

The Parish Voice

St. Thomas Lutheran Church — Streetsboro, Ohio

November 2019

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

“And be thankful.”

With those three words (Colossians 3:15b) St. Paul adds a dimension to his instructions to the Colossians that transforms those instructions.

The duties to which Paul summons these Christians (and all of us, as well) are: *“As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”* (Colossians 3:12-17 *NRSV*)

This is how Christians are to live in the world and in community with one another. But smack dab in the middle of all of these directives comes that phrase, *“And be thankful.”* It is as if Paul wants us to know that, whatever may come our way — good or bad, beneficial or

harmful, joyous or sorrowful — we meet it all with thanks.

This is not always easy to do. When life tosses grenades onto our path, we don’t think of giving thanks. Rather, we are inclined to complain, sometimes most bitterly. If this is our honest reaction to events or circumstances, then by all means we need to express it — and should express it to God. The giving thanks part comes when we realize that we can thus lament before God and that God makes His presence known to us, not just in good things, but in the midst of some of life’s most awful goings-on.

So we can gripe. We can moan. We will cry. We will hurt. We may become frustrated, dejected, or angry. There will be times of laughing, cheering, and celebrating. There will be times of victory, accomplishment, and blessing. We can voice our praise, our joy, our hope.

But we need always to keep in mind these three words: *“And be thankful.”* For, in the midst of what life throws our way, God is at work in it all, working for our good. As we approach Thanksgiving Day, let’s not limit our thanks to a big meal or even a bountiful harvest. Let’s offer up thanks for all that God is doing in our lives and, above all, that He is with us.

Our Worship This Month

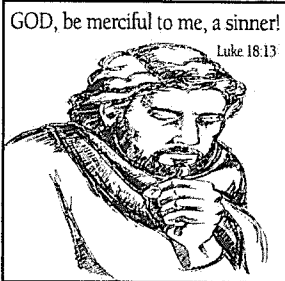


November 3 — All Saints Sunday

Sermon: *"Saints Are Supposed to . . ."*

Texts: Daniel 7:1-3,15-18; Psalm 149; Ephesians 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31

In Luke's version of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gives instruction on the behaviors His saints are to follow. How are we doing?



November 10 — Pentecost XXII

Sermon: *"Humble Truth"*

Texts: Jeremiah 14:7-10,19-22; Psalm 98; 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-19;
Luke 18:9-14

In the familiar parable of the Pharisee and the Publican we discover the real value of humility.



November 17 — Pentecost XXIII

Sermon: *"Never Tire of Doing Good"*

Texts: Malachi 4:1-6; Isaiah 12; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19

St. Paul gives instructions on living as a Christian community. Such community may be scattered in differing locations.

On Sunday, November 17, our Special Guest will be Mrs. Diane Zelmer, Director of the Redeemer Crisis Center in Cleveland, one of the English District's outreach ministries. Diane will share the work of the Center both in our worship and with time after church.



November 24 — Christ the King

Sermon: *"The Cosmic Christ"*

Texts: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 122; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

Paul expresses a hymn of praise to his Lord, and provides us with ample reasons to offer our praise for His Kingship.

A community Thanksgiving Service is being planned to be held at Streetsboro United Methodist Church on Tuesday, November 26 at 7:00 PM. Pastor Just will be part of the service (what part has not yet been determined). Watch the bulletin of Sundays for update information.

Musical at Gloria Dei Lutheran in Hudson

Re-telling the Biblical story of Esther, this musical will take place on Sunday, November 10, 2019.

An intergenerational cast of singers, actors and instrumentalists are coming together to present a musical retelling of the Biblical story of Esther on Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 3:00 PM and 7:00 PM. at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church on 2113 Ravenna Street in Hudson.

Libby Tritten, a senior at Stow High School, will play the leading role of Star Linden, an inner city girl who sings her way into the heart of a powerful corporate mogul. Using her voice and her feminine influence, Star saves her people from being displaced to a neighborhood filled with toxic waste.

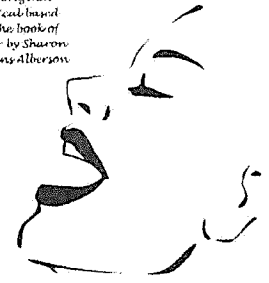
Filled with romance, suspense and humor, "A Star for Freedom," which premiered at the Quick Center for the Performing Arts at Fairfield University in 1999, is one of eight faith-based musicals written by Sharon Alberson, Director of Music Ministries at Gloria Dei-Hudson.

A free-will offering will benefit Rahab Ministries, a non-profit whose mission is to help stop human trafficking through outreach, mentoring, safe housing, jail ministry, education and training.

The public is invited. There is no cost to attend. Please call the church office at 330-650-6550 to reserve your spot.

A Star for Freedom

An original
musical based
on the book of
Esther by Sharon
Dobbes Alberson



St. John Lutheran Church, 11333 Granger Road in Garfield Heights, Ohio presents "The Grand Tour" piano recital by Alexander Kostritsa, on Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 3:00 PM. Alexander is originally from Moscow, Russia and has been living in Cleveland since 2011.

Pray for Mr. Bryon Black II (Director of Music) and The Chancel Choir of Tallmadge Lutheran Church in Tallmadge, Ohio as they travel to perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City on November 14-17, 2019 with Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY)

*Thank
you!*

Kristine and I want to express our deep thanks for the honor you bestowed on us in celebrating our 50th Wedding Anniversary on October 19. Even though the actual anniversary is not until November 29, we understand the need to celebrate early to keep it a surprise — and a surprise it was! We're also very pleased that you made contact with former members from Epiphany in Northfield to join us. A blessed night for the two of us, and we hope for everyone else who came. [Good food, too!]

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Abigail Ayers	Trudy Ayers	Bill Crile	Jim Doerfler
Deb Earle	Cory Hautmann	Linda Hautmann	Nicole Johnson
Pastor Just	Lorene Kozar	Joe Lenno	Ken Nicely II
Kenny Nicely III	Ken Nicely IV	Carol Poston	Heather Poston
Amy Rohaley	Ron Stenglein	Agnes Whinnie	Rory Wolff
Barb Alcorn	Alice Artman	Roger Black	Michael Brooks
Joyce Cavanaugh	Franklin Conn	Scott Corban	Tom Corban
Christine Combs	Claire Coumos	Dan Crile	Joe Fishcone
Martin Goss	Kathy Gault	Karen Groves	Mr. Joe
Steve Kolar	Vince Koza	Brad Kozar	Sharon Kress
Suzanne Latham	Bob Mandau	Frank Manijak	John Retherford
Art Robinson	Deb Rosenlib	Tim Tolodzieski	Steve & Sarah Tolodzieski
Petrina Twigger	Tara Vargo	Jon Yenulonis	John Yurkschatt

Mr. Steve Gerhard
The Gardens of Western Reserve
9975 Greentree Parkway
Streetsboro, OH 44241-4328

Mrs. Audrey Holland
4552 Aspen Lake Road
Apartment 102
Brunswick, OH 44212-4582

Mrs. Eunice Haschak
Avenue at Macedonia
9730 Valley View Road
Macedonia, Ohio 44056

Our College Students—Grace Rohaley, Abigail Ayers, Corey Hautmann and Joanna Nicely
Our College Graduate—Stephen Nicely

If there is anyone you would like to add or delete from this list, please let Marla Manijak know. You can reach her at 330-626-5120 or fill out one of the cards in the pew and put in offering plate.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays

3-Geri Antwright
9-Ken Nicely III
17-Grace Rohaley
24-Amy Rohaley
29-Thomas Ayers



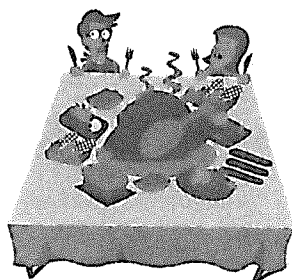
NOVEMBER BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Baptism Birthdays

4-Stephanie Johnson
14-Jarid Phillips
29-Sam Nicely

THE SEASON OF GIVING

As November arrives and our thoughts turn to Thanksgiving dinner, now is the time to think about helping those less fortunate than us. There will be a basket out in the Narthex to collect food for the Community Pantry to help with their Thanksgiving Baskets that they provide for our community. We will be collecting until November 17th. But keep that giving spirit in your hearts because we will be doing something for Christmas also. Thanks!



1 + 1 + 1 giving

We, along with other English District congregations, are raising money to help our missionaries spread the good news of Jesus. 1+1+1 means \$1 per member each Sunday. There is a plastic box in the narthex under the bulletins for you to place your \$1 each Sunday. Because of the break-in we are now emptying the box each Sunday. It will be posted each Sunday in the Offering List. Thank you for your donations!

Also being collected are pop can tabs for Thrivent and cancelled postage stamps for an organization in Kent. Thank you for your donations!

CONGREGATION MEETING

Our annual congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, December 8 after the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. We would love to see everyone join us. Coffee and donuts will be provided.

RAVENNA COMMUNITY CHOIR

The Ravenna Community Choir will be holding their Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 8 at the Ravenna Assembly of God on S.R. 14 at 3:00 p.m. They will also be hosting a basket raffle of over 30 baskets after the concert is over. Tickets can be purchased before the concert and during intermission. Deb Wolff and Marla Manijak are members of the choir and would love for you to join us for an afternoon of wonderful music.

WEBSITE

If you haven't checked out our church website yet, please do and let Del Groff know how you like it or if there is something you would like to see added. The website is www.stthomasstreetsboro.com

Our October-December Portal of Prayers devotionals are available now. You can find them on the table by the door.

Council will be meeting in November on the 17th at 11:30 in the fellowship hall. All members are welcome to sit in on the meeting. New ideas are always appreciated.

Contact Person: Please call Pastor Just at 216-789-6688 or Council President Steve Hlava at 330 422-1959 for any emergencies or questions. Pastor Just is in the office on Thursdays from 8:00-4:00.

St. Thomas Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 2247
9042 State Route 43
Streetsboro, OH 44241

Change Service Requested

THE PARISH VOICE NEWSLETTER

Office: 330-626-4945

Pastor Just office hours—Thursdays 8:00-4:00

Cell Phone (216) 789-6688 Email: doctorjust@gmail.com

Web Site: www.stthomasstreetsboro.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

BIBLE STUDY 9:00 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 A.M.

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 A.M.
