, soul, and spirit.

I know many of you are reluctant to enter into worship for one reason or another on Sunday mornings. Many of you are convinced you cannot sing. Many of you are afraid of what the people around you might think if you missed a note or sang out of key. Psalm 96:1 tells us: Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Notice our worship is directed to the Lord—not to our spouse—not to our neighbor—not to the pastor—not even to the worship leader. So, we don't have to worry what any of those people think about us—we only want the Lord to know we love Him enough that we will risk looking foolish to the people around us. We love Him so much that we must sing to Him and let Him know.

Notice, too, who is called to sing to the Lord. The psalmist tells us all the earth is to sing His praises. All the earth includes all of you. Worship is the very reason for which we were created. It will be one of the primary things we do in heaven. Shouldn't we get used to doing it here on earth? Shouldn't we treat every Sunday worship service as practice to perfect what we will be doing for eternity?

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Church Council Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church Council met Monday, October 17, 2022.

Present: Pastor Dave, Kyle Meyerink, Shirley Johnson, Mike Konechne. Tonya Standy, Jeff Engebretsen, Tom Boltjes and Jan DuFrain,

Absent: Randy Tegethoff, Jim Holter, Ryan Lantz and Liz Spawn.

The meeting was called to order by President Kyle Meyerink and he led with prayer.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The secretary's report was reviewed, Jeff made a motion to approve, Mike seconded it, the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was reviewed, Jeff made a motion to approve, Tom seconded it and the motion carried.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

All new road signs are up. The new dishwasher is installed at the parsonage and a stove has been ordered. The sprinklers have been blown out. Tom has talked to Ethan about outlets at the parsonage.

DEACON'S REPORT

Visits are being done and bulletins are being sent out.

PASTOR'S REPORT

We reviewed Pastor Dave's report. Tom made a motion to approve the Mission Board's recommendations on giving the following:

- \$3,000.00 to God's Way Christian School in Tanzania
- \$1,000.00 to a charity run by Melanie Lubinus (formerly of TLC) in Costa Rica to help Venezuelan Refugees trapped in Venezuela
- \$500.00 to Melanie herself, who is trying to return to the U.S. with her adopted Costa Rican son

Tonya seconded the motion, it carried.

There will be a 24-hour prayer vigil at Trinity from Sunday, November 6 at noon until Monday, November 7 at noon.

OLD BUSINESS

Let the nominating committee know if we have any ideas for open council positions for 2023.

Amada Groon will start with painting one of the Sunday school rooms this week.

NEW BUSINESS

The VP and Trustees will be meeting to go over the 2023 budget.

Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jeff seconded it.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer. Respectfully submitted, Tonya Standy



Plans for a new picture church directory are underway. **We pleased to have scheduled Captured by Tammie (Tammie Olson) on Sunday, December 18 and Wednesday, December 20** to make it convenient for our members to have their pictures taken. We would appreciate everyone's help by participating in getting an updated picture for our directory. More info and scheduling will be included next month.

From the WOW Co-Presidents

Phyllis Daum & Sharon Warejcka

Have you ever taken the time to look up the word “**Thankful**” in a thesaurus? Here are just a few words listed related to **thankful**: contented, grateful, indebted, overwhelmed, pleased, relieved, satisfied, beholden, gratified, obliged, admiration, appraisal, recognition, valuation, high regard, affection, blessing, credit, and the list goes on.

What are you thankful for? Have you ever made a list of 100 things for which you are thankful? How about 1000? Ann Voskamp is the author of [One Thousand Gifts](#). This book is a biographical account of Ann first seeing her need for gratitude and then learning to express it not just in spite of life's trials, but even through them. She refers to this as eucharisteo, a Greek word for thanksgiving. This is a great book to check out and read. Perhaps this would be a great time of year to list 1000 gifts God has blessed you with.

Thankfulness is everywhere in God's word. Take time to look up some verses and “Be Still” (Psalm 46:10a) with God in thanksgiving. Here are some good ones to begin with:

**1Thessalonians 5:16-18: Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

**Psalm 103:1-4: Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name. Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all His benefits — who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion.*

**Colossians 2:6-7 : As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.*

**James 1:17: Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.*

As Paul stated in Philippians 1:3 – I thank my God every time I remember you... We are thankful for each lady of TLC and each person (ladies, men, children) who helped in any way with the soup supper. We challenge you to start your list of 1000 gifts and have a beyond Blessed and Thankful Thanksgiving!

WOW Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand 9/24/2022	\$ 4328.46
Lieuwen's – 3 roasters and 2 coffee makers	\$ -585.70
County Fair	\$ -13.39
Circle Offerings	\$ +75.00
Balance on Hand 10/19/2022	\$ 3804.37



Bible Study Groups

Backpack Project for Helping Hands Food Pantry:

The food pantry committee is trying to fill backpacks of groceries to send home with students. Some of these items would include non-perishable foods such as soup, crackers, canned chicken and tuna, Tuna Helper, Hamburger Helper, breakfast bars, pudding 4-packs, cereal, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti, veggies, or any items that children would like. A tote will be in the fellowship hall so let's fill it up several times.

Priscilla Bible Study Group:

meets Wednesday, Nov 16 at 7 PM – Lesson 10
Lesson Leader: Paula Nelson
Hostess: Susan Holter

Hannah Bible Study Group:

meets Thursday, Nov 17 at 1:30 PM – Lesson 10
Lesson Leader: Caroline Butler
Hostess: Pearl Feiok

Martha Bible Study Group

Meets Monday, Nov 21 at 7 pm — Lesson 3
of Max Lucado video Bible study



Thank you our Sunday School students who are participating in the worship service through greeting, ushering, the Children's Sermon, reading Scripture, and special music.

"NOISY OFFERING"...The Sunday School kids will be taking their the "noisy offering" on November 6.

If any other parents, grandparents or congregation members have any loose change laying around and would like to contribute, please give it to a child to put in the bucket or feel free to put it in yourselves. Thanks so much for helping our youth understand the importance of giving back to the Lord for all we do receive.
Board of Ed - Alisha, Sarah & Carla



The **Third Grade First Bible class will meet** Wednesdays, November 9th & 16th, at 3:45 to 5:00 PM. Classes will be held in the North Overflow Room.

The third graders will then presented their Faith Alive Bibles (ESV) during worship on Sunday, November 20.

Links of GRATITUDE

Make this meaningful decoration for your Thanksgiving table.



What you need:

- Construction paper (in fall colors)
- Scissors
- Pen
- Jar
- Stapler
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Cut the paper into strips about 2 inches wide.
2. Place the strips and pen in the jar. Then set it in a prominent place in your home.
3. Throughout November, have family discussions about what you're thankful to God for. Write or draw each item on a paper strip.
4. Make a paper chain by linking and carefully stapling the strips.
5. Keep adding to your decoration and display it during your Thanksgiving meal.

Take Note of the following days:

November 20: No Sunday School or Confirmation - TEC weekend is hosted at Trinity

November 27: No Sunday School or Confirmation - Thanksgiving break

This Month's Birthdays

**Please remember these special 80+ Birthdays with a prayer, card or phone call*

11/1 Ryan Kott	11/9 Hayes Holter	11/17 William Warejcka	11/23 Jackson Johnson
11/2 Laura Johnson*	11/11 Justynn Ruen	11/18 Marla Tegethoff	11/24 Ryan Lantz
11/2 Kenny Antonsen	11/11 Eloise Konechne	11/18 Nicole DeVries	11/24 Dennis Meyerink
11/2 Terry Hildebrand	11/12 Khloe DeGroot	11/20 Liz Spawn	11/25 Samantha Ringling
11/3 Jarod Severson	11/13 Emerson Qualm	11/20 Lizzy Warejcka	11/26 Maisey Suits
11/4 Kade Konstanz	11/13 Larry Tucker	11/21 Alaina VandenHoek	11/27 Tyler Nelson
11/5 Jalen Severson	11/14 Jackson Olsen	11/22 Casey Bailey	11/28 Collins DuFrain
11/7 Kasen Konstanz	11/14 Carla Lantz	11/23 Abby Spawn	11/30 Tonya Standy
11/9 Jim Vanderboom	11/17 Jerry Dykstra		

Communion Servers

November 6 & 20

Jeff Engebretson
Liz Spawn
Tonya Standy

Ushers

6—LeRoy Severson & Jeff Konstanz
13—Tyson Dyk & Lucas Suits
20—Tyson Dyk & Lucas Suits
27—Austin DuFrain & Ethan DuFrain

Coffee & Cookies Servers

6—Sharon Rommen, Chelsey Schrank, Jennifer Severson
13—Tara Severson, Stacy Severson, Liz Spawn
20—Tonya Standy, Carla Lantz, Meredith Suits
27—Sheila Summerville, Marla Tegethoff,
Sarah Timmerman

Advent Worship – Save the Dates

Believe it or not, Advent begins Sunday, November 27th . I am always amazed at how quickly the year passes, but always delighted when we enter this blessed time of year. I want to make you aware of a couple of Advent opportunities available to you this year. First, I invite you to join us for worship each Monday in Advent at 2:00 PM.

We will be alternating our worship locations between Twilight Vista and the Avera Care Center. The services will consist of singing lots of Christmas carols, three scripture readings, a ten-minute message, more carols, and Holy Communion. After the service, we will fellowship with residents over coffee and treats provided by the respective facilities. Should anyone feel moved to provide homemade treats, both facilities will allow us to do so. Below is the date, time and location of the Advent Worship opportunities.

Monday, November 28	2:00 PM	Twilight Vista
Monday, December 5	2:00 PM	Avera Care Center
Monday, December 12	2:00 PM	Twilight Vista
Monday, December 19	2:00 PM	Avera Care Center

Secondly, I want to invite you to a free screening of **The Star of Bethlehem, which will be showing Saturday, December 3rd at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary.** Admission is free, but in the spirit of the season, we ask you to bring at least one non-perishable food item for the Food Pantry. This video will leave you marveling at the precision of God's creation and the amazing truths revealed in God's Word. We will be opening this invitation to our entire community, so feel free to invite your friends. There will be a time for treats and fellowship following the video.

November Mission Fund Opportunity

The Mission Fund Offering for November will be designated towards the Martha Bible study group to send our college students care packages and any proceeds left will go to Angel Tree mailing expenses. This offering will be taken Sunday, November 13. Please make checks payable to "Trinity Lutheran Church."



Everyone Welcome!
Wednesday, NOVEMBER 2
from 5-7 PM
homemade soups,
sandwiches & desserts
Free will donation

Our **24-Hour Prayer Vigil** begins at noon Sunday, **November 6th** and ends Monday, **November 7th** at noon.

In this vigil, we'll be asking God for wisdom and discernment in knowing how to vote in the upcoming election, asking God's guidance and direction for our country, praying for our elected officials at every level to know God's direction, wisdom, and blessings, praying for our state, our county, and our community, and praying for our church. **Prayer slots will be for one-hour increments, with two prayer warriors desired for each hour.** This is a great opportunity for spouses or friends to pray together. Don't be intimidated by the time commitment. We will have a printed prayer guide to lead us through the hour and it will be over before you know it. Sign up on the sheet in the narthex and help us to bathe this election in prayer. **People can either pray in the sanctuary or at home.** Please indicate on the sign-up sheet the location from which you will be praying.

**Don't Forget to Sign Up
 for the 24-Hour Prayer Vigil**



...From page 1...

Of course, worship consists of much more than just singing. True worship is surrendering our lives completely to the Lord. The apostle Paul tells us in **Romans 12:1: to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.** We are to be living sacrifices—dead to our own wants and desires and alive to everything God wants to do in us and through us. This, according to Paul, is true and proper worship.

May this be the month we discover what true worship and thanksgiving is all about. May this be the month we get over ourselves and what others

think about us and lose ourselves in worship completely as we pour out our hearts in love to the Lord. May this be the beginning of our lifelong surrender to the Lord. From this month forward, may our church worship become loud and passionate and heartfelt. From this month forward, may every mouth be opened in praise, every heart opened to the Lord in adoration, and every mind renewed and transformed by the Holy Spirit. Then, we will indeed have a reason to give thanks on November 24th.

Wishing you a very happy, holy,
 and safe Thanksgiving,
 Love, *Pastor Dave*