



Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

We live in a difficult world. We are in the midst of a presidential election, economic uncertainty, and war is breaking out throughout around the world. In October, our neighbors to the north in Canada celebrated thanksgiving, and now in November, it is our time here in America to give thanks for all that we have. Amidst all these social issues, and the events in our own crazy and sometimes tragic goings on it may seem hard to give thanks. Let's remind ourselves of what we have and find reason to, in the words of our offertory, "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart".

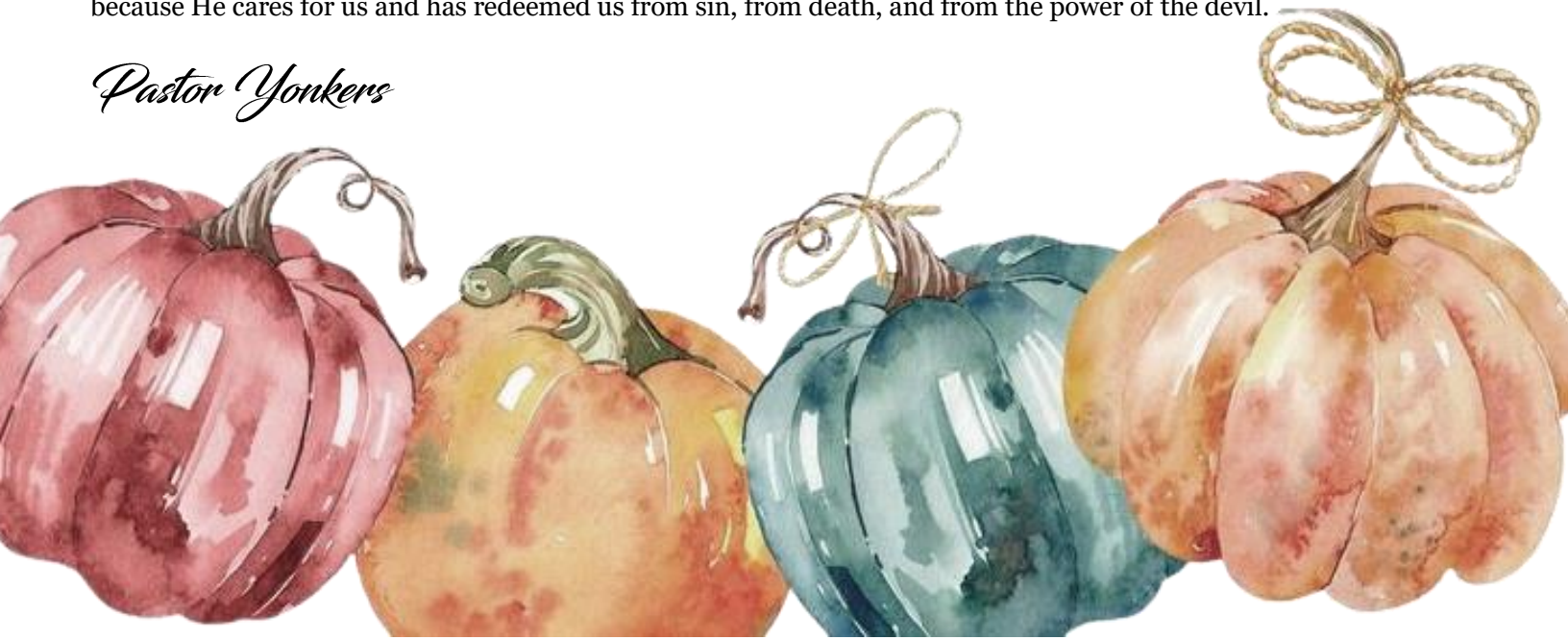
Luther was always good to remind us that we are blessed. In his Small Catechism, he often gives a litany of gifts from God that most every person has, and while in our more urban setting, not everyone may have land and cattle, most of us do have a house and a home, family, food, clothing, and the like.

How can we give thanks when there is so much turmoil and worry around us? As I sit writing this, I am in the midst of burying two of our saints, ushering them into heaven where the Lord has welcomed them with open arms. Here is our eternal joy. He is our greatest thankfulness and praise. We are children of God. Our Heavenly father has chosen to make us His children and has chosen to have us enter His Kingdom. The love of the Triune God is not only where we make our boast, but also the reason for our thankfulness. Salvation unto us has come, we are baptized into Christ. We have a safe and quiet port in the storm.

We do not receive all that we want on this earth. We all can scribe a litany of wants and desires, but that things that we need, and are all provided, and they need not be. We start each service with confession, not our failures and shortfalls, but our sin, our rebellion against God our Heavenly Father, and yet still He absolves all our sin, and also freely and richly provides all that we need each and every day. All this He does, as we know, purely out of divine goodness and mercy, without ANY worthiness or merit within us. All good that we have or experience in life is a free gift from God our heavenly Father.

It can be hard to be thankful. The weight of this world can pull us down, but as we gather around the table here at Immanuel we can give thanks to the Lord. We gather around the altar and receive the Eucharist, the thanksgiving feast. A heal of heavenly blessings. We receive the eternal gifts of God. We receive faith, forgiveness and eternal life, we are bound to each other through Christ and joined with the church in all times and in all places. We give thanks to God always because He cares for us and has redeemed us from sin, from death, and from the power of the devil.

Pastor Youkers



SPECIAL DATES IN NOVEMBER:



- All Saints' Day, **Nov. 1**
- All Saints' Day (observed), **Nov. 3**
- LWML Mite Collection Sunday, **Nov. 3**
- Daylight Savings Ends, **Nov. 3**
- ILS Veterans Day Program, **Nov. 6**
- Veterans Day, **Nov. 11**
- Leaf and Holly Holiday Bazaar, **Nov. 12**
- Thanksgiving Food Offering, **Nov. 17**
- ILS El Toro Fundraiser, **Nov. 21**
- Christ the King Sunday, **Nov. 24**
- Thanksgiving Potluck, **Nov. 24**
- Thanksgiving Eve Worship, **Nov. 27**
- Thanksgiving Day, **Nov. 28**



HELP US CARE FOR YOU: *Your well-being is important to us and we want to pray for you!* Unfortunately, we are no longer notified by the hospital; please call the church office during regular business hours (Monday through Friday from 7 am - 3:30 pm) when you have any medical procedure or in any time of spiritual need at 217-442-5675. In case of emergencies after hours, please feel free to contact Pastor Yonkers on his cell at 260-413-8375. **Prayer requests:** we are certainly pleased to pray for your (non-member) family and friends alongside our Immanuel members. Please keep us informed of their needs.

BE PREPARED... TO WAIT: My husband always keeps a book handy. When he picks up our kids or heads to an appointment, a current title is tucked securely under his arm. He expects to wait — and is prepared to do so. What could have been a frustrating delay turns into extra time to delve further into the story. I, on the other hand, get caught off-guard if a doctor runs late or a meeting runs long. As the minutes tick by, my down time gets wasted — unless I quietly reflect on God's goodness, return an email, take a short walk or chat with the person next to me. "Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord," says Psalm 27:14 (NIV). That's an important reminder as Advent nears. Scripture advises us to use our waiting time wisely, preparing for God and drawing closer to him. What will you do while you wait for Jesus?

LUTHERAN LEGACY: Immanuel Lutheran has two endowment funds (one for general fund and one for building and grounds). To donate directly to Lutheran Legacy, go online to lutheranlegacyfoundation.org and click on the "funds" link on the top of the page, then on "churches" for Immanuel or "parochial schools" for ILS. The funds are listed in alphabetical order, scroll down until you find Immanuel in Danville and click on the "donate" button to the right. You can choose to donate by credit card or check. Thank you!

WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS:

- **Thank you** for the donations for Phil's Friends and thank you those who attended the workday. Members of our church as well as the churches Wateka, Buckley, and Woodworth were able to complete 13 fleece blankets, 34 handmade cards, 39 colored cards, 8 port pillows, and collected \$150 in donations for a very worthy cause. There are more cards available to color at your leisure. See Diana Pratt if you would be willing to complete a few. The next workday will be at Buckley in the new year.
- **Our November luncheon meeting** is a week early on **Nov. 5** at 11:30 am. All ladies are always invited to attend. We will vote on Christmas Charity donations, hear final Bazaar plans, and sign up for Christmas Cookies for our homebound members and friends.
- **The Women's Guild Christmas Party** will be at Turtle Run on Tuesday, **Dec. 3** at 11:30 am. Please sign up on the hall bulletin board by Sunday, Dec. 1 so we know how much table space to reserve. We will order from their menu. Use the main entrance. Again, all ladies of Immanuel are invited to attend! There will be no regular meeting in December.
- **Our November / December Ingathering** is for the VA. The following list is their currently most needed items:
 - Oatmeal Cups
 - Soup Cups, Chunky Bowls (red lids)
 - Dinty Moore canned meals
 - Men's plain sweatpants and sweatshirts (M – 2XL)
 - Men's plain long sleeve t-shirts (M – 2XL)
 - Men's jeans (any size)
 - Men's shoes (any size)
- **November 2024 Mite Bytes:** Mission Grant #4 is \$5,000 – Bibles for All. Lutheran High School in Springfield wants to provide a Concordia Self-Study Bible for each of their students. In daily use, the variety of Bibles now used leads to confusion and many potential misinterpretations. These funds will be used to purchase 125 Bibles through CPH. Please pray that God gives a better understanding of the Word of God to the students of Springfield Lutheran High School with the use of uniform Bibles. Support this grant by donating to your church's LWML Mites!



PARISH EDUCATION: The Children's Christmas service is **Dec. 22**. Children will lead the worship service with songs, readings, and a costumed nativity. Practices begin during Sunday School in November, so we encourage attendance to help prepare for this service. Children's Church and Nursery is available **Nov. 3 & 17**, however, the nursery room is open every Sunday for parent who wish to utilize it. During November, our Sunday School Bible stories will focus on thankfulness: The 10 Lepers and Feeding of the 5000. Our Bible Verses are 1 Thessalonians 5:17 "*Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*" and Psalm 150:6 "*Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!*"

VOTER'S MEETING SUMMARY:

- President Josh Christensen opened up his report by encouraging members to use this time to address any concerns or ideas. Josh thanked all who helped at the Cemetery Cleanup. We continue to update our security with a newly installed fence and, soon, a new fish eye camera by the garages.
- ILS Director Rachel Schmidgall began her report with the wonderful news that we will welcome her, her husband Josh, and their little one, Lewi, into church membership. Enrollment is at 91. Upcoming events and fundraisers include the children's Veterans Day Program, t-shirt sale, and poinsettia sale.
- Head Elder, Don DeMoss gave an overview of the last year of Elders action. Elders have begun the task of working through the church membership roster. The goal is to update or records, transfer or release inactive members if they are worshipping elsewhere, and if not, see if there is any way to bring them back to Immanuel.
- Allen Julian, our newly elected Director of Properties gave a (very funny!) update on the upkeep of our buildings and grounds. We owe a lot of thanks to all those who pitch in in any way for doing a great job!
- Sam Van Camp, our Director of Finance reported that our CDs have brought in over \$9,000 in interest earned. All church and school accounts have been audited.
- Joyce Martin, our Director of Missions and Social Ministry highlighted the need for additional volunteers.
- Julie Buesing, our Director of Evangelism discussed what her committee of one has done throughout the past year. New evangelism members would be appreciated!
- Diana Pratt, our Director of Parish Education gave an update on our growing Children's Ministry. We have added Children's Church and Nursery, Children's sermons, and children's mailboxes.
- Sue Heidle, our Director of Stewardship talked about our use of time, talents, and treasures. There are many, many ways you use yours for God's work here.
- Tom Fricke, our Director of Worship, asked all who volunteer to assist with worship services to raise their hand, whether by being a reader, serving on altar guild, as a communion assistant, etc. A LOT of hands were up – and some people even needed more than 2 hands they could raise! It takes a big team and he thanked all that lend a helping hand. There was discussion regarding the use of the screens and possibly trimming the bulletins down. It was decided to leave it as is for now.
- Sue DeMoss, our Director of Youth talked about their July 2025 trip to the National Youth Gathering to New Orleans. We have 4 youth and 3 chaperones. Estimated costs for travel, lodging, food, and registration is about \$1200 per person. Our hope is to fundraise the trip in full.
- Jo Van Hoveln, our Capital Fund chair, submitted a report. The current project is the school roof at a cost of \$260,000 and we have \$195,000 to go.
- During the Open Floor, Butch Buesing thanked the Board of Directors for the breakfast. It did help with meeting participation it was very well received.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS SUMMARY:

- **New Business:** Church security is once again an issue. As a result, we will install a 6 ft. fence from the school all the way across to Mel Price that will eliminate pedestrian traffic on the north side of the building. Hustle Hoops potential dates were discussed.
- **Old Business:** Voter's Meeting agenda was discussed.
- **Christian Education:** Enrollment is at 91. Lunch help is needed Dec. 12 – 19 when Diana will be out. Summer Camp planning is already underway. Christian Ed Sunday attendance was 150. The Rummage Sale brought in about \$4000. 8 staff attended the CID Educator's Conference. The sensory room work is ongoing.
- **Finance:** Reviewed reports. CDs mature Oct. 3. Audits are complete. So far, the church and school have made over \$9,000 in interest from CDs.
- **Properties:** Currently working to get the school vault opened. Butch will install caps on the sign. Some of the new lights are out. Al checked all outlets. HVAC maintenance upcoming. Not yet turning the boiler on.
- **Stewardship:** The Rummage brought in over \$4000 for the school. The bake sale made over \$600.
- **Evangelism:** Trunk or Treat is coming up soon.
- **Worship:** Discussed services for Advent and Christmas.
- **Parish Education:** The Children's Christmas service is Dec. 22. Will practice during November Sunday School.
- **Youth:** Planning and fundraising for the National Youth Gathering is ongoing. The youth will sell treats on Sunday that were made at the last youth night.
- **Missions:** Immanuel Cares made 97 contacts last month by sending cards, making phone calls, and visiting our homebound members. The food pantry distributed 32 food baskets in September.
- **Elders:** Pastor explained how elders will begin working through the membership roster.
- **Pastor's Report:** Pastor updated the board on official acts, visits, and contacts made. We do have 2 youth for confirmation.
- **Next Meeting:** Nov. 19, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

SECURITY & ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING:

The school is hosting a security and active shooter training with the Danville Police Department on **Nov. 18** at 6 pm. This training very much applies to a church setting as well, so all are invited to attend, especially if you serve as an usher, elder, or other leadership role. Please call the church office if you are interested.

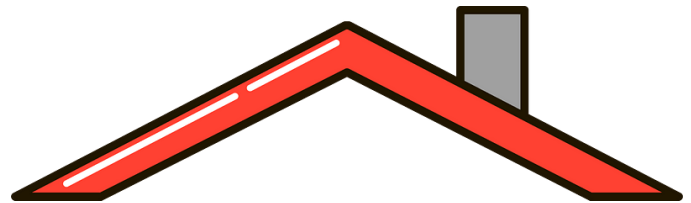
CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS!

As a reminder we will **Fall Back** one hour when Daylight Savings Time ends on **Nov. 3**. Set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night – you'll get an extra hour of sleep and still make it to church on time!



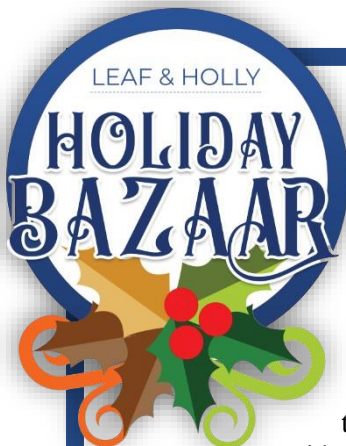
GIFT (SCRIP) CARDS ORDERS: The next Scrip order is due to the church office on **Monday, Nov. 11** by 9 am. Scrip cards make great gifts! The last order date to receive your cards before Christmas is **Dec. 9**. Updated order blanks are on the table in the chapel hallway. Orders are not limited to the vendors listed on the order blank. You can find a complete list of vendors at www.raiseright.com or on the bulletin board in the hall. Write the name of the vendor, denomination of the gift card, number of cards wanted, and total amount on a blank line. Orders will be available on **Nov. 17**. *What is Scrip?* They are gift cards. If you order and pay for a \$100 Meijer scrip card, you get a \$100 Meijer gift card. The church gets \$3 (3%) from the program, and you buy \$100 worth of groceries, prescriptions, gas, etc. with it. There are varying rates depending on the vendor ranging from 1.5% to 13%. These cards are *good anywhere and make great birthday, Christmas, new baby, or wedding gifts.*

CAPITAL FUND DRIVE: The current bank balance is \$65,361 (some of which is in Certificates of Deposit to yield more interest). The congregation established the Capital Fund Drive in 2012, and thanks to our generous congregation, we have accomplished many needed upgrades and renovations. There is a Capital Fund Drive bulletin board in the hallway between the coat room and mailboxes with envelopes for ongoing donations throughout the year. *"...because of my devotion to the house of my God I give my treasure for the house of my God. 1 Chronicles 29:3b.* Prior generations worked and sacrificed to build the school/church building, and it is up to us to preserve and improve our church home just as we would our own households. All donations from large to small are equally appreciated. Questions? Please contact Jo Van Hoveln or any of the committee members.



ROOF DRIVE: The school and gym roof needs to be replaced and will cost \$259,000. The Capital Fund Committee is making this our next project with help from the Board of Directors and/or church auxiliary organizations. The fundraising will take a couple of years to get the dollars needed. There is a display in the narthex just to the north of the sanctuary doors; please stop by and look at it. The display shows the deterioration of the roof surfaces and a fundraising thermometer which will show our progress towards the goal of \$260,000. **WOODEN BOWLS:** Gail Garner has graciously volunteered to make various size wooden bowls as a fundraiser for the Capital Fund Drive. They are made from the library shelves of the school. They would make a good keepsake for former students and/or parents of students. A display will be put up in the church narthex soon. If you want to special order a set of them, please talk directly to Gail.

THANK YOU: The Capital Fund Committee would like to thank everyone for supporting our Steak Fry. Whether you volunteered to help at the event, made a dessert, came to eat a yummy meal, and/or donated to help raise money for our projects, everyone's efforts are appreciated. The proceeds of the fundraiser were \$6,248 with more come from the bowl sales. A special thanks to Gail Garner for the bowls! The Men's Club and Capital Fund Committee will co-host the German dinner in February 2024. Watch for more details in future newsletters and Immanuel Lights.



It's bazaar time! The **Leaf and Holly Bazaar** is on **Nov. 12!** The Bazaar is from 10 am – 2 pm. The luncheon is served from 10:30 to 1:30 and the menu is a delicious BBQ pulled pork sandwich, cheesy potato casserole, coleslaw, cranberry salad, and dessert and beverage of your choice.

Tickets are on sale now for just \$14 each. You can pick yours up before or after church each Sunday or in the church office. Tickets will be sold at the door. We encourage you to pick up a few extra to sell to your family, friends, and neighbors! *Did you know we do deliveries?* There is a form on the table in the hallway where you can take orders at work, and we'll bring them to you (minimum of 5 meals).

Donations Welcome: If you are unable to work on Bazaar day and would like to make a cash donation to help defray the costs of ingredients for the luncheon, please put your donation in an envelope with your name on it and leave it in Donna Tom's mailbox. The **Attic Treasures** booth is eager to accept your prized donations. **Silent Auction** donations are greatly appreciated! The **Country Store** is ready to sell your favorite baked treats and specialty candies. **Arts & Crafts** are looking to showcase your created items. The newest addition is the **Christmas Shoppe**. They will sell your new and gently used items, decorations, wreaths, or anything holiday related. Feel free to price your donations or leave the pricing to the booth chairman.

Help needed: Please consider volunteering your time and your talents to this annual event. Signup sheets are in the hallway. Much help is needed to set up, on the day of the event (in the kitchen, working the booths, pie room, etc.) and afterwards cleaning up. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the hall for wait staff. You do not have to sign up for the entire time. Any part of the three hours will be helpful. Please contact Jo Van Hoveln if you have questions about waiting tables.





The Consequences of Shallow

Thankfulness: Can you imagine

a Thanksgiving dinner without turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy and pumpkin pie?

I know I can't! To not have these on the menu, or worse, to run out of them with the family around the table, would be a culinary sin of epic proportions. An attempt to serve bratwurst and hamburgers in place of the standard fare would ring hollow and seem totally inappropriate and out of place. It isn't that the food would be bad; brats and burgers are pretty tasty. But not for Thanksgiving — they just don't go together! This month, we turn our attention to vs. 3 of the stewardship hymn, "Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness" (LSB 788). This vs. gives attention to some things that do not go along with faithful, thankful stewardship.

Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise ...

We see this often with small children. They greedily snatch the candy out of a grandparent's hand, destroy the wrapper, and attempt to stuff the entire delicacy in their mouth in one bite, only to have a parent say, "Tell grandma thank you." This is followed by thanks that is uttered between chocolate chews. It isn't really thankfulness; it is simply checking a box to keep mom or dad off their backs. We never really outgrow this either. Our shallow thankfulness takes the form of feigned humility when praise is being offered. We are thankful that our admirers noticed and called us out: "Look at me! Aren't I special?" No thought at all is given to the fact that the Lord was the One who gave us the ability and opportunity for accomplishment. Our false blush is really only masking our selfish, credit-seeking gain. Once again, we find ourselves idolatrously thanking ourselves.

For words that speak at variance with deeds ...

What carries more weight: words or action? The steward who gives voice to the Gospel in the Divine Service but then lives like a pagan in the world does great damage, not only to others but to the Gospel itself! This is the consequence of failed stewardship. It is idolatry that separates the steward from the Lord. Worse yet, it also impacts others negatively. When the failed steward is the reference point outside the Christian community, there are those who want no part of being Christian or following the Christ they claim. We see this play out in the impact of overt political activity among Christians based on governing policy as opposed to fidelity to the Word of God. When our lips and our lives are out of sync, like what used to happen with old movie projectors, the impact isn't funny — it obscures the Gospel!

Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways - unmindful of a broken brother's need ...

Our creature comforts often become an obstacle to faithful stewardship. This is true of both individual and corporate stewardship. Financial stewardship is often limited by our desire to be comfortable and have the latest toys and gadgets. Congregational stewardship is often limited by the desire to focus on what is best for the congregation as opposed to how resources might be best stewarded to reach the community with the Gospel. When we see someone in need, or broken by the world, we often look at them as freeloaders. We

admonish them to get a job. We insist that they learn our language, learn our customs, and make them their own. But this gets in the way of seeing every human being the way that Jesus sees them. Remember, that broken person is one for whom Jesus went to the cross to die and rise. When we are unmindful of these needs, our shallow thankfulness also stands in the way of the Gospel. Our hearts are master idol-makers. Our shallow thankfulness threatens our souls and hinders others from seeing Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Stewardship is serious business. It is a task for which we were created. In our sinful failings, we are never relieved of these duties. In our Baptism, we are restored to be stewards of the Gospel. Our faithful stewardship is all about that Gospel. Forgive us when our thanks are shallow, O Lord! In this month of Thanksgiving, grant us the grace to offer heaping helpings of this stewardship so that others may see Jesus!

CHURCH LIBRARY: Did Sunday's Reformation service spark a renewed interest in Martin Luther and the Reformation? If so, the following books from Immanuel's library may be of interest to you. They are highlighted together in the conference room, along with many other interesting books. Just let Kim know in the office when you borrow a book. Hope you enjoy some great reading!

Kitty, My Rib by E. Jane Marshall

This is the heartwarming story of Katharine Luther . . . a woman of courage and devotion. Katharine, "Kitty", was the woman behind the great man Martin Luther. Kitty mellowed Luther's harsher side, kept the household from bankruptcy despite her husband's generosity, and enhanced his life with the joys and fullness of family living.

Luther by H.G. Haile

This book introduces us to the great leader in his fifties, a personality that was one of the most pungently alive in all history. The older Martin Luther was, if anything, even livelier than the young man Luther.

Martin Luther by May McNeer and Lynd Ward

Few stories are more exciting than that of Martin Luther, the great reformer of world history. The dramatic text and pictures, based on sound research, combine to make a fascinating book.

The Reformation by Cameron A. MacKenzie

This book, published in 2017, celebrates the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. This book provides a richly illustrated and engagingly written overview of the amazing time of change and renewal in the Christian Church during the 16th century and helps the reader sort through the complex chain of events that shook both church and state to their very foundations.

"We cannot give God anything; for everything is already His and all we have comes from Him. We can only give Him praise, thanks, and honor."

-Martin Luther

It's time to start thinking about Christmas!

As the calendar flips to November, it's time to start thinking about holiday celebrations.

POINSETTIAS: First, we will once again order our altar poinsettias through ILS. Be on the lookout for the order forms in your bulletins on Sundays in November.

DECORATING: Decorating the church and sanctuary for Christmas will take place on Saturday, **Dec. 7**, starting at 9:00 am. There will be coffee, cocoa and goodies available (and feel free to bring something of your own if you like). Many hands make easy work as we prepare for our Lord's birth this Advent and Christmas season. Please join us!

ADVENT: Midweek Advent Services will be at 6:30 pm on the three Wednesdays in December before Christmas (4, 11, & 18). Join us before for a light supper, then come to church and prepare for Christmas.

WORSHIP WITH US! Mark your calendars for our Christmas Service. Please join us on Tuesday, Dec. 24 for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion service at 6:30 pm. Tom Fricke, Worship Chairman

YEAR END GIVING: Per IRS regulations, all donations have to be received in the church office no later than December 31 to be considered a 2024 donation. If they are received after that time, they will be put on the 2025 giving statements.

A Synod wide response to hurricanes in the southeastern U.S.

Dear friends in Christ,

It has been two weeks since Hurricane Helene first came ashore as a Category 4 storm near Perry, Fla. Today, the estimated death toll from Helene stands at almost 250 people across seven states, with many people still unaccounted for, particularly in North Carolina. Within days of Helene's landfall, the Rev. Dr. Ross Johnson, director of LCMS Disaster Response, took a multi-day trip to the affected areas. He estimates the total Synod response to Helene will be around \$1 million. Now, as Hurricane Milton has made landfall in Florida, spawning multiple tornadoes and leaving millions without power, those already weary from the effects of one monstrous storm are facing another. After flooding from Helene ravaged the shared campus of Mountainside Lutheran Church and Recognized Service Organization Camp Linn Haven in Newland, N.C., the Rev. Bryan Chestnutt, Mountainside's pastor, said he immediately felt the church's support. "We didn't even know what we needed. ... We couldn't even think straight. ... The counsel we got and the help that we are getting from our district president and from the Synod has been wonderful. ... At

a time like this, you really feel what the word 'synod' means." We don't yet know the full impact of either Helene or Milton. We do know that much will be required — in time, volunteers, money and resources — before the recovery is complete. Even more important, we know that our Lord is faithful. He never abandons His children. And He works all things for good "for those who are called according to His purpose" (Rom. 8:28). In the weeks and months ahead, please continue to pray for all who have been impacted by these terrible storms. Help spread the word by sharing updates on the response. And prayerfully consider how you might take part in the recovery effort, which will take many months, by volunteering your time or offering your financial support. You can learn more at lcms.org/hurricane-response.

In Christ,
Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison
President, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



Online giving and text-to-give opportunities:

Disaster Response Strategic Use

Providing for disaster victims today and tomorrow.

lcms.org/givenow/disaster

Text LCMSDISASTERS to 41444

Current areas being served by LCMS Disaster Response include:

Florida, Georgia, North Carolina

Hurricane Helene

Hurricane Milton

Give by credit/debit card over the phone:

Call 888-930-4438

(LCMS Donor Care Line)

Donate by Check:

Make your check payable to LCMS, or The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. On the memo line write "Disaster Response—Strategic Use (TR9206)." Or contact Mission Advancement for other options by calling 888-930-4438 or by email to mission.advancement@lcms.org

Mail your gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
PO Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

View the latest stories, videos and podcasts, as they become available, at lcms.org/hurricane-response.



The Invisible Church...

“Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of Heaven...” We hear these words of the proper preface so often that they are easily overlooked, but they should not be. As we celebrate All Saints’ Day, we should ponder and reflect on these words and what they mean.

Angels are God’s messengers. We have spoken about them before, and we know archangels are the head angels, those in charge of the many legions of angels in heaven. These are the named angels in Scripture: Gabriel, Michael, and perhaps Raphael, who is not named in the Bible itself, but only in the apocryphal book of Tobit. The next group is the one we should focus on as we celebrate All Saints’ Day.

When we worship, we are not alone. In Christ, we are united to the whole Christian Church on earth. As we gather, we also gather with the invisible church, the church in heaven. Look at the communion rail and how it is not closed, but open. It extends invisibly around the chancel, forming an octagon. We add small pieces on our end to neatly connect the rail to the brick wall, but the other side of that railing, the invisible half, is for the church triumphant, and all the heavenly hosts who meet and gather around the throne of God in His Kingdom, singing His worship and praise. This is why we sing the “Gloria in Excelsis”. This is why we sing “This is the Feast”. This is why we sing the Sanctus. Read Revelation and find these songs, some word for word. Read Revelation and hear of the heavenly saints praying for us in heaven. We are told of this. To try and communicate with them is beyond what Scripture says, but that they sit at the feet of God praying for us is most assuredly shown and taught in the Apocalypse, in The Revelation of St. John.

This can bring us hope. As we come to the rail we are joined not just with our brothers and sisters in the pew with us, but by all the saints who have gone before us. Reminding us of the promises of God and that these promises are trustworthy and true. We thank God for His faithful promises, and for the example of all the saints who, having finished their course in faith now rest from their labors in the presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN.



Sharing our Blessings from God

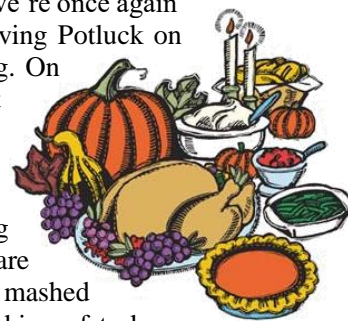
We will once again have the opportunity share our blessings in a *food offering*. On **Nov. 17**, please bring items such as canned yams, mashed potatoes, gravy (jars or packets), boxed stuffing mix, jellied cranberry, canned green beans or corn, cookies, or other non-perishable donations. Monetary donations and Thrivent Action Teams are also appreciated! These items, along with ham and rolls provided by the food pantry, will be distributed through our Food Pantry in thanksgiving to God for the blessings we so richly receive!

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Plan to join us on Wednesday, **November 27 at 6:30 pm** for our Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service with Holy Communion. We have so much to be thankful for, and it’s good to come together with one another to praise our Lord and thank Him for all His blessings. Take a break from those Thanksgiving dinner preparations to come to church to say “*Now Thank We All Our God.*”

Gobble, Gobble, Gobble!

Thanksgiving is a time to spend with family... with our church family, too. That’s why we’re once again having our Immanuel Thanksgiving Potluck on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. On **Nov. 24** at 5:30 pm, show up at the gym with a side dish and/or dessert and be ready to gobble, gobble, gobble! But please come even if you’re not able to bring anything to the dinner, all are welcome! The turkey, ham and mashed potatoes will be provided. Speaking of turkey, we’re looking for some. Please consider donating a turkey or money to buy one (we only need three turkeys). Volunteers to set up would be welcome after church that Sunday. For details or to offer up volunteer time or a turkey, please contact:



Tom Fricke:

phone: 217-474-2457

email: tomfricke@hotmail.com

Mary Ellen Fricke:

phone: 217-497-7196

email: maryellenfricke@gmail.com



CAMP CILCA

2025 marks 75 years of outdoor ministry! To celebrate this blessed anniversary, Camp CILCA is offering all camps for just **\$75!** Registration will open November 1, so sign up early to secure your spot.

Habakkuk 3:17-19a

Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord, is my strength. Habakkuk lived in a tumultuous time. Many people had fears about the future of Israel and Judah. Habakkuk was called by God to encourage the people and to direct them to our Lord and Savior. His hope and joy were not based on possessions and worldly wealth but upon God's mercy and strength. We are now entering a season of thanksgiving, hope, and joy. Sadly, for many people this season is one of emotional and economic stress. If that is the case with us, we would do well to hear God's words through Habakkuk. Our hope and joy are not found in feasts, decorations, and gifts. These things bring short-lived pleasure. We find true joy and hope in Christ regardless of our financial situation, personal losses, national and world problems, health issues, or family difficulties. Even if we must sit alone at an empty table on Thanksgiving or celebrate Christmas without loved ones, we still have hope and joy. For the Lord gives us strength to face and overcome any trial. This Thanksgiving and Christmas, let us rejoice that our loving Lord is with us and will never forsake us. Then no matter what else happens, we can have a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas.

– Rev. Jeff Harter

Stay Connected!

Central Illinois District Contact Information:

CID's website: <http://www.cidlcms.org/>

Subscribe to the E-GatePost (digital newsletter) and

monthly bulletin inserts: <http://www.cidlcms.org/>

Follow the CID on Facebook and Instagram

Pray for Our Central Illinois District Missions supported by your church's Mission Dollars to the District. Our Lord Jesus said, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into the harvest." This month, please thank God for the outreach of the Gospel in Spanish at St. John's Lutheran Church, Beardstown. Pray for Pastor Pablo Dominguez, who travels to Beardstown from East Moline twice a month.

SAVE THE DATES:

- ❖ **Act Like Men Field Training: Nov. 2**
 - A brisk hike for men through the 235 acres of Camp CILCA. No cost. Meet at the pine trees by the entrance.
- ❖ **Work Day: Nov. 2, 8:30-11:30am**
 - Raking leaves, closing down cabins, and revamping the Dining Hall kitchen auning are all on the docket. Lunch will be provided.
- ❖ **Young Adult Game Night: November 9**
 - Camp CILCA is hosting a game night for young adults (21+). There is no cost, just bring a friend, any games you want to play, snacks or sides to share. 3-6pm.
- ❖ **Women's Scrapbook Retreat: Nov. 15 – 17**
 - Cost is \$90 for your shared room and meals. (Private rooms are available upon request for \$120.) Register at cilca.org

CID BOARD OF DIRECTORS REVIEW REPORT

Announcement: President Mohr announced the theme for next year's District Convention: "Witnessing Christ to the People" (Acts 13:31).

Actions:

- Due to a vacancy, Rev. Andrew Smith (Our Redeemer, Bloomington) was appointed and approved as Bloomington South Circuit Visitor.
- Appointed Deaconess Elizabeth Froh of Christ, Normal, to our District's Human Care Committee.
- Approved Rev. Dr. Ken Schurb's semi-retirement plans beginning Sept. 1st, 2025.
- Granted a peaceful release for Pastor Phillips (Deaf Ministry on behalf of CID) due to his accepting a Call to the Michigan District
- Approved to cover the remaining cost of an air conditioning unit for UniLu.
- Approved St. John, Beardstown, and Trinity, Auburn's constitutional updates

Reports:

- Mrs. Chris Andersen reported good news about St. John's- Mattoon capital campaign, construction, and classes already expanding into high school.
- A list of repairs needed at CID Missions Sites for future consideration.

Presentation: CID Board of Directors and Circuit Visitors received LC-MS 1st Vice President Reverend Peter Lange and 2nd Vice President Reverend Ben Ball for their triennium visitation. Reverend Lange walked through the District Visitation Outline on behalf of our Synod to our Central Illinois District. Both Vice Presidents fielded questions from CID directors and circuit visitors.

Next meeting is set for Nov. 26, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.



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WEEKLY BROADCAST SCHEDULE:

Sundays at 7:00 am – WTWO – TV2 (NBC)

Sundays at 7:30 am – WCIX Channel 3

Sundays at 10:30 am – TCT Network – Direct TV Channel 377

Nationwide Sundays: Direct TV Channel 377 (11:30 am Eastern / 10:30 am Central / 9:30 am Mountain / 8:30 am Pacific)

Tune in anytime online: www.worshipforshutins.org

The Great Reversal

NOVEMBER 2024

November 3, 2024 – All Saints Day

Rev. Paul Shoemaker

All of us were destined to spend our eternity apart from God. Because of Christ Jesus and His suffering, death, and glorious resurrection, a great reversal of our fate has taken place. By God's grace we are now saints and true believers who are destined for heaven.

Sermon Text: Matthew 5:1-12

Readings: Psalm 149; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

When Picking Up Sticks...

November 10, 2024 – Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. William Mueller

First Kings 17:8-16 brings us to the encounter of the prophet Elijah and the unnamed widow at the town of Zarephath. In this meeting, the Lord provides a miracle to care and support His people. Perhaps you feel like this widow. You're picking up sticks and expect nothing good to come. But wait upon the Lord!

Sermon Text: 1 Kings 17:8-16

Readings: Psalm 146; 1 Kings 17:8-16; Mark 12:38-44

Don't Give Up

November 17, 2024 – Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer

Christians face two major temptations – placing too much faith in things that don't last and giving up on the one thing that is eternal. When you are tempted to invest your hopes and dreams in the things of this earth, fix your eyes upon Jesus and *don't give up!*

Sermon Text: Mark 13:13

Readings: Psalm 16; Hebrews 10:19-25; Mark 13:13

Praise the King

November 24, 2024 – Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

In the Book of Revelation, the Apostle John presents us with a glimpse of the reign of Jesus Christ. Revelation 1 shows us that this King is almighty and that He is coming again on Judgment Day. The result is that we joyfully praise Christ the King.

Sermon Text: Revelation 1:4

Readings: Psalm 93; Revelation 1:4-8; Mark 13:24-27



ILS Connections

A place to keep families, staff, and the church congregation connected!

November 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR: Mrs. Rachel Schmidgall

We are approaching that very busy and stressful holiday season! It's a time filled with special programs, recitals, family gatherings, holiday parties, shopping, etc. How can we bond together as a family during this hectic time? I hope these suggestions bless you and provide some needed stability during the chaos of the holidays! Set aside time to have a family devotion once a week. Talk about what Thanksgiving means, or All Saints Day, Veteran's Day, and Christmas. Take time to pray about what these holidays mean together as Christians. Do holiday activities as a close-knit family together. Many families make meals together or bake and decorate cookies, play holiday games and even decorate the home together. Encourage your children to do so with you. Attend church during the holidays. It's often a time people neglect church but your presence in God's house will greatly affect how your child views this time as a Christian and will help prevent a materialistic worldview of the holidays, which is often what is pushed upon families the most. Focus on faith-based movies, if possible. I highly recommend classics that have Christian values built in such as *Miracle on 34th Street* or *It's a Wonderful Life*. Some Christmas movies do not explicitly mention Christ and yet share biblical worldviews such as *The Grinch* (proof that community and faith are all you need for a wonderful holiday season). If you have a child 3 years and above, you might be shocked to know they might be capable of helping you volunteer somewhere during this time, especially if the non-profit is aware young children are coming. Local organizations encourage children to be service-driven. Many churches, non-profits and nursing homes are desperate for volunteers. Allow your child to see the fruits of being a blessing!

YOUNG TWO'S ROOM: Miss Kirsten Brown

How is it already November?! We had so much fun in October! This month we learned about all things fall. Leaves, pumpkins, apples, and ended the month with celebrating Halloween. We are looking forward to our Halloween party! We also learned our color of the month, Orange and our number of the month, 2. In Jesus time, we learned about baby Moses, Joshua and the Battle of Jericho and much more! We also celebrated some birthdays this month. In November, we will be learning about Veterans' Day, Turkeys and Thanksgiving. We will also be learning about the color Brown and the number 3. In Jesus time, we will be learning about Daniel and the Lions, the fiery furnace and Thanksgiving. Hope everyone is having a great Fall!!

TWO'S ROOM: Mrs. Megan Lasher

Our 2s class is enjoying fall! We've talked about leaves and buckeyes and pumpkins. They were mostly all brave enough to touch the pumpkin "goop" and really enjoyed the jack o lantern. We also reviewed shapes and colors and honored our community helpers. As seasons change we look forward to thanking Veterans and learning to be thankful.

THREE'S ROOM: Mrs. Marah Showers

October seemed to pass in the blink of an eye, and now we are moving into November. This month brings us to Veteran's Day. We will be learning about the bravery and importance of our veterans, and then we will perform a special concert to honor our heroes! Our monthly focuses for November will be: color- brown, shape- rectangle, number- 3, letters- I, J, K. We will end the month talking about what it means to be thankful and then celebrating Thanksgiving with our families.

THREE'S & FOUR'S COMBO ROOM: Mrs. Tabatha Hammer

October flew by! We talked about fall leaves, pumpkins, fire safety and so many fall items. We had a great first field trip to Hog Wallow Pumpkin Patch. But, the month November is going to be just as fun and even busier. We will be celebrating Veteran's Day by performing a concert for our veterans. We will also learn 3 new letters, a new shape and color and the number 3. We will end the month learning about Thanksgiving and what it means to be thankful. We are so thankful for our school. Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving!!

FOUR'S ROOM: Ms. Michelle Wiese

In our Pre-K class, we enjoyed our first field trip to the pumpkin patch! This month we have focused on a few more letters and have reviewed ones that we have already discussed so far this year. We have also focused on the number 5, the shape triangle, and the color orange. We are looking forward to the end of this month's Halloween Parade and Party. Soon, we will have our first school program of the year. We look forward to seeing many of our family and friends there as we remember and honor all our Veterans!

DATES TO REMEMBER...

- **Nov. 6** – Veterans Day Program
- **Nov. 11** – Veterans Day, ILS Closed
- **Nov. 21** – El Toro Fundraiser
- **Nov. 27 – 29** – ILS Closed, Thanksgiving Break

ILS Shirt Fundraiser: Order a shirt a proudly display your support for our school everywhere you go! Orders and payments are due on **Nov. 8**. Please make checks payable to Immanuel Lutheran School. All shirts have a large white ILS Logo in the center.

ILS Shirt Fundraiser Order Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Short Sleeve T-shirts - \$14.00 (2x-4x are \$17.00)

Color Options: hot pink, royal blue, black, gray, purple, red, and orange.

Sizes: Toddler 2T – 4T, Youth XS – L, Adult S – 4X

Short Sleeve T-shirt Orders:

- Toddler Youth Adult Size: _____ Color: _____
- Toddler Youth Adult Size: _____ Color: _____
- Toddler Youth Adult Size: _____ Color: _____

Long Sleeve Shirts - \$18.00 (2x-4x are \$21.00)

Toddler Colors: royal blue, black, red, navy

Youth Colors: royal blue, black, red, navy, purple

Adult Colors: royal blue, black, red, navy, purple, maroon, gray

Sizes: Toddler 2T – 4T, Youth XS – L, Adult S – 4X

Long Sleeve Shirt Orders:

- Toddler Youth Adult Size: _____ Color: _____
- Toddler Youth Adult Size: _____ Color: _____
- Toddler Youth Adult Size: _____ Color: _____

Crew Neck Sweatshirts - \$22.00 (2x-4x are \$25.00)

Toddler & Youth Colors: royal blue, black, red, gray

Adult Colors: hot pink, black, red, gray, orange, maroon, purple

Sizes: Toddler 2T – 4T, Youth XS – L, Adult S – 4X

Crew Neck Sweatshirt Orders:

- Toddler Youth Adult Size: _____ Color: _____
- Toddler Youth Adult Size: _____ Color: _____
- Toddler Youth Adult Size: _____ Color: _____

Total Number of Shirts Ordered: _____

Total Payment: \$ _____

Thank you for your support!



NOVEMBER

Elders

Nov. Don DeMoss, Dean Hull, Kurt Thornsborough

Communion Assistants

Nov. 3 Dean Hull, Kurt Thornsborough
17 Don DeMoss, Dwain Dixon
(6:30) 27 Al Julian, Josh Christensen

Ushers

Nov. **Team "E"**
Capt. Denny Hilton, Dave Creek, Glen Natschke,
and Mike Ferris

Special Service:

Thanksgiving Eve Nov. 27 at 6:30 pm Team "A"

Lay Readers

Nov. 3 Sue DeMoss
10 Dwain Dixon
17 Carrie Farrell
24 Gail & Barb Garner
(6:30) 27 Sue Heidle

Gospel Reader

Kurt Thornsborough
Dwain Dixon
Dwain Dixon
Gail Garner
Josh Christensen

Acolytes

Nov. 3 Carley Wright
10 Eli Mann
17 Kinley Pratt
24 Kendall Wright
(6:30) 27 Jamie Yonkers

Videographer

Nov. 3 Josh Christensen
10 Butch Buesing
17 Kim Davis
24 Dwain Dixon

Sound/Screens

Jan and Eli Mann
Don DeMoss
RJ Davis
Jamie Yonkers

Children's Church

Nov. 3 Jan Mann
17 Jan Mann
Helpers: Kendall, Carley, Hannah

Nursery

Nov. 3 Chelsea Pratt, Kirsten Thornsborough
17 Chelsea Pratt, Kirsten Thornsborough
Helpers: Kendall, Carley, Hannah

Children's Sermons

Nov. 10 Mary Ellen Fricke
24 Jo Robinson

Altar Guild

Nov. Mary Powell, Tina Ammermann

Money Counters

Nov. Team "B" Nancy Purviance, Martha Elliott

Check Signers

Nov. Mary Powell and Mike Ferris

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Bible Quiz

Shortly after the birth of the church at Pentecost, which apostle(s) taught an Ethiopian official about Jesus and then baptized him?

- A. Philip
- B. Peter and Andrew
- C. James
- D. Paul and Silas



Answer: A (See Acts 8:26-40.)



GOD ROCKS!



Make decorative stones as reminders of God's many great attributes.



What you need:

- Flat, smooth stones
- Printed, decorative napkins
- Paintbrush
- Clear-drying craft glue
- Scissors
- Permanent marker



What you do:

1. Unfold the napkin, carefully separating the printed side from the solid side.
2. Brush a thin layer of glue atop a stone. Lay the napkin (printed side up) on the glue and press down. Paint more glue over the napkin. Let dry.
3. Turn the stone over and paint more glue on the back. Wrap the napkin edges around the stone, trimming as needed. Paint more glue over the napkin. Let dry.
4. On the stone, write an attribute of God (loving, wise, powerful, merciful, etc.).
5. Repeat with more stones. Use them as gifts, paperweights, table decorations, etc.

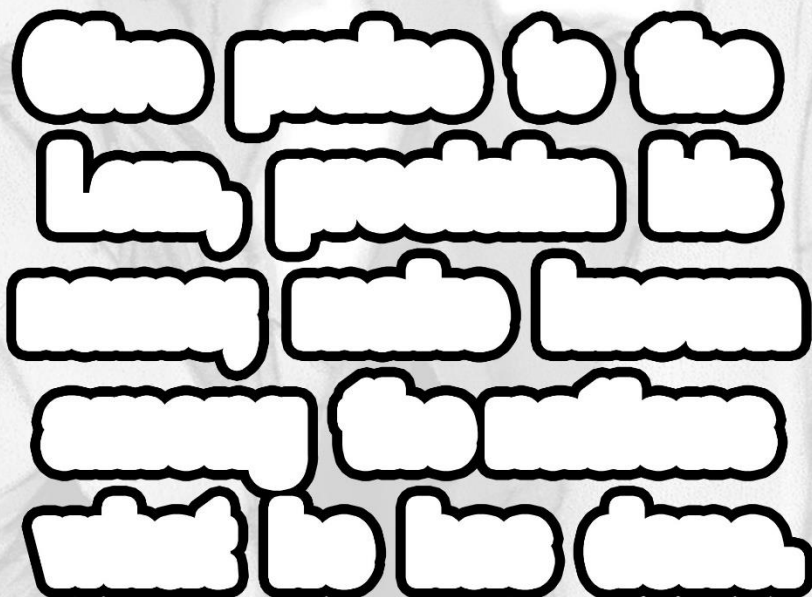


Puzzle!

Discover a psalm of thanks from David by matching the words in the list to the shapes below.

WORD LIST

nations proclaim the what to make done Give
name among Lord known the he praise has his



1 Chronicles 16:8, NIV



November
2024

*"The grass
withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God
will stand forever"*
(Isaiah 40:8).

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MESSENGER
GOD WITH US

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Danville, IL 61832
www.ilcdanville.com
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Immanuel
Lutheran School
217-442-5036



Worship Schedule
Sundays
Nov. 3, 10, 17 & 24
at 9:30 am

Wednesdays
Nov. 6, 13 & 20
at 5:00 pm

Nov. 27 at 6:30 pm

WORSHIP
with us

Communion Schedule
Sundays
Nov. 3 & 17
at 9:30 am


Wednesday
Nov. 27 at 6:30 pm



This newsletter also available on our website:
www.ilcdanville.com

Our November 2024 newsletter
prepared prayerfully for:

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