



There's a Place for You at St. Paul's!



A True Thanksgiving ***Martin Luther on Giving Thanks*** By Timothy J. Wengert

"For all of this I owe it to God to thank and praise, serve and obey him." With these words in his Small Catechism, Martin Luther concludes his paraphrase of the First Article of the Apostles' Creed. The point is clear: We owe God thanks for all God gives to us.

But there is a trap here that we can easily fall into. Just because we ought to do something for God doesn't mean we can do it—or, in Luther's succinct language: "An 'ought' never implies a 'can.'" The problem with thanksgiving (let alone praise, service and obedience) is twofold. On the one hand, we try to turn it into a "must," and we put on our smiley face and say thank you. Every time my Aunt Gladys gave me wool socks for Christmas, I was faced with the same dilemma: I had to write a thank-you note, but I wasn't really thankful at all. Hypocritical thanksgiving is the very opposite of true thanks.

On the other hand, we imagine that we can manufacture true thanksgiving on our own, and we take credit for being thankful (or feel guilty when we aren't). But this isn't true thanksgiving either.

"An 'ought' never implies a 'can.'"

Like all Christian good works, thanksgiving comes spontaneously. We've experienced this with children or grandchildren. When they are truly thankful, it's written all over their faces and they come running up to us with hugs and kisses. Otherwise, their parents whisper in their ears, "Come on, say thank you!" To which they moan, "Thanks for the socks." So, too, with God.

What creates thanksgiving is not our attitude but God's gifts. That is why, in his explanation of "I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth" from the First Article, Luther lists all the things he can think of that God has specifically given him: body and soul with their physical and mental capacities, shoes, clothing, food, drink, house, farm (by this time his wife, Katie, was beginning to purchase land to grow food for the expanding household and their many guests), wife, children, fields, livestock, property and all necessities for life. God's gifts, which include protection from "all danger ... and evil," as Luther goes on to say in the Small Catechism. Luther doesn't mean to suggest that nothing bad will ever befall us, only that, when we are shielded from harm, danger and evil, this protection comes from God.

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Spontaneous Thanksgiving

If you want to be thankful but you can't do it, make a list of God's gifts of creation. Or use Luther's—you'll run out of ink and paper before you get to the bottom, and like him, you may suddenly realize that "all this is done out of pure, fatherly, and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness of mine at all" (First Article).

Some people concentrate on the word "Father" when explaining this article. Luther instead concentrates on the word "creator" and turns "Father" into an adjective: "fatherly." In 1531, when Luther added an explanation to the words "Our Father in heaven," his oldest child was 5 and he had discovered his own fatherly heart. "With these words God wants to attract us," he writes (introduction to the Lord's Prayer).

In the Bible, we deal with loving children and a loving, divine parent. Thanksgiving will come spontaneously as we discover this "pure, fatherly, and divine goodness and mercy."

We belong to Jesus, we live in his kingdom, and he frees us from debt.

But still we fail. We take so much for granted, or we fake it, or we break our arms patting ourselves on the back. That's when a second aspect of Luther's explanation comes to our rescue in the form of the Second Article of the creed: there Luther repeats the word "ought" or "owe" but in ways that are nearly impossible to capture in English. Jesus Christ "has purchased and freed me ... not with gold or silver but ... with his innocent (in German, *unschuld*, meaning "non-owed") suffering and death."

We owe everything to God. Jesus, truly human and divine, owed God nothing but gave up everything for us. The result, according to Luther? "He has done all this in order that I may ... serve him in eternal ... innocence." There's that word again. We belong to Jesus, we live in his kingdom, and he frees us from debt.

Thanksgiving arises not because we owe it to God—even though we do—but spontaneously, because Jesus made us his own and frees us to "thank and praise, serve and obey." Amen! Or, as Luther paraphrased that word in this same explanation, "This is most certainly true."



Council Corner
Louise Griffith,
President



President's Report November

This article is dedicated to communicating the actions, decisions, and future action items of the Church Council. It is intended to give the congregation the highlights of the Church Council meeting.

Church Council meeting October 12, 2023

Council met for a very short meeting. We continue to struggle with meeting our financial commitments and offerings are consistently falling \$4,000-\$6,000 short each month. Our savings accounts are dangerously low.

The sale of the back two acres of our property is still being evaluated by the Carson City School District. The meeting with Carson City went well and once the final surveys and appraisals are completed, we can make some decisions as a congregation.

The Call Committee is working with Pastor Manda on the submission of the Ministry Site Profile. Pastor Manda wanted some "fine tuning" of some of the sections. The Call Committee is hoping the final document will be submitted in early November.

Thank you to so many of you who continue to step forward to serve and support the church. God Bless You!

I ask the congregation to unite in prayer each night at 8:00 p.m.

Loving God, be with us and guide us during this time of discernment. Fill our leaders with your wisdom. Keep us mindful of the work you would have us do. Lead us and guide us, O Lord, to be about the work of your kingdom even as the search for a new pastor continues. Bless all who have taken on extra responsibility and fill them with a sense of your love and presence.

We pray in your Son's name, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

God's Peace!

Louise Griffith, President

Phone: 775 232-7071 in the evenings

Email: ladylouise@gmail.com



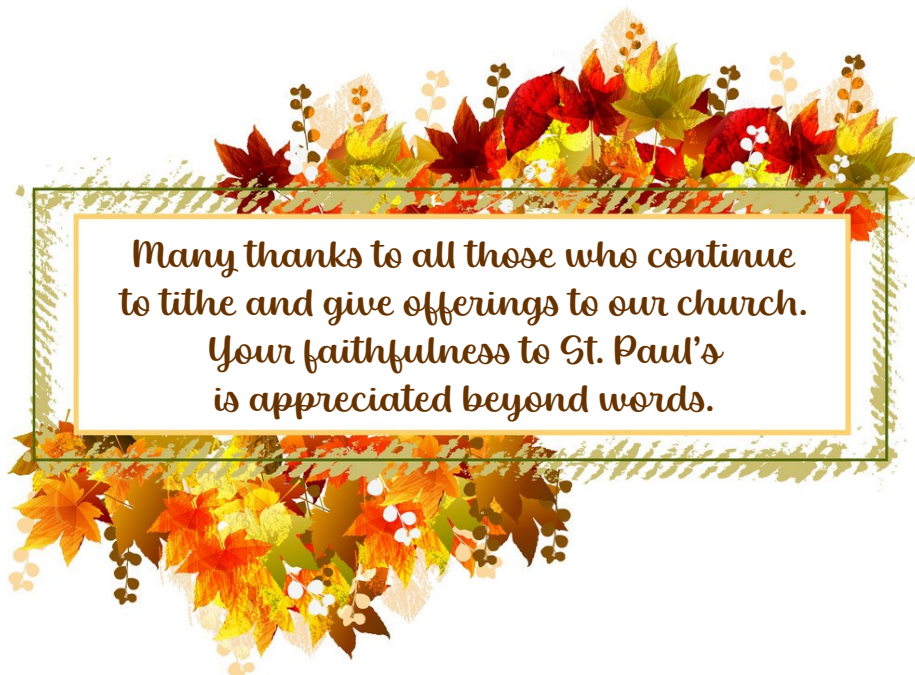
Treasurer's Report: Income, Expenses and Budgets Chart

September 2022 to September 2023
Principal Payments Excluded



September 2023 Chart

10/11/2023; 5:52 PM





"O Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods." Ps. 95:1-3

"I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds." Ps. 9:1

"I will give to the Lord the thanks due to his righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the Lord, the Most High." Ps. 7:17

"Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness." Col. 2:7

"And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful." Col. 3:15

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." Col. 4:2

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." James 1:17

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." Phil. 4:6

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's." Ps. 103:1-5

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thess. 5:18

"Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!" Ps. 107:1

Have a blessed Thanksgiving!
What makes you grateful?



Servants Serving

Altar Guild for November

Jere and Joan Schultz

Readers

November 5 th	Holly McPhail
November 12 th	Steve Ranson
November 19 th	Linda Wilson
November 26 th	Nick Cotsonis

Greeters

November 5 th	Judy McPhail
November 12 th	Jeanne Russell
November 19 th	Louise and Greg Griffith
November 26 th	Timothy Hamilton

Livestreaming Team

Nick Cotsonis and Holly McPhail

Musicians

Dave Lingensjo, Principle Musician
Vicki Hamilton, Organist
Carol Arneson, Choir Director

Ministry Leaders' E-mail

Altar Guild: Vicki Hamilton
victoriahamilton9@gmail.com

Greeters: Ruth Fitzgerald
mrsrfitz17@gmail.com

Counters: Mary DeFelice
Marenang@hotmail.com

Readers: Judy McPhail
ROMAC1945@outlook.com

Ushers: Dave Harrell
davidharrell93@yahoo.com

Communion Assistants: Judy McPhail
stpaulcarson@gmail.com

Stewardship: Deanna Fine
deannajofine@gmail.com

Counters

November 5 th	Judy McPhail and Nikki Rohrs
November 12 th	Jeanne Russell and Jean Opperman
November 19 th	Judy McPhail and Nikki Rohrs
November 26 ^h	Jean Opperman and Mary DeFelice

Communion Assistants

November 5 th	Vicki Hamilton
November 12 th	Ken Beaton
November 19 th	Louise Griffith
November 26 th	Charlotte LaCombe

Acolytes

Clay Woslum and Greg Griffith

Youth Acolytes

Volunteers for all dates TBA

Ushers

November 5 th	TBA
November 12 th	TBA
November 19 th	TBA
November 26 th	TBA

Ministry Leaders

Altar Guild: Vicki Hamilton
Greeters: Ruth Fitzgerald
Readers: Judy McPhail
Counters: Mary DeFelice
Communion Assistants: Judy McPhail
Youth Acolytes: Traci Angel
Stewardship: Deanna Fine
Worship Life: Judy McPhail



Volunteers!

Announcements



Altar Guild

Please join us for the annual Altar Guild Meeting on Saturday, November 11th at 10:00 a.m. We will be planning for 2024 and discussing any relevant issues.

Newcomers are welcome and training is available.

For more information, contact Joan Schultz or Vicki Hamilton.

WELCA Bible Study

The WELCA Bible Study meets Tuesday, November 7th at 9:30 a.m.



Please come and join us in a lively conversation. ~ Vicki Hamilton



Choir Notes

Choir rehearsal is on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Carol Arneson at carol_arneson@yahoo.com.

STITCHERS will meet November 14th and 28th in Friendship Hall from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

For more information, please contact Sarah Jevne or Shirley Rickard.

sarahj4821@gmail.com

rickard.shirleyj@gmail.com



Event Location St. Paul's Lutheran Church • 1201 North Saliman Road • Carson City
Event Location Corner of Saliman & Hwy 50 East • Carson City

Ushers Needed!

The Usher Ministry is in desperate need of ushers for Sunday services.

If you are interested in volunteering for this important position, please call Dave Harrell at 775 315-4661 or email him at davidharrell93@yahoo.com.

Please don't forget the people and animals of Ukraine!

You can help with humanitarian aid via:

<https://www.lutheranworld.org>

and

<https://rolda.org/breaking-news-ukraine>





November Birthdays

- 2 Sharon Gesick
- 3 Judy McPhail
- 5 Michael Hautekeet
- 6 Phillip Martineau
- 9 Heather Brown
- 9 Victoria McComb
- 11 Heather Silver
- 12 Vera Logie
- 13 Kelly Boggs
- 14 Brian Anderson
- 16 Doug Thunder
- 18 Dan O'Neil
- 18 Todd Russell
- 18 Linda Wilson
- 19 Bryan Chowanski
- 21 Elliot Boggs
- 22 Kennedy Randle
- 26 Teresa Enders
- 26 Glen Larson
- 27 Nick Cotsonis
- 29 Karen Hone



Worship services are held each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

Our worship service is live-streamed via YouTube.

Directions for YouTube:



Copy and paste this link into your web browser:

<https://www.youtube.com/@st.paulslutheranfamily7828>

The link will take you to St. Paul's YouTube channel where you can watch the live service.

To watch recorded services, click on "Playlist" and then choose the Sunday service/video you want to watch.



FIREFIGHTERS/PEACE OFFICERS

Andy Steyn, Brian Hillenbrand, Tina Sherman, Mark Dickens, John Gould, Michael Gould, and Jason Wildblood.

SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

Raelynn Norman (niece of Judy McPhail), Matthew Russell (nephew of Judy McPhail), Brandon Luterick, Heather Joyner (Johnson), Peter Elverum, Sarah McGee, Bryce Stimka, Olivia Lesperance, John Duffy (nephew of Sharon and Tom Gesick), and Justin Snowden.



November Anniversary

George and Vicki Hamilton
November 29th

Congratulations!



All youth who are in grades 6 through 12 are welcome to join the Youth Group!
We meet every 2nd and 4th Sunday after service.
If you know anyone who is interested or has any questions,
please call Traci Angel at 775 721-5495.

Christmas Angel Tree

We have adopted ten students in our community who are in need of Christmas. The school social workers are so thankful to have us helping again this year. We have also adopted five seniors from a local nursing home. The nursing home lost their normal supporters for Christmas this year, so we said we would help. They have sixty residents in need of help, and we took five of them. The youth group and WELCA worked together to pick the numbers. This was quite difficult, as we would have loved to help them all.

We want to give each person Christmas gifts and a new outfit. The amazing quilting ladies of Stitchers are gifting each student with a new quilt and the seniors with a lap robe! We have the BEST church FAMILY!

A list of desired items will be put on our angel tree. The angel tree will be by the front door. I have been told we should have the list from both the school and nursing home by November 10th.

Angel Tree – You will find the tree and sign-up chart as you enter the church doors. Once you pick your angel, please put your name on the chart. That will allow us to keep track of who is getting each gift. The youth will go shopping for all gifts not taken off the tree and will be wrapping ALL the gifts!

Ways to Shop – If you would like the youth group to shop on your behalf, you can send a donation to the church. Please use the Post Office Box address. If you are going out and about to shop, please bring your **unwrapped** gift with the angel number attached to the gift to the church by **Sunday, December 10th**. You can place all gifts under the tree.

If you have any questions, please contact Traci Angel at 775 721-5495.

Thank you for helping with the true spirit of the season!



Fun Wednesday Movie Night

Thank you to everyone who came out for our first fun Wednesday Movie Night!

We had such a great time watching the original *Hocus Pocus* movie!

I truly appreciate all those who helped us make it a FUN night!

Thank you so much! Traci

Special Christmas Coffee Hour

The youth will be hosting a special coffee hour right after our Youth Sunday Service on December 10th.

Please join us for a fabulous Christmas brunch during coffee hour.

The youth are looking forward to seeing you all!



Worthy Charities for Gift Giving This Christmas

Lutheran World Relief

<https://search.yahoo.com/search?fr=mcafee&type=E211US0G0&p=Lutheran+World+Relief>

Lutheran Disaster Relief

<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response/>

Catmandu Cat Shelter

<https://www.catmanducc.org/>

Scaredy Cats Trap Neuter Release

<https://www.scaredycatstnr.com/>

Nevada Humane Society

<https://nevadahumanesociety.org/>

Advocates to End Domestic Violence

<https://www.aedv.org/>

FISH Friends in Service Helping

<https://www.nvfish.com/>

Northern Nevada Dream Center

<https://nndreamcenter.org/>

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

<https://imaginationlibrary.com/>



*All Saints Day
Departed Family, Friends,
and Loved Ones*

*Renee Wostum
Evelyn Luterick
Dennis Moltz
Colin McPhail
Chuck Lacugna
Betty Thoreson
Greta O'Kelley
JoAnne Zila
Ann Kauf
Debbie Revelle
Laura Kauf
Peggy Truttman
Christine Boone
Cheryl Revelle Ewing
Alice Bloyd
Joseph Johns
Alana Day
William Rawson
Jean Russell
Jane Johns
Richard and Alice Hamilton
Harry Steinert
Joel Christianson
Bert and Shirley Holman
Allison Snyder
Judy Fisher
Eunice Achtenburg
Kenneth Elverum
LaVerne Marjorie Jory
Mary and Herb Burgeson
Harold Nolte
Judith Lowther
Robert Larson
Bille and Carroll Massie
Doris Howell
Richard Peck*

*Bernice Elander
Burman Elander
Laura Dewes
Peter Boden
Mitch Farley
Dorothy Horrell-Hulbert
Carl Horrell
Patti Fort
Richard Bradshaw
Peggy Truttman
Don Wilson
Eric R. Anderson
Marie Pickering
Art and Irene Beaton
Al Casey
Peggy Ebersole
Norman Breuer
Dottie Breuer
Ellie Week
Mary Neuman
Betty Clamp
Paul Enders
Jay McPhail
Nita Menveg
William "Scooter" Strong
Kristi Kennett
Lora Hinrichs
Velma Kennett
Barbara Houchins
Rae Jean Kasparian
Mark and Mike Grammer
Ray Dalke
Merle Evanson
Dennis Danforth
Angelo DeFelice*

DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

The Day of the Dead is a holiday traditionally celebrated on November 1st and 2nd, though other days, such as October 31st or November 6th, may be included depending on the locality. It is widely observed in Mexico, where it largely developed, and is also observed in other places, especially by people of Mexican heritage.

<https://www.history.com/topics/halloween/day-of-the-dead>



Wayne Watson
Free Concert



Plus
Christmas
sing-alongs
with Wayne

*Merry
Christmas*

Some of Wayne's songs: "A Season In Your Path", "Material Magic", "Almighty", "Looking Out For #1", "Touch of the Master's Hand", "Field of Souls", "Water Color Ponies", "Somewhere in the World", "Man in the Middle", "Home Free", "Friend of a Wounded Heart", "Another Time Another Place" and many more.

Pilgrim Radio

invites you to
an Evening with
Wayne Watson

Friday, November 10
begining at 7pm.

Where: Calvary Chapel's
main sanctuary
1635 E. Clearview Drive,
Carson City, Nevada

The FREE public concert begins
at 7pm, doors open at 6:30.

First come-first serve.

The auditorium seats 360

**A Love Offering Will Be Taken*

Need a Laugh?

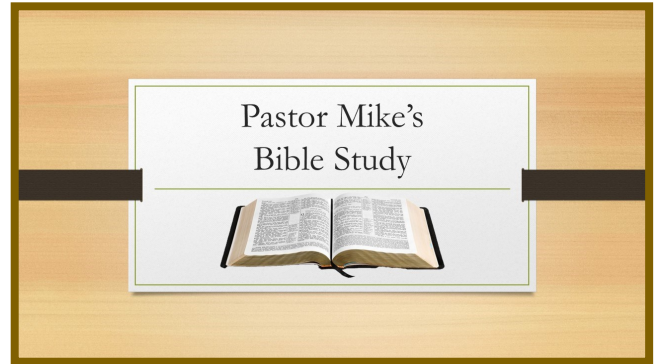




Worship services are held every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

This Month's Worship Schedule:
November 5th, November 12th,
November 19th, and November 26th

Pastor Mike's Bible Study
Please join Pastor Mike for Bible Study each Sunday after the worship service.



Sunday, November 1st
All Saints Day

Día de los Muertos



Tuesdays
New Members and Confirmation Class
6:00 p.m. in the Luther Room

Tuesday, November 7th
WELCA Bible Study
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.



Tuesdays, November 14th and 28th
Stitchers 9:00 a.m. to noon, Friendship Hall

Wednesdays
Choir practice 6:00 p.m.



Thursdays
Strings 3:15 p.m. to 5:45 p.m., Friendship Hall

Thursday, November 9th
Executive Meeting, 6:00 p.m.



Thursday, November 16th
Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 23rd
Thanksgiving Day
The church office is closed.

Friday, November 24th
The church office is closed.



Our office assistant is in the church office **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday** from 9:00 a.m. to noon.



Daylight Saving Time ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 5th.

