



NOVEMBER, 2011

Thanksgiving for All of You!

by Pastor Jeremy Schultz



I'm not really sure who began Pastor Appreciation Month. I guess I tend to be skeptical of many such "Hallmark Holiday's", like *Boss's* or *Sweetest Day*, thinking them to be made-up in order to sell more cards and candy. Nevertheless, I want you to know that I am sincerely grateful for all of the cards and notes of appreciation that I have received during the month of October. And I would never view your notes of appreciation and love as anything but sincere! In fact, I wanted to share a few of the "too cute" comments written by school children on their handmade cards.

Dear Pastor, Thank you for teaching about the Word of Christ. It makes me happy so I hope you do it for the rest of your life!

Dear Pastor, You're the best pastor. Elijah also said you're the best dad! I would like to thank you for everything you have done for me like baptizing me. You rock!!

Dear Pastor, Thank you very much. You are a good pastor and friend to us. You taught us new things everyday about Jesus. P.S. Sorry I wrote this upside down!

To Pastor, Thank you so much for being our pastor! I can't wait to start confirmation with you next year!

These are just some of the joys I have in serving you at St. Paul Lutheran Church and School. And I thank those children and their teachers very much!!

You might be interested to know that the term "pastor" comes from a word meaning, "shepherd." As Christians, we know that Jesus is our Good Shepherd who laid down His life for the sheep. We know that Jesus, our Good Shepherd, defends us from the attacks of Satan and rescues us for eternal life. We know that Jesus, our Good Shepherd, gathers us to pleasant pastures where we feed on His very Word and Sacrament. What a joy it is for me to serve here as an under shepherd of Jesus, the Good Shepherd! In fact, I have no greater joy than standing before you in worship and giving you the very gifts of Christ. I love to see you walk in the faith and live out your faith in the Lord Jesus. I have great joy in seeing God's Word have such a strong effect on your lives. These are the things that give me joy and, if you want to know, prayer is the best gift you can give to me and my family.

All church workers get weary from time to time. The enemy likes to try to convince all of us that what we do does not really matter. So I want to encourage you to remember and pray for and appreciate the people who surround me in this ministry: the teachers, office and financial secretaries, Vicar and custodian. Beyond them, encourage your elders and the people serving on various boards. Each of them are serving the Lord and each of them are appreciated greatly!

| Special Events: | Date |
|---|------|
| Moms2Moms | 5 |
| First Offering Sunday All Saints Day | 6 |
| 'Walther' the Movie | 11 |
| Surviving the Holidays-Grief Share | 20 |
| Thanksgiving Eve Worship-Food Ingathering | 23 |
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How is God's Word working in your life?

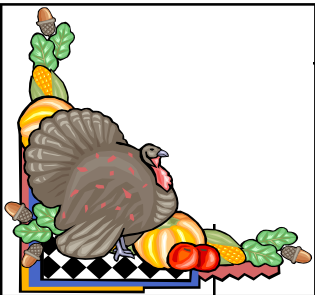
It's hard to believe that November will be my fourth month already at St. Paul, Royal Oak. Time flies when you're having fun! And I am truly having fun

as I go about the tasks of my vicarage. I feel fulfilled in my vocation and confirmed in my calling as the Holy Spirit works through you, the people of St. Paul, to encourage me and strengthen me. I am so grateful to God for the peace and confidence He gives me about my future ministry through you, God's people here at St. Paul.

One specific way that God has encouraged me in these last three months has been through the hospital and homebound visits that I've made. Even though these visits can be difficult as people suffer from pain, illness, and loneliness, I have been privileged to witness the power of the Gospel in the lives of people who need it most desperately. When I share the Good News of God's Word and the joy of our salvation in Jesus Christ with the sick and the lonely, the Word

changes lives and does what it sets out to accomplish. God's Word gives forgiveness to sinners, hope to the helpless, strength to the weary, and comfort to the oppressed. In these first three months, I've seen God through His Word heal not only bodies and minds but also attitudes and outlooks. And God's Word has not only impacted the people that I've visited, but it has also impacted me. More often than not, the people I share God's Word with also share it with me, and that Word changes and heals me as well. I am humbled and thankful to be an instrument who both shares and is shaped by God's Word.

How is God's Word working in your life? How is it encouraging you and strengthening you? How is it convicting you and helping you amend your ways? How is it confirming or affirming God's call in your life? What have you witnessed in recent weeks and months that can only be attributed to God's mighty and powerful Word at work in your life and in the lives of those around you? If you'd like to share, I'm here to listen.



SPECIAL WORSHIP AND EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

**November 23—Pre-School Grandparents Day
Thanksgiving Eve Worship w/com 7:00 p.m.
Food Ingathering**

November 30—Advent Potluck Dinner by Women's Guild 6:00 p.m.

**November 30—Midweek Advent Worship (Lessons & Carols)
11 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.**

*Happy
Thanksgiving*

Ministry News

New Baptism Class

Every first Sunday of the month, a Baptism class will be held for the parents of the child(ren) being baptized that month. This class is for parents and sponsors and will be taught by Pastor Schultz & Vicar Kirk in the meeting room at 9:30am.

German Interest Group will be meeting on Monday, November 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the church lounge. If you are interested in anything German, you should come and join this fun group of people. At this gathering we will be preparing for our annual Advent Dinner, Kinder Parade and Christmas Market, coming on Wednesday, December 7th. Call Martha Smyth, 248-677-4972 for any questions.

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

"What are our thanksgiving days? Are they celebrations of our selfishness as we look at all we possess, or are they truly celebrations of what we have been given as we measure our gifts and rejoice that so many blessings have flowed out of our river? John 15:1-8 makes it very clear: God's life in Christ flows into us for one purpose — to bear fruit to be given for the nourishment of others." — John F. DeVries

Mission for November

Our mission giving for November is dedicated to Voice of the Martyrs. VOM is a non-profit inter-denominational Christian organization dedicated to assisting the persecuted church worldwide. VOM works to spread the gospel in restricted nations, informs believers worldwide about conditions in the persecuted church and assists families of Christian martyrs.

Giving Ministry

Enjoy the convenience of electronic giving. Our church offers this program which allows you to make donations on a scheduled automatic basis. It is convenient and provides donation consistency for your church. To set up, pick up a form in the lobby and fill it out and drop it off in the church office. For questions, contact LeeAnne Millinger, 348-584-3128.

'Treasure in Clay Jars'

Women's Retreat in Clarkston, MI at Colombiere Conference Center on Nov. 11 & 12. Pick up a registration form at the Welcome Center for more information. Questions, Colleen Olsen, 248-288-0769.

Highlights of Italy—*Anyone Interested?*

An 11 day tour to Venice, Tuscan countryside, Florence, Sorrento, Amalfi coast, Pompei, and Rome. October 31 to November 10, 2012. \$2,599 including airfare from Detroit. For brochure/information contact Pastor Ray/Sandi Scherbarth, 248-879-1445, pod-ray@juno.com, or Paul/LaVerne Dallmann, 248-689-9333, plvdallmann@hotmail.com.

Playgroup for Toddlers/Preschoolers

This is a wonderful opportunity for the little ones to play together, and a nice way to meet other families with small children. We will meet on Wednesdays at 2pm and Thursdays at 9am in the Nursery at church. Questions, please contact Anne Sagan at 248.546.5228 or email her at annesagan@yahoo.com.

Family Movie Night - Join us on Friday, November 11, at 7 pm in the Lounge. Come enjoy a new film produced by Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, entitled **Walther**, detailing the life and impact of the first president of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. C. F. W. Walther was "a man who sacrificed his homeland, his health, nearly his life... for the freedom to speak freely, to believe freely, to live freely... for his church and the faith of those he loved... and for us who would come after." Popcorn and other refreshments will be provided. Impersonating Walther will be Vicar Kirk Hulvey. Hope to see you there!



C. F. W. Walther,
First President of the LC-MS

Book Sale: C. F. W. Walther's Law and Gospel: How to Read and Apply the Bible, a classic of American Lutheranism, is being made available for \$20.00 a copy. On October 25, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and Lutherans around the world celebrated what would have been Walther's 200th birthday. You are encouraged to purchase and read his anthology of lectures as you continue the celebration. His teachings will strengthen your faith and help to you read and study God's Word with a Law and Gospel focus. If you'd like to purchase a copy, please see Mila Jackson between services or contact her on your own time. Checks can be written to St. Paul Lutheran Church. Copies will be available through the month of

"Black Friday" vs. Good Friday

By Art Steiber, Jr., Congregation President

Later this month many people will participate in "Black Friday", the day after Thanksgiving when most stores have sales and big discounts to lure shoppers to spend money at their stores. People will line up before stores open so they can be among the first to buy a popular toy, get the latest video game or save money on a big-screen television or clothes.

The term "Black Friday" is thought to have originated in the 1960's in Philadelphia to describe the heavy traffic which occurred the day after Thanksgiving. Then years later another explanation was used which refers to the period which retailers begin making a profit so they move from being "in the red" to "in the black". In fact, in recent years Black Friday has become the busiest shopping day of the year.

Think of all the preparation that goes into Black Friday. Retailers plan for months to be sure their shelves are stocked and their extra staff is in place. They develop television and radio ads to announce their sales. The newspapers are full of sales flyers and colorful advertisements. All the news stations have a reporter standing in a parking lot before dawn talking about the lines of people. And shoppers plan

their day in order to hit the best sales and stores to get the items on their lists. Perhaps you are one of these people. You may already be making plans and getting excited at the thought of how much you'll "save" on Black Friday

Now, compare all of that preparation and excitement to Good Friday. Do the TV stations and newspapers send teams of people to report on it? Do we plan ahead so we know exactly what we want to accomplish Good Friday? Do we get excited weeks in advance thinking about what Good Friday? Of course, Good Friday only tells half of the story. It's Easter that completes the story we should be excited to tell. If not for Easter, then Good Friday could really be called "Black Friday". But fortunately for us the story did not end on Good Friday.

This year on Black Friday while you're fighting the crowds at the mall and loading the car with bags of things you "saved" money on, let's remember Good Friday and the sacrifice Christ made for us. He died to save us, which is the greatest gift we could ever get. Let's be sure to also share that news with others as a gift to them.

SCHOOL NOTES



As we begin the month of November and look forward to Thanksgiving, it gives us an opportunity to reflect on items we have reason to give thanks for since the start of the school year. As our Soccer Season has come to an end, we would like to thank Mr. Harold Sharp and Mr. Craig Ciccone for coaching. We appreciate all of their enthusiasm and commitment to our children playing on the soccer team.

Our Boys Basketball Season will be starting soon with practices beginning this month. Try to come, cheer on our Vikings, and enjoy a game this year.

November also brings our Parent/Teacher Conferences and our first report card for this school year. Conferences are on November 3 (5-9:00 p.m.) and November 4 (1:00 -5:00 p.m.)

We will break for Thanksgiving on Wednesday, November 23 with a half-day and no school on November 24 & 25th.

November 28 is a half-day of school for a Faculty Inservice as we continue to work on our Accreditation Process.

There are many exciting things coming up for our children in December. Mark your calendar for our Children's Christmas Program on December 14th. You won't want to miss it. Also, our children (grades K-8) will be enjoying a Roller Skating Field Trip on December 16th this year.

As you sit down with your family and friends on Thanksgiving Day remember -1 Thessalonians 5:16-18: "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!

SCHOOL CONTINUED...

Market Day This program is a way to help the school with fundraising and help you do your grocery shopping! Brochures are located at the church and school. Order & pickup dates are listed. Thank you for supporting the school in this way!

'Apples for Students' Program sponsored by Hollywood Market.

New Change instead of collecting receipts as in the past, we will be able to earn our profits by using the Hollywood Savings Card. Profits are automatically calculated and are sent to St. Paul Lutheran School. You may pick up a card at the school or church office. Questions, call Kristine Dowhan, 248-722-4899.

MINISTRY CONTINUED...

Moms 2 Moms Sale
New Location...

November 5 from 9:00am to 1:00pm. This year it will be held in the **Church Lounge**. Great way to get bargains, toys, strollers, games, clothes. Check us out online at www.worshipdowntown.org under the *Special Events* section or contact, Kristine Dowhan at 248722-4899.

"CHRISTMAS CHILD"

SHOEBOX— We are still in need of empty shoeboxes and stuffers for the "Christmas Child" Shoebox project. Stuffers may include small toys, crayons and color books, T-shirts, toothbrushes and paste, washcloths, etc. Please drop items off in the coatroom near pastors office. Contact Cheryl Dirkse at (248) 721-2950 if you have any questions. These 'Shoebox' gifts will be blessed, in church, on November 13.

Martin Luther's Seal Clings The supply of clings have been replenished. You may display them on your windshields as a reminder of our faith in Jesus as our Savior. Here are some other potential locations which can also serve this same purpose: front door window, storm door window, kitchen window, bedroom window, and/or bathroom mirror. You may obtain these decals from the church office for a donation. These donations will be used for our support of Pastor Alan Ludwig's work in Siberia.

Book Sale: C. F. W. Walther's Law and Gospel: How to Read and Apply the Bible, a classic of American Lutheranism, is being made available for \$20.00 a copy.

On October 25, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and Lutherans around the world celebrated what would have been Walther's 200th birthday. You are encouraged to purchase and read his anthology of lectures as you continue the celebration. His teachings will strengthen your faith and help to you read and study God's Word with a Law and Gospel focus. If you'd like to purchase a copy, please see Mila Jackson between services or contact her on your own time.

Checks can be written to St. Paul Lutheran Church. Copies will be available through the month of November or until supply runs out.

Evangelism Collection — The month of November we are collecting items for Lutheran Child and Family Services. Items needed: Gloves, mittens, socks and toys. Please leave these items in the coatroom by pastor's office. As always, thank you for your support.

'GriefShare' Surviving the Holidays-- At a Surviving the Holidays session, participants will discover practical answers to these and other questions:

- Is it normal to feel so depressed during the holidays?
- How do I deal with the pain of the holidays?
- How can God and others help me this holiday season?
- Will I ever enjoy the holidays again?

Any questions, please contact Dennis Walker, (248) 990-4051.

Thank You to my St. Paul family for all of your cards, prayers and well wishes on my birthday. This meant so much to me. God Bless You! Miriam Melvin



Food Ingathering

Give thanks on Thanksgiving Eve at worship for all you have and remember to bring a bag of food to the Altar to help keep our pantry full, so that we may serve those in our community in need. Pantry items needed: 18oz Peanut Butter, 18oz Jelly, Cereal, Canned meats, vegetables, pork & beans (no canned pumpkin). May God bless you!

Advent Devotion Booklets

Transforming CHRISTMAS

Now available in the lobby. Pick up yours today! Study daily with your family throughout the season.

VOTER'S MEETING
& CHURCH BOARD
ELECTIONS
Tuesday, November 28
7:30 p.m.



“If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.”

1 Corinthians 12:26

10/20/11 Somalia (CDN) Islamic Extremists in Somalia Behead 17-year-old Christian -

“Militants from the Islamic extremist group al Shabaab (who have vowed to rid Somalia of Christianity) killed Guled Jama Muktar on Sept. 25. The extremists found Muktar as he was preparing to go to school. “The neighbors heard screaming coming from the house, and then it immediately stopped,” a source said. “After awhile, they saw a white car leaving the homestead.” The neighbors informed the parents, who hurriedly returned home from their market stall.

They buried their son’s body quickly, fearing the militants would kill them as well, returned to their market space and then fled to an unknown destination, the source said. The Islamic extremist group had been monitoring the family since the Christians arrived in Somalia from Kenya in 2008, according to the source.” Article from International Christian Concern.

The above article is just one of many that share reports of believers being persecuted for their faith. Nearly 70 percent of the world’s 6.8 billion people live in areas where they do not enjoy religious freedom. They do not have the freedom to read God’s Word, to worship Him openly or to enjoy the fellowship of other believers without risk of persecution and possible death.

Sunday, Nov. 13, is the 2011 International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, a day set apart for us to remember our Christian brothers and sisters around the world who suffer persecution simply because they confess Jesus Christ as Lord. Through our faith in Jesus Christ we are “One with them” and when they suffer, we suffer as well. The greatest gift we can give them is our continued prayers. A few prayer prompts are included here to get you started on this path of prayer.

Pray for boldness among Christians who are suffering for their faith, that they can overcome fear and remain faithful to Christ.

Pray that believers providing safe houses will have continued strength to comfort and care for Christians on the run.

Pray that God will open opportunities to strengthen the local church in persecuted countries.

Pray that God will reveal Himself to the persecutors, that their eyes might be opened to the freedom found in Christ.

Music Notes

by Greg Paul, Music Minister



Detroit Lutheran Singers Concert was held here on Sunday, October 16, with participation by our Jr. Chancel Choir. Both were well received. About two hundred were in attendance.

Music Opportunities

Tuesday November 1st, the Jr. Chancel will participate in All Saints Worship at Zion Lutheran, Detroit on November 1 at 9:30 AM We leave from the church parking lot at 8:20 AM if you care to caravan with us for this unique worship experience.

Sunday, November 6, Royal Oak Children’s Choir Fall Concert Held here at St. Paul in the Sanctuary at 3:00 PM

Sunday, November 6, Mass Choir Reformation Concert 4:00 pm at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe. St. Paul Chancel Choir will participate in this event.

Wednesday November 30, Lessons and Carols with Lutheran High Northwest Choirs. This is our first Wednesday Advent Service at 7:00 pm

Saturday December 3, Noel Night Cultural Center, Downtown Detroit. Music groups from all over the Metro area participate in this event. Our Bell Choir plays outside on the plaza in front of the Detroit Historical Museum at 6:00, 7:00 and 8:00 pm.

Jr. Chancel will participate in the Veterans Day remembrance on November 11, at 11:00 am between Royal Oak City Hall and Library. You are encouraged to attend the ceremony to honor those who have fought to preserve our freedom.

Something to think about

Participation in the Family Choir for Christmas Eve 5:00 pm service.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

If we've missed listing your birthday, please call the church office.

Birthdate: 11/1

Beardsley, Nancy
Fiedrich, David
Hermann, John
Millinger, Ken
Schultz, Elijah
Strainovici, Charlotte

Birthdate: 11/2

Pierce, Tiffany

Birthdate: 11/3

Canfield, Katie
Culling, Kenneth
Huff, Dorothy
Kienman, Maggie
Tislar, Lois

Birthdate: 11/4

Hoth, Karen
Sendek, Dan

Birthdate: 11/5

Gustafson, Sheila
Heike, Randolph
Milz, Sylvia
Woodward, Chris

Birthdate: 11/6

Martz, Brynn

Birthdate: 11/7

Robb, Evelyn

Birthdate: 11/8

Bloom, Madison
Horvath, Margaret
Pratt, Heidi

Birthdate: 11/9

Owens, David
Schroeder, Shawn
Wetzel, Kristine

Birthdate: 11/10

Costakes, Barbara
Klein, Daniel
Womack, Diane

Birthdate: 11/11

Jones, Stephanie
Tillotson, Connor

Birthdate: 11/12

Calhoun, Ana
Dumont, Genevieve
Lephew, Clarence
Yager, Jennifer

Birthdate: 11/14

Fick, Melanie
Seguin, Zachary

Birthdate: 11/15

Ainsworth, Dorothy
Ainsworth, Larry
Klein, Laura
Rokicki, Sara

Birthdate: 11/16

Hooks, Jim

Birthdate: 11/18

Miller, Margaret

Birthdate: 11/19

Jackson, Leona
Mueller, Becky
Ohngren, James

Birthdate: 11/20

Russ, Wilbur

Birthdate: 11/21

Troub, Jerry

Birthdate: 11/22

Beyerlein, Reid

Birthdate: 11/23

Muse, Charles, IV
Muse, Keagan

Birthdate: 11/24

Donnellon, Daniel

Birthdate: 11/25

Lentner, Edna
Mangold, Regina
Morrison, Barbara
Mueller, Alexandra

Birthdate: 11/26

McClure, Stacey
Woodward, Tim

Birthdate: 11/27

Simon-Newton, Betsy
Wilson, Jordan

Birthdate: 11/28

Cloud, Romar
Cook, Jill
Semon, Carol

Birthdate: 11/29

Olsen, Mark

Birthdate: 11/30

Schultz, Jack
Sendek, Carole
Troub, Connor
Vitale-Hess, Lisa



Prayer's

Family and Friends

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| John Michelin | Brad Swegles |
| Barb Biels | Vanessa Ultzen |
| Eula Boggess | Jean Watterson |
| Amy Champ | John Wallace |
| Barbara Fecteau | Daniel Weber |
| Nathan Fecteau | Judy Weller |
| Richard Firchau | Leslie Wharton |
| Susan Golinske | Sharon Zerla |
| Josette Grant | |
| Grant Haley | <i>To Add/remove a prayer go to</i> |
| Cheryl Hall | <i>prodway@stpaulroyaloak.org</i> |
| Trevor Harris | |
| Diane Hawker | <i>You may donate to the church</i> |
| David Herkowitz | <i>through memorial/honorarium</i> |
| Dawn Lis-Homer | <i>cards located on the shelf in the</i> |
| Reginald Hosey | <i>lobby. This is a two part card,</i> |
| Russ Hulvey | <i>one to go with the gift donated</i> |
| Patrice Kolbe | <i>to the church and the other to</i> |
| Arden Licht | <i>be mailed to let the family</i> |
| Sharon Lechleitner | <i>know of your donation to our</i> |
| Holly McKittrick | <i>church. Contact the church</i> |
| | <i>office if you have any questions.</i> |

Gift's to Our Lord... Memorials & Gift Donations

St. Paul Lutheran Church

In memory of *Elizabeth Anderson* by Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Anderson, Sharon Geisler

Women's Guild

In memory of *Herbert Huff* by Dorothy Huff

In memory of *Joe Pico* by Margaret Clark


St. Paul Fund

In memory of *Jin & Marge Hoerberling* by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Baker



Prayer's

Military

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Sam Eskew | Julius Gerald |
| Tirzah Eskew | Rockey Sparks |
| Jeff Follett | Aaron Zeile |
| Pam Harrington | |
| Ryan Hart |  |
| Thomas Herzberg | |
| John Hunter | |
| Brandon Newton | |
| Kristine Pate | <i>Therefore I tell you,</i> |
| Jeremy Rudd | <i>Whatever you ask in prayer</i> |
| Scott Rutledge | <i>Believe that you have received it,</i> |
| Heidi Gerald | <i>and it will be yours. Mark 11:24</i> |

Member Matters

The Month of October

| Baptisms | Date |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Brayden Thomas Markey | 10/02 |
| Hannah Joy Snell | 10/09 |
| Emilie Lynne Damico | 10/16 |
| Bradley Donald Mitchell | 10/23 |

| Funerals | Date |
|--------------------|-------|
| Elizabeth Anderson | 10/10 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Attendance 4 weeks (10/2-10/23) | |
| Weekly Average | 409 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Finance 4 weeks (10/2-10/23) | |
| Monthly Goal | \$58,280 |
| Monthly Offering | \$54,738 |
| Difference +/- | (\$ 3,542) |

"The Masthead" & "The Viking"

NOW on our website

www.worshipdowntown.org



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on iTunes!

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