



PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

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A Congregation in Mission, Community and Service

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

NOVEMBER 2017

PASTOR: Rev. Ben Eder

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM

EDITOR: Mary Werth

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY: 9:30 AM

ASSOC. EDITOR:

WORSHIP: 10:00 AM



From the Pastor

At this time of year two observances come close together in the Church: Reformation Day, and All Saints' Day.

Reformation Sunday is observed the last Sunday in October, and Reformation Day is October 31st.

When Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany (signalling the beginning of the Reformation movement), he posted them on October 31st, "All Hallows Eve" ("The night before All Saints' Day").

The fact that these two observances come close together is appropriate, as Reformation Day tells us "How one is saved" while All Saints' Day emphasizes "Who is saved."

The central theme of the Reformation is the Doctrine of Justification, the chief article upon which the Church stands: we are saved by God's grace, through faith alone in Jesus Christ. We are saved by faith, not works:

"What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.'" - Romans 4:1-3

Other passages regarding *Justification by Grace Through Faith* come to mind, particularly Romans 3:27-28, "Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law;" and Ephesians 2:8-9, "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

All Saints' Day, November 1st, celebrates the truth that all believers in Jesus Christ are saints, or "Holy ones" ("Hagios" from the original Greek)." Being a saint does not mean that the Church elevates a believer to a "Super Christian Hall of Fame;" rather, many saints are known only to God and to those who knew them and loved them while they were here on earth. Saints serve as an example of faith which we can emulate, but we are not to pray to them nor treat them as if they were divine.

Revered saints not only include the Apostle Paul and Martin Luther, but also your believing grandmother and parents, and everyone else who is a believer, either living on earth now or with the Lord. Not only on All Saint's Day but every day we rejoice with the Psalmist who declared, "Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints." - Psalm 116:15

Your Servant in Christ,

+ Pastor Ben Eder



SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER 2017

DATE →	Nov. 5	Nov. 12	Nov. 19	Nov. 26	
READER	Wes Wiers	Mary Werth	Sue Holway	Dooley O'Rourke	
USHERS	Peggy Clark * Tegwanda Alford	Eric Fellner * Gary Smith	Mike Wuerch * Dianne Wuerch	Tyrone Bryant * Jim Miller	
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	George Alessi	Frank Alessi	Jack Hambridge	Jim O'Brien	
NURSERY	Carolyn Alessi	Linda Eder	Carol Obot	Peggy Clark	



Counting blessings

Numbered lists grab our attention. In the checkout aisle or on the internet, we gravitate toward headings such as “10 ways to lose weight by summer!” or “3 simple steps to acing that test!”

Ancient Jewish sages urged people to count out and speak at least 100 blessings, or statements of gratitude, each day. What would happen if we intentionally listed 100 blessings daily? Can you imagine?!

What if the first blessing we counted was simply the day itself? “Thank you, God, for this brand new day!” “Bless my use of this day, Lord, that I might glorify you.” Scripture encourages such awareness and promises an additional blessing in return: “Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom” (Psalm 90:12, NIV).

—Heidi Mann



Loretta Himmele

Nov. 1



Nov. 12

Abigail & Kevin Size



Special dates

All Saints' Day, *November 1, 2017*
Daylight-Saving Time ends, *November 5, 2017*
Veterans Day, *November 11, 2017*
Thanksgiving Day, *November 23, 2017*

"No one has ever become poor from giving."

—Anne Frank

"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."

—Henry Ford

"An optimist is a person who starts a new diet on Thanksgiving Day."

—Irv Kupcinec

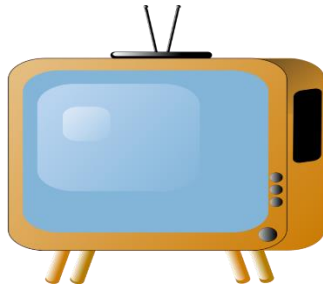


This month's Community Dinner will be held on Friday, November 3rd, from 5 to 7 p.m. The menu is spaghetti with meat sauce, salad, bread and butter and assorted desserts and beverages. (This dinner is sponsored by the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.)



TIME TO DECORATE!

We will be decorating the church for Christmas on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH at 9:30 a.m. Please come and join us – the more the merrier!



MARTIN LUTHER ON TV

Here is the correct local broadcast information about the movie: "Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World". It will air on WNED-TV on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13th at 9 pm.



ESTHER CIRCLE

We are now collecting men's and women's disposable razors. These items are always in demand at the Cornerstone Manor and City Mission, especially for the men. There will be a tote in the back of the church until the last Sunday in November.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, November 13th, at church at 6:30 p.m. All women are welcome to join us.



Prayers of thanks

The Bible's close connection between prayer and praise caused 19th-century preacher J.C. Ryle to proclaim, "I dare not call that true prayer in which thankfulness has no part." He points, for example, to Paul's words in Philippians 4:6 ("By prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God") and Colossians 4:2 ("Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful"), both NIV.

Whenever we speak to God, Ryle adds, thoughts of his mercy and the hope of heaven should be at the forefront of our minds. "Surely," he writes, "we should never open our lips in prayer without blessing God for that free grace by which we live, and for that lovingkindness which endures forever."

A wake-up call

The good God permits such small evils to befall us merely in order to arouse us snorers from our deep sleep and to make us recognize, on the other hand, the incomparable and innumerable benefits we still have. ...

With [our misfortunes], God gives us a light by which we may see and understand his goodness and kindness in countless other ways. Then we conclude that such small misfortunes are barely a drop of water on a big fire or a little spark in the ocean. Then we understand and love the words: "O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!"

—Martin Luther

Thank you, veterans!

On Veterans Day, we honor men and women who've served and sacrificed in one of America's armed services.

On November 11, 1918, America and her allies signed a truce with German leaders, ending World War I. In 1919, President Wilson decided the United States should remember with gratitude the end of that war and honor military members by marking Armistice Day, or "truce" day. In 1954, Congress changed the name to Veterans Day, honoring veterans of every era.

Veterans Day highlights our country's quest for peace, justice and freedom throughout the world. Followers of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, pray for unity among all nations and for the day when "nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore" (Isaiah 2:4, NIV).



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES
www.lhm.org



Recently, we shared that LHM is partnering with SAT-7 to produce a new television series for youth and young families in the Middle East and North Africa.

You might be asking yourself,

What will this partnership accomplish?

Below are the top four impacts we believe God can make through this partnership, your prayers, and your support.



The hiring process of script writers and actors has begun.

TV Programming

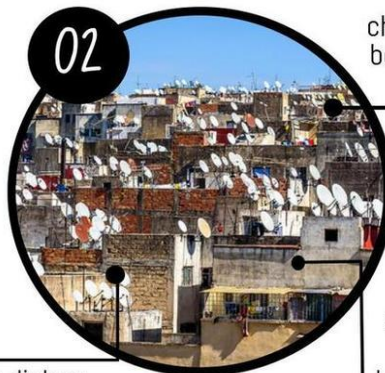
Culturally-relevant TV programming will be created to deliver the message of God's love for all of those watching.

The first broadcast should air early 2018.

The program will be a variety show format aimed at starting discussions and offering hope through the Word of God.

Satellites

The NileSat satellite will be used to broadcast directly into homes.



Many people in the region are unable to attend church services and can be persecuted for trying to attend.

Over 300 million people have satellite dishes in this part of the world, making them potential viewers for the Good News.

Broadcasting through the satellites into homes allows them to hear His love directly.

03



Hearing the Gospel in the privacy of their own homes may be the only opportunity some have to hear it at all.

Potential Reach

This new partnership allows LHM to reach millions more in cities, towns, and even refugee camps.



SAT-7 is a trusted channel for viewers in 20 countries spanning from as far west as Morocco to as far east as Iraq and the Persian Gulf.

Youth and Young Families

Millions of youth and young families are affected by violence and insecurity. This new TV programming will bring a message of hope.

04



Young people make up nearly 60% of populations in camps and throughout the region.

Young adults are often the first affected in war, either fighting or fleeing.

Political turmoil, social instability, and high unemployment rates are leaving millions of Arab youth disillusioned and hopeless.





Add fall décor to your family's Thanksgiving table by making these festive place mats.



What you need:

- Large pieces of paper
- Several large leaves
- Crayons (fall colors)
- Fine-tip permanent marker

What you do:

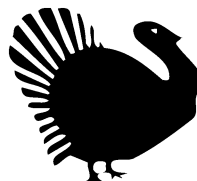
1. Working on a flat surface, place the leaves underneath the paper.
2. Peel the wrappers off the crayons. Rub crayons sideways over the paper so the details of the leaves become visible.
3. Use other crayons to add additional details, if desired. With the marker, list what you're thankful for and add a Bible verse about thankfulness.
4. Optional: Laminate the place mats so they're reusable.



GIVE THANKS TO GOD

God gives us many blessings every day. How can we thank him?

Directions: To complete the Bible verse below, follow the code and fill in the blanks.



A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, E=5, F=6, G=7, H=8, I=9, J=10,
K=11, L=12, M=13, N=14, O=15, P=16, Q=17, R=18,
S=19, T=20, U=21, V=22, W=23, X=24, Y=25, Z=26.

" _____ will _____
9 16 18 1 9 19 5
_____, _____ name in _____
7 15 4 19 19 15 14 7
and _____ with
7 12 15 18 9 6 25 8 9 13
_____.
20 8 1 14 11 19 7 9 22 9 14 7

Answer: "I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30, NIV

**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE
DECEMBER NEWSLETTER IS NOVEMBER 26TH.**