

# The Epistle

November 2016 Volume 58, No. 10

Lutheran Church of the Savior, Bedford, MA

A COMMUNITY OF FAITH: Centered in Christ — Called to Serve

It's November already – and our thoughts turn to the coming celebration of Thanksgiving and the start of the Holiday Season. The tradition of Thanksgiving has its roots here in Massachusetts. It began with the Pilgrims' recognition of God's abundant providence as evidenced by their survival of the harsh New England winter and the bountiful harvest of food that He then had given them. The Lord had graciously provided for their needs, and they were led to celebrate – their hearts filled with thanksgiving!

So when, and for what, are you moved to pause and give thanks to God? When God is “good” and has provided some blessing to us in a material way, it is easy to feel moved to give thanks. Those times and gifts can be many: Perhaps you are thankful for good health or for healing in a time of ill health. Perhaps you are thankful for your work – the satisfaction it gives you, the promotion you earned, the financial security it provides – or for new work in a time of unemployment. Perhaps you are thankful for the many relationships that God has provided for you – the ongoing love of your husband or wife, the love between parents and children or between brothers and sisters, the coming or healthy birth of a child or grandchild, and/or the love and companionship of good friends. We could go on and on, page after page, listing the multitude of blessings that God daily gives us. We are rightly moved to give thanks for all of them!

But what about those times when things are not going so well in life? What about those times when it feels as though God and His blessings are conspicuously absent? Or, when it feels as though all God is sending your way is trial, trouble, and turmoil – perhaps even His anger, punishment, and condemnation? In those times, how easy is it to have a thankful heart and to give God thanksgiving and praise? If you are like me, in such times it is very hard to aim thanks God's way, and perhaps seemingly impossible in some cases! Yet, at those very moments, we need to remember the Lord's instruction and encouragement through the Apostle Paul:

“Be joyful always; pray continually;  
**GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES,**  
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.”  
*1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)*

Give thanks  
in all  
circumstances  
for this is  
God's will  
for you in  
Christ Jesus

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18 NIV

Do we do this? Are we joyful always? Do we pray continually? Do we give thanks to God in ALL circumstances, perhaps even for ALL circumstances? For me the truthful answer is “No.” What about you?

So, how is it possible to do such things? In and of ourselves we can't. In and of ourselves we lack the inclination, the strength, or the power. In and of ourselves we will focus on us and on our circumstances, and then the result for us will be the same as for Simon Peter.

I'm sure you remember Matthew's account of when Jesus came walking on the water to His disciples in the middle of a raging storm (14:22-33). They freaked-out, thinking Jesus was a ghost, but He said, “It is I. Don't be afraid.” Peter responded, “Lord, if it's You, tell me to come to You on the water.” Jesus said, “Come.” So Peter climbed out of the boat and began to walk toward Jesus *on the surface of the water* – until, taking his eyes off Jesus and looking at the wind and the waves, he began to sink. “Lord, save me!” he cried, and Jesus reached out, caught him, and then gently chided, “O You of little faith, why did you doubt?”

If we are going to live out God's loving counsel given to the Thessalonian Christians, then with the Holy Spirit's help and power through His Word we must take our eyes off ourselves and our circumstances and focus them back on Jesus. For Jesus is God's love in the flesh come to save us and to restore us to a relationship with God the Father – a relationship filled with His unconditional love for us in Christ. Jesus is the evidence that God's love for you is absolutely certain. Jesus and His holy life, death, and resurrection are the means and the evidence that your salvation is complete and therefore absolutely certain. And none of what God has done for you in and through Christ Jesus depends in any way on you, your feelings, or your circumstances – good or bad. All depends on Jesus alone.

In Romans 8, Paul pulls no punches with respect to our world and our situation in it: “We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first-fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies” (8:22-23). Though our groaning

(continued on page 8)

## NOTES FROM OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

*To better familiarize our congregation with her college students and to help focus our prayers, I will be reaching out to the youth periodically for input. In October, I sent some students a couple of quick questions and received enthusiastic responses in return.*

~ Sage Veino, College Roll Coordinator

### Emily Roller, College Senior

As a student at the University of Connecticut, my major is Digital User Behavior. My most interesting class is Poetry. When I am not in class, I am hiking or doing something outside. Please pray that I can make an impact in my senior year. Pray especially for my roommates Himakshi, Mary, and Julia that they might come to know Christ.

### Jessica Fonseca, College Junior

I have been attending Bentley University and my major is HR Management. My most interesting class is HR Law. When I'm not in class, I'm working. Please pray for me as I am currently abroad! Note: This is an exciting time for Jess as she is doing "A Semester at Sea". You can read all about her adventures on her blog — <https://sbipsgiggles.wordpress.com/>

### Emily Kjeer, College Freshman

It is my first year at Bethany Lutheran College in Minnesota. I am a psychology major and a member of Psych Club, and have been working in the cafeteria. Classes are going just fine. I would say my most interesting class is Religion, in part because I have a really great professor in that class. I recently joined the Debate Team and I may be participating in my first tournament this Friday! My mom (Julie) is working at South Central College, just up the road from Bethany, and my dad (Pete) is working at Bethany, so I only have to go across campus to see him. My dad and I are both going to be in the "Nutcracker" this winter.

### Sean Carpenter, Seminary Student

Sean is currently taking classes as a freshman at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. He sent us a letter last month and we have posted it on the bulletin board.

*Please welcome all of our college students when you see them home during Thanksgiving break – introduce yourself, and let them know that you have been supporting them in prayer this semester. Also, everyone is encouraged to pick up a list of the students' addresses from the card display by the main entrance as a reminder to pray for each of them. Thank you.*

## BANNER MINISTRY

The Banner Ministry is responsible for the banners that beautify our sanctuary. There are many beautiful banners that require maintenance and care before being hung. Volunteers are needed to help change banners, develop new banners and care for existing ones. Looking for designers, sewers and helping hands. If you would like to be part of this Ministry, please contact Sunny Thompson at 978-663-9020 or by email at [sunthompson9020@aol.com](mailto:sunthompson9020@aol.com)

### Banner Changes for November 2016

**Tuesday Nov 1 at 11:30 am** – The Reformation banners come down and the All Saints banners go up for All Saints Day on Nov 1. There are four banners. If you are working on new crowns to be placed on the banners, please make sure work is completed by end of October. Two go up as usual and two go up over front windows. We will need someone that can climb a ladder to assist.  
**Tuesday Nov 15 at 11:30 am** – The All Saints banners come down. We will need someone who can climb a ladder to assist. The Christ the King banners go up.  
**Tuesday Nov 22 at 11:30 am** – The Christ the King banners come down and the Thanksgiving banners go up.  
**Wednesday Nov 23 after the Thanksgiving Eve Service (7:00 PM)** – The Thanksgiving banners come down and the Advent banners go up and remain up until December 20.

## SING TO THE LORD!

We will soon be entering the month of November and we are already thinking about December which means Christmas is just around the corner!

### LCS Christmas Choir

The Christmas Choir will be an integral part of a Cantata on Sun, Dec 11; will sing during the pre-service on Christmas Eve as well as during the 7:30 PM service; and will sing during the Christmas Day Service at 10:00 AM.

Rehearsals will be Thursday evenings at 8:00 PM as well as Saturday mornings from 9:00 to 10:30 AM (Nov 5, 12, 19 and Dec 3, 10, and 17). We will rehearse in the church sanctuary. We would love to have you join us as we lift our voices in joyous song and celebrate the birth of Christ.



### LCS Women's Choir

Rehearsals will be Saturday mornings through Dec 3 at 10:30 AM with the exception of Thanksgiving weekend. The women will sing on the Second Sunday of Advent, December 4 at 8:30 AM.

### LCS Men's Choir

Rehearsals will be Thursday evenings Nov 3 through Dec 22 at 7:00 PM with the exception of Thanksgiving weekend. The men will sing on Christmas Eve.

Questions? Contact Tyler Hoyt, Acting Choir Director (781-502-9255 or [tboyt134@aol.com](mailto:tboyt134@aol.com)).

## SENIOR LUNCHEON

*For beauty in nature, Your glory we see  
For joy and health, friends and family,  
For daily provision, Your mercy and care  
These are the blessings You graciously share.  
So today we offer this response of praise  
With a promise to follow You all of our days.*

– Mary Fairchild

Please join us **noon** on **Thursday, November 10** for an early Thanksgiving dinner – complete with turkey and all the trimmings. As a thank offering, please bring canned vegetables to be given to those in need up at



Central Food Ministry. No RSVP needed but it is helpful for planning (Jennifer 978-667-8717 by Tues Nov 8). Be sure to bring a hearty appetite! Please join us for devotions, a hymn, great food and fellowship!!



## We Want You!

### WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Your Elders are leading an effort to broadly survey the LCS body to determine if changes in our Sunday morning schedule will enable our church to better serve the overall needs of the congregation. Your thoughts and feedback are a very important aspect of any possible recommendation regarding Sunday morning here at The Lutheran Church of the Savior.

### WE'RE BRINGING FOOD, DRINK, AND FRIENDLY DISCUSSION!

Yes, we are so interested in your thoughts that we will actually shamelessly bribe you with free food and drink. On **November 6, 13, and 20**, you will find us in Luther Hall following each of the two services. Please plan to come enjoy the refreshments and kindly give us the benefit of your perspectives on how the current Sunday schedule works for you and others. We highly value the opportunity to talk with each of you. Please eat our food, and please engage us in conversation about the LCS Sunday morning worship experience.

### IT'S NOT JUST ALL A BUNCH OF TALK!

Your Elders intend to execute an action plan that has us talking with you now, surveying you in the near future, building a recommendation, and presenting that recommendation to our Church Council for its approval and implementation. Please contribute to this exciting effort to discern God's will and build up the body of Christ in this place and at this time.

*Your LCS Board of Elders – Mike Berg, Jim Eggert,  
Wayne Floyd, & David Sanderson*

## You are Invited

*to a Volunteer Dinner on  
Saturday, December 10  
at 4:30 PM*

*Central Food Ministry  
370 W 6th St, Lowell, MA 01850*

**EVERYONE  
who would like to learn more  
about volunteering at CFM  
is invited to come!**

In addition, Central Food Ministry will be showing their appreciation to all of its volunteers and workers!

It will be a great opportunity to get to know the volunteers, learn more about Central Food Ministry, and to see our facility.

*Please RSVP to Al Drehman  
978-256-4539 or [ajdreb@gmail.com](mailto:ajdreb@gmail.com)  
by Sunday, November 20th  
if you would like to join us  
(and let him know if you need a map or directions)*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION PROJECT

*As part of this year's special Sunday School Mission Project, Orphan Grain Train, we will be holding a special collection known as "Undie Sunday".*

Destitute people around the world need basic necessities. Thousands of children in India, Latvia, Liberia, Nicaragua, and other countries helped by Orphan Grain Train do not have good underwear or socks. With only the shirt on their backs since the day of their destitution, it's difficult for them to obtain good clothes, not to mention: **UNDERWEAR!**



### **You Can Help.**

We will be collecting NEW underwear and socks for Orphan Grain Train to send to needy people! Men's, women's, boy's and girl's – all sizes are needed. The collections will take place on ALL the Sundays in Advent – Nov 27, Dec 4, 11, and 18. Although we will not have Sunday school on December 11, donations are welcome that day. And, EVERYONE can participate! You don't have to attend Sunday school or adult Bible study to make a donation. We will have a collection basket upstairs on those Sundays as well.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Vickie Friar, Sunday School Superintendent at [vickiefriar01@gmail.com](mailto:vickiefriar01@gmail.com).

## FRIENDS IN FAITH (LCS YOUTH MINISTRY)

*Calling all Youth, Grade 6 thru Grade 12 –* Please join us for a Friends in Faith get together on **Sunday, December 11**. We will be going to Comella's in Bedford for pizza after the church service which is at 9:00 AM due to the Annual Voters' Meeting. After eating we will return to church and pick up will be at 1:30 PM. Watch for more information coming through email. We will request an RSVP as we approach the date so we can make sure we have adequate transportation.

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

### **"A MAN NAMED MARTIN – PART 1: THE MAN"**

Martin Luther's Spirit-inspired grasp of justification through faith was the cornerstone of the Reformation. His faith – tested and tried by the fires of religious oppression – remains a standard of Christ-centered endurance for believers today. Learn more about the German reformer in the first of this three-part series from Lutheran Hour Ministries. This series is facilitated by Dave Hergert and will through November 27.

### **"WORSHIP IN COMMUNITY"**

On **Sunday, December 4** there will be a one-day adult Bible study session where we will discuss why we worship and why we worship together. Jim Eggert will lead.

### **"ASK THE PASTOR"**

On **Sunday, December 18**, Pastor Mark will lead this session and it's one we have done many times before called "Ask the Pastor". Cards will be available on a couple of Sundays before December 18. They will be available at both ABS and in the narthex. If you have a question about the Bible, about what we believe or something else that you want to ask, write it down on a card and Pastor Mark will answer our questions.

Also, pay close attention to the December Epistle. We will have notes about class(es) for January. And, yes many of you have asked for a second adult class offering at 10:00 AM. We are working hard to make that happen.

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We continue to faithfully meet every Tuesday morning at 9:30 AM at church. We are working our way through the study, *"Love Rules – A Study of the Ten Commandments"*. It has been interesting to study and engage in discussion of these age-old rules that still hold everything we need to live in relationship with God. Each week is a "stand-alone" study so feel free to drop in anytime – or at least join us for a cup of coffee and delightful snack!

We are looking forward to beginning our Advent study on Tuesday, November 29 using a four week series called, *"From Heaven Above."* As we approach the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, this hymn by Martin Luther will provide our theme focusing on divine gifts that come through the birth of Jesus. The gifts we will explore through study and discussion are: Hope, Love, Peace and Life. Please consider joining us as we fellowship, study, and pray. Study guides have been ordered, to reserve your copy (\$5 each) contact either Cindy Jordan ([mrs\\_j01824@yahoo.com](mailto:mrs_j01824@yahoo.com)) or the church office ([church@lcsavior.org](mailto:church@lcsavior.org)). By the way, child care is provided.

# NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 <b>REFORMATION/ CONFIRMATION</b> One Service at 9:00 AM for all followed by a reception	31	1 Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM  LWML 7:00 PM  Board of Elders 7:00 PM	2	3 Men's Choir 7:00 PM  Sunday Choir 7:30 PM Christmas Choir 8:00 PM	4	5 Men in Prayer 7:30 AM  Christmas Choir 9:00 AM  Women's Choir 10:30 AM
6 8:30 Traditional 10:00 Christian Ed 11:15 Contemporary 12:30 Band Rehearsal <b>-- OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR ON VACATION SATURDAY THROUGH THURSDAY --</b>	7	8 Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM  Church Council 7:00 PM	9	10 Men's Choir 7:00 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Sunday Choir 7:30 PM Christmas Choir 8:00 PM	11 <b>VETERANS DAY PRESCHOOL CLOSED</b>  Card Distribution at Bedford VA	12 Christmas Choir 9:00 AM  Women's Choir 10:30 AM  Tables of Fellowship 6:30 PM
13 8:30 Traditional 10:00 Christian Ed 11:15 Contemporary 12:30 Band Rehearsal	14	15 Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM  Fellowship/Outreach 7:00 PM	16 EWG Meeting 7:00 PM	17 Men's Choir 7:00 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Sunday Choir 7:30 PM Christmas Choir 8:00 PM	18	19 Christmas Choir 9:00 AM  Women's Choir 10:30 AM
20 <b>COMMITMENT SUNDAY</b> 8:30 Traditional 10:00 Christian Ed 11:15 Contemporary 12:30 Band Rehearsal	21	22 Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM	23 <b>THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP</b> 7:00 PM	24 <b>A BLESSED THANKSGIVING TO ALL!</b>	25	26
27 8:30 Traditional 10:00 Christian Ed 11:15 Contemporary 12:30 Band Rehearsal	28	29 Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM  <b>ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT</b> 7:00 PM	30 <b>MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP</b> 7:00 PM	1 Men's Choir 7:00 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Sunday Choir 7:30 PM Christmas Choir 8:00 PM	2	3 Men in Prayer 7:30 AM  Christmas Choir 9:00 AM  Women's Choir 10:30 AM

## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP AND EDUCATION

Traditional Worship — 8:30 AM (communion 1st and 3rd Sundays)  
 Contemporary Worship — 11:15 AM (communion 2nd and 4th Sundays)  
 Christian Education Hour — 10:00 AM

## MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesdays, Women's Bible Study — 9:30 AM  
 Small Group In-Home Studies, call church office for details

**WORSHIP SERVANT SCHEDULE – NOVEMBER 2016**  
**PLEASE ARRANGE A SUB AND CALL THE CHAIRPERSON IF YOU CANNOT SERVE AS SCHEDULED. THANKS!**

**Altar Flowers** Dale Hernquist 781/862-8363  
**Altar Guild** Elise Hopkins 781/275-6115  
**Pianist/Organist** Gina Persson 978/312-1230  
**Acting Choir Director** Tyler Hoyt 978/502-9255  
**Office Administrator/Epistle Editor** Patricia Connery 781/275-6013

**The Lutheran Church  
of the Savior  
426 Davis Road  
Bedford, MA 01730  
Phone: 781/275-6013  
Fax: 781/275-9308  
www.lcsavior.org**

**Ushers (both services)** Sunny Thompson 978/663-9020  
**Nursery** Kate Henderson 603/930-9164  
**Host & Visitation** Patricia Connery 781/275-6013  
**Sunday School Coordinator** Vickie Friar 419/862-2132

**NOVEMBER 6**

**ALTAR FLOWERS**  
Kathy Schnitger  
The Harry Hoyt Family

**NURSERY**  
8:30 Peggy Wang  
11:15 Virginia McCormick

**USHERS**  
8:30 Ken Scheyder & Bob Browne  
11:15 Zal & Monika Heusen

**COMMUNION SERVANTS**  
8:30 Dave Hergert & Doug Cook

**ACOLYTES**  
8:30 Vincent Canciello  
11:15 Abigail MacLauchlan

**HOSTS**  
8:30 Carole Friedman  
11:15 *Volunteer Needed*

**VISITATION COORDINATOR**  
Karen Hergert

**NOVEMBER 13**

**ALTAR FLOWERS**  
Ray Kahre/Kathy Henze  
Rick & Kathy Russes

**NURSERY**  
8:30 Karen Clements  
11:15 Sage Veino

**USHERS**  
8:30 Bill Clements & Ernie Hollis  
11:15 Dale Hernquist & *Volunteer Needed*

**COMMUNION SERVANTS**  
11:15 Mike Cebry & Mark Johnson

**ACOLYTES**  
8:30 Dominic Cohen  
11:15 Caroline Tierney

**HOSTS**  
8:30 Hermayne Gordon & Gwen Paquette  
11:15 Janet Davis

**VISITATION COORDINATOR**  
Tricia Connery

**NOVEMBER 20**

**ALTAR FLOWERS**  
*Currently Available*

**NURSERY**  
8:30 Jenna Beck  
11:15 Brigitte Wise

**USHERS**  
8:30 Tim Benson & Patrick Gordon  
11:15 Sage Veino & *Volunteer Needed*

**COMMUNION SERVANTS**  
8:30 Bob Lamprecht & Jim Eggert

**ACOLYTES**  
8:30 Ethan Gierke  
11:15 Jared MacLauchlan

**HOSTS**  
8:30 Roger Parker & Dianne Carey  
11:15 David & Karen Hergert

**VISITATION COORDINATOR**  
Tricia Connery

**NOVEMBER 27**

**ALTAR FLOWERS**  
Patrick & Hermayne Gordon  
Walter & Beth Smith

**NURSERY**  
8:30 Diane Fonseca  
11:15 Mira Davis

**USHERS**  
8:30 Paul Strobel & Alex Jordan  
11:15 Silvia Dieckow & *Volunteer Needed*

**COMMUNION SERVANTS**  
11:15 Rod Sundet & Patrick Rezac

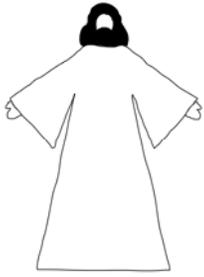
**ACOLYTES**  
8:30 Adam O'Brien  
11:15 Abigail MacLauchlan

**HOSTS**  
8:30 Jim & Lori Eggert  
11:15 Sunny Thompson

**VISITATION COORDINATOR**  
Tricia Connery

**COME,  
GIVE  
THANKS  
TO GOD!  
THANKSGIVING  
EVE WORSHIP  
Wed, Nov 23**





# OPEN ARMS Christian Preschool

By the time you read this, we will have been in school for seven weeks and the students and staff are settling in nicely! The new partitions have helped to better define the classrooms and have been lovingly decorated with the children's art work.

October kicked off with our annual field trip to Parlee Farms and had a total of 77 friends and families join us on a beautiful fall day! To end the month, the Bedford Fire Department came to Open Arms to educate the children through their SAFE Program. At that time, LCS and Open Arms presented representa-

tives from both the Bedford Police and Fire Departments each with a "thank you for your service" banner. Local residents signed them while visiting the LCS Booth on Bedford Day this year and then all of the preschool children and staff signed them. Open Arms is proud to celebrate our community!

The children continue to meet with Pastor Mark for Chapel each month and will be singing at the Senior Luncheon on Thursday, November 10. This month the teachers will be focusing on Praise and Thanksgiving for their November Bible lessons. At the end of the month each class will have its annual Thanksgiving Feast with the children singing songs to their families and sharing a lunch together.

Enrollment at OACP is always open. We thank God that we continue to grow with two new students who begin Open Arms November 1. Several families are looking at our preschool for their children in January. There will be an **Open House on Thursday, Nov 17 at 9:30 AM and 6:30 PM...** help spread the word. If you know of anyone interested in a faith-based, JOYFUL school, please have them contact Donna Wilson at 781-271-1148 or [openarmsbedford@lcsavior.org](mailto:openarmsbedford@lcsavior.org). Thank you for your encouragement and prayers for our amazing school!

## A WOMEN'S MINISTRY EVENT

# ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29



Ladies, you won't want to miss this year's Advent by Candlelight on **Tuesday, November 29 at 7:30 PM** in Luther Hall. Please plan to join us for an evening of fellowship, delicious desserts, and a time to prepare our hearts for the season of Advent. All women of The Lutheran Church of the Savior (high school age and older) are invited, and are encouraged to invite their friends to this lovely event. **Registration begins Sunday, November 6.**

*Hostesses are needed for Advent by Candlelight*  
Ladies, please share your gift of hospitality with our members and their guests at this year's Advent by Candlelight on Tues, Nov 29. We need hostesses to set the tables, make desserts, and serve our guests. There are jobs for all. If you are interested please contact Jennifer Gierke at [jenngierke@verizon.net](mailto:jenngierke@verizon.net).

## Open Arms Preschool Fundraiser!

Monday through Friday,

**November 14th - 18th**

Shop at Learning Express of Bedford November 14-18, let us know you're with the Open Arms Preschool and...

**20% of your purchase will be donated to Open Arms Preschool!**

May not be combined with any other offer, discount, or coupon. Cannot be used toward the purchase of Gift Cards. Because the donation has already been made, returns of products purchased at the fundraiser will be less 20%.

**Learning Express TOYS**  
...Always the perfect toy!

Bedford Marketplace - (Whole Foods Plaza) - 168 Great Rd - Bedford, MA - (781) 243-8697



# ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING

**Sun, Dec 11**

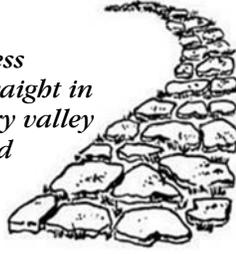
**ONE WORSHIP SERVICE  
at 9:00 AM for ALL  
followed by a time of  
fellowship and our then  
our meeting downstairs  
in Fellowship Hall**



# Lutheran Women's Missionary League

## Prepare the Way

*A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."* [Isaiah 40:3-5]



Please join us for our next meeting on **Tues, Nov 1 at 7:00 PM**. In honor of Veteran's Day, Jennifer Deluca, from the Fisher House of Boston will be our guest speaker. The Fisher House is a "home away from home" for families of patients receiving medical care at major military and VA medical centers. Jennifer will share the various programs offered through the Fisher House. Child care is available. Please contact Peggy Wang to make arrangements.

Join us as we embark on this path, preparing the way for our God to return to His people.

As part of our ongoing mission, we collect items for Lutheran World Relief's Project Promise. Project Promise Personal Care Kits are shared with people who have lost everything from a natural disaster or life-threatening violence. They will help people dealing with some of life's most difficult situations – the aftermath of earthquakes and floods, fleeing home to escape violence and living in extreme poverty. **November Mission Donation:** *Light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"×40" & 52"×27"), dark color recommended.*

These towels and other items will be assembled into Personal Care Kits that will be sent to Lutheran World Relief. When LWR distributes Personal Care Kits, it's often to people who have lost everything. In the wake of an earthquake, or having fled from violence as their homes were overtaken, they clasp a towel from a faraway place, with a bar of soap, a toothbrush...and washing up, they know that they have not been forsaken by the world.

The very simple gesture of giving a Personal Care Kit can give someone the encouragement to start anew, starting with a bath. You can share God's grace and love by providing that simple comfort.

We can't control when disasters strike and we can't end poverty overnight. But there are things we can do now to help people around the world reach their full potential. Learn how simple items can transform lives and how you can too. Watch for news about a big packing day in March.

For information about the LWML here at LCS or worldwide contact Peggy Wang at [peggywn@aol.com](mailto:peggywn@aol.com).

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN US...

### LWML-NED FALL RETREAT

November 4-5, 2016 • Enfield, CT

## Beautiful Feet

*"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, 'Your God reigns!'"* [Isaiah 52:7]

Are your feet running in all directions, aching to be put up, or longing to walk alongside others? No matter where you are in your faith walk, the Lord has equipped you with uniquely beautiful feet! **(Yes, your feet are beautiful!).** Join us as we "lift the lid" off several shoe boxes to examine various styles of shoes and learn how each represents a portion of our walk with the Lord! What is your "shoe size?" What makes truly beautiful feet? What has the Lord called your beautiful feet to do? Whether you shuffle, walk, boogie, or run, bring your beautiful feet to this year's New England District (NED) Fall Retreat! Prepare to be swept off your feet as we take a walk in the Word together, enjoy fabulous food and tasty treats (*you KNOW there will be chocolate!*), tap our toes to praise music, and kick up our heels, sharing encouragement, fellowship, and fun in Christ! Registration and health forms available at [www.lwml-ned.org](http://www.lwml-ned.org).

## TREASURER'S REPORT

*The Lutheran Church of the Savior rejoices that we have a gracious God who provides for our needs as He works through us to fulfill His plans. Here is the financial summary as of September 2016 (the last completed month as of publication submission date). Although our expenses remain less than the projected budget expectation, they exceed the actual General Fund Offerings and Other Income. Thank you for your continuing support of the Lord's ministry through LCS as you continue to generously share your blessings. Respectfully submitted, Betsy Drehman, Treasurer*

### Lutheran Church of the Savior Income Analysis for the Nine Months Ending September 30, 2016

	September 2016	Year to Date	Budget YTD	Variance to Budget
General Fund Offerings	28,464.76	315,550.92	349,250.18	(33,699.26)
General Fund Other Income	0.00	8,350.00	3,750.03	4,599.97
Total Expenses	42,270.33	359,826.70	383,194.73	23,368.03
Net Income/(Loss)	(13,805.57)	(35,925.78)	(30,194.52)	(5,731.26)

## 2017 FLOWER CHART

The sign up for 2017 altar flowers will be available mid-November. Please consider the gift of flowers to beautify our Lord's altar on Sunday mornings. If you have something to celebrate, someone to memorialize, or just a love of flowers, please sign up to donate the altar flowers for one or more Sundays.

*Here are the policies and procedures for 2017. Please read thoroughly before signing up for altar flowers.*

- Payments for altar flowers are processed through the church so checks should be made payable to "**Lutheran Church of The Savior**" with "**Sunday Altar Flowers**" in the memo line. You will receive a payment envelope with instructions for payment in your church mailbox.
- Payments for altar flowers are due **QUARTERLY** – payments for flowers for Jan, Feb, Mar will be due no later than Sunday, January 15; payments for flowers for Apr, May, Jun will be due no later than Sunday, March 12; payments for Jul, Aug, Sep will be due no later than Sunday, June 4; payments for Oct, Nov, Dec will be due no later than Sunday, September 10. Payment due dates **WILL** be noted on your payment envelope.
- The cost will be increasing for the coming year — only two families/individuals may sign up for each Sunday. The cost for **BOTH** altar arrangements is \$35.00 (or \$17.50 per family if you are sharing a Sunday with someone else). Payment owed will be indicated on the payment envelope you receive.

The arrangements are yours to take after the late service. They are either left by the altar after the service or are sometimes moved to the table outside the sanctuary doors. Please remove the arrangements from the brass flower bowls. If you want the flowers to be brought to someone who will enjoy them, please indicate this choice on the payment envelope that will be in your mailbox so that arrangements can be made.

Thank you to all those who filled the 2016 flower chart and who paid for their floral gifts in a timely manner. Please feel free to contact the church office if you have any comments, questions, or suggestions.

781-275-6013 • [church@lcsavior.org](mailto:church@lcsavior.org)

## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### *Events at LCS for All Ages*

#### **AFFINITY GROUPS: UPDATED DIRECTORY**

There have been a few additions and some deletions made to the Affinity Groups Directory. Copies have been distributed via the church mailboxes. Extras are available from the table by the main entrance under the large wall cross. We encourage you to use them to find others with similar interests and get together for fun and fellowship. For more information contact the church office at 781-275-6013 or [church@lcsavior.org](mailto:church@lcsavior.org).

#### **OKTOBERFEST POTLUCK**

Thank you to all who attended our fellowship potluck and enjoyed some delicious food as well as a festive atmosphere. There were also a few friendly but competitive games taking place that night too! A special thanks to the many hands who helped put this evening together.

#### **SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS**

Thank you to all those who have been welcoming folks to our Sunday services. We have a need for greeters, especially for the 11:15 service. Please consider just standing at the door and saying hi to folks coming in.

#### **VETERANS DAY PLANS**

Plans have been finalized for the cards to be distributed to veterans at the Bedford VA on **Friday, November 11**. If you would like to help with the Bedford VA event, please contact Gwen Paquette (978-828-4631).

#### **COMMITTEE MEETING**

Our committee meets the **third Tuesday of the month**. **The next meeting will be Tues, Nov 15 at 7:00 PM**. All are welcome to attend and we appreciate any ideas or suggestions, along with your help and participation! The Fellowship/Outreach Committee will be looking into finding Outreach Programs we can participate in – stay tuned, but please share anything you might be interested in doing with our committee.

*If there is some type of event or program you would like to suggest, please get the information with your name to one of the members of the Fellowship/Outreach Committee or Gwen Paquette, Box #166, 978-828-4631.*



**COME, GIVE THANKS TO GOD!**  
**THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP**  
**Wednesday, November 23 • 7:00 PM**

## **"GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES"**

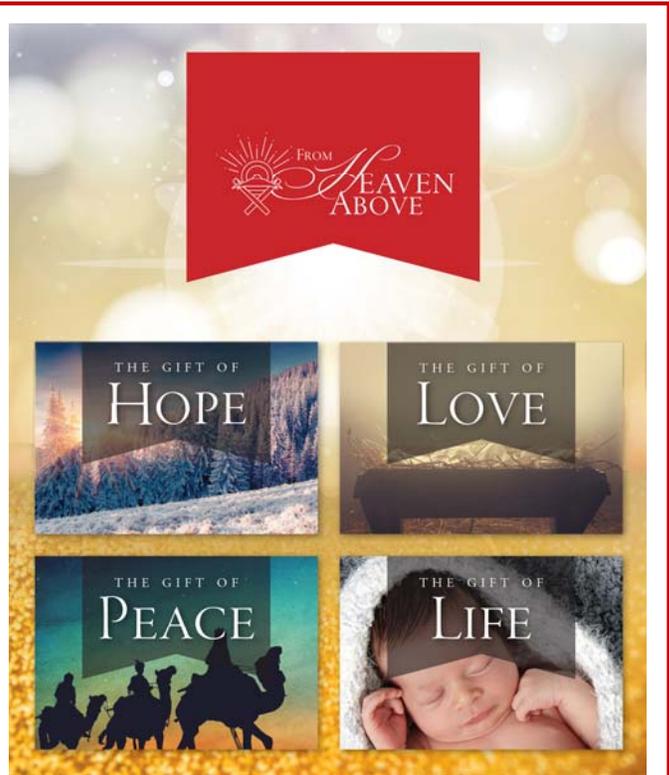
*(continued from page 1)*

and the circumstances leading to it are very real, Paul declares our true reality: "What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all – how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?" (8:31-32) It doesn't matter what the devil, the world, or our own sinful flesh may throw against us – no matter what bad or evil circumstances we may face or experience – *nothing* "will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (8:39b).

So, why does God permit us to suffer bad circumstances rather than just sending us the good ones to enjoy? That is an imponderable question which God does not answer in His Word. It is a question that can only be responded to with faith in the promises of God's Word – "...in all things God works for the good of those who love Him..." (8:26b). When, where, and how He will work that good we are not given to know, but that He *will* work good in all situations we can believe and trust – for Jesus is the guarantee. Therefore, we can "be joyful always; pray continually; and **GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES**, for this *is* God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Now... "May God Himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The One who calls you is faithful and He will do it" (1Thessalonians 5:23-24). **Thanks be to God!**

*Pastor Mark*



### **MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES**

*"From Heaven Above"*

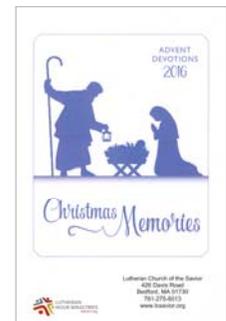
Wednesdays at 7 pm, Nov 30, Dec 7, 14, 21

Each week in the series, we will "unwrap" one of the precious treasures delivered to us in the holy Child wrapped in swaddling clothes. *Be sure to join us and invite a friend to join you!*

## *Advent Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries*

Thinking back on Christmases past is a fun way to reflect on the good old days. The wonderful lights and decorations, festive holiday atmosphere, warm family get-togethers, unforgettable melodies, and jovial Christmas cheer all make for pleasant memories. But, of course, our hearts aren't merry for these things alone. Christmas is the believer's celebration of the arrival of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, "who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a Servant, being born in the likeness of men" (Philippians 2:6-7).

Hallelujah! It is this Gift of God—His own beloved Son—whom we joyously adore with our hearts this Advent season. Jesus, who took on human flesh so that we might receive His divine redemption, is the One our Christmas memories turn to, worshipping and adoring Him for all He has done for us. Take time this holiday season to make Christmas memories that last – memories that lovingly honor the birth of your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



**SIGN UP FOR A PAPER COPY by the main entrance or go to [www.lhm.org/advent](http://www.lhm.org/advent) to have daily devotions emailed to you directly from Lutheran Hour Ministries**

*Available as an e-mail subscription as well as a podcast.*