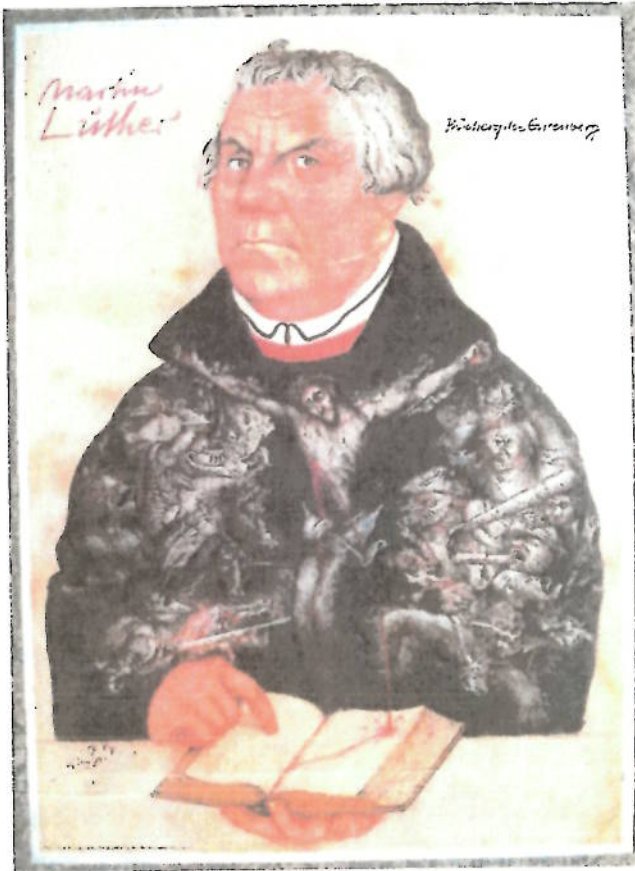


The Parish Voice

St. Thomas Lutheran Church – Streetsboro, Ohio

October 2023



“When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, ‘Repent,’ he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance.”
(Martin Luther, 95 Theses, Thesis 1)

Many Lutherans know this month for the anniversary of the Reformation on October 31st. This day marks the day that Luther (according to tradition) nailed the 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. Posting theses for discussion was a customary way of advertising an upcoming debate. Nonetheless, many Lutheran scholars do not believe Luther was actually a “Lutheran” at this point in his career. He still believed in a form of works of righteousness in which one’s level of humility and contrition over sin gratified the sinner before God. That is to say, he viewed repentance as a good work that could get one into the good graces of God. It was not until later that Luther would come to understand what a true life of repentance consisted of. Properly understood, the Christian life is a life of repentance. Christ called people to “repent and believe the Gospel” (Mark 1:15).

What is this life of repentance our Lord calls us to? The Lutheran Confessions say that repentance consists of two parts: 1) A recognition of our sin and contrition over it, and 2) trust in God’s promise that He has forgiven our sins on account of Christ Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection (AC XII.3-4). Notice how this definition of repentance concurs with what our Lord calls us to do in Mark 1:15. He calls us to repent, that is, recognize our sins, and believe in the Gospel, the forgiveness of sins that He merits for us. Since we remain sinners in this life, we never get beyond this life of confessing our sins to God our Father and receiving the free forgiveness of sins through God’s word of forgiveness, the Gospel, and Sacraments. It is the reception of the forgiveness of sins through faith that puts us in the right relationship with God. For this reason, the Christian’s life is a wash, rinse, and repeat of repentance and forgiveness.

We find this pattern of living in the proclamation of the Apostles as well: “Repent, and be baptized every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins....” (Acts 2:38) We practice this life of repentance every day by examining our lives with the Ten Commandments, through which we discover where we have fallen short of God’s will, and then remembering our baptism, the promise that we have once and for all been baptized into Christ’s death for the forgiveness of our sins and His resurrection for our right standing with God. Like Luther and all the saints throughout their earthly lives, we remain sinners on this side of Glory, so we never move beyond repentance and faith in the Gospel. But what a wonderful state to find oneself in, for Jesus says, “I came not to call the righteous, but sinners” (Mark 2:17).

Pastor

BIBLE STUDIES



Join us for Bible Studies at Christ Lutheran and St. Thomas.

Bible studies at Christ Lutheran, Mantua will be on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. on the sermon text from the previous Sunday.

Bible studies at St. Thomas will be on Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m.. This study is called "Who is Jesus?" and will be over the personal claims that Jesus makes about Himself in the Gospels.

These studies are open to all members and guests from both churches. We hope you will be able to make one or both of these studies.

COFFEE CLUTCH

Have you ever been to a coffee clutch? Well now's your chance! Join us Thursday mornings from 9:00-10:30 for some coffee and to talk about anything you want. There have been some great conversations! All are welcome to join in! See you this Thursday.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Looking for a way to help out during the service on Sundays. Volunteers are needed for Lectors, Ushers, Communion, Singers and refreshment hosts.

A sign up sheet is in the Narthex to sign up for Lectors. Another sheet is being added for Ushers, Communion helpers. If you would like to help out singing during communion or offering, see Marla. She would love to have more voices. Refreshments are being served in the Fellowship Hall once again. The Ayers/Torres families have volunteered to provide refreshments for the month of September. A sign up sheet will be available for Sundays in October. It is wonderful to be able to meet with our friends socially after the worship. Join us this Sunday.

CHURCH WORKER APPRECIATION MONTH

October is Church Worker Appreciation Month. "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." says Paul in Philippians (1:3-6). With this same gratitude, we thank all our church workers who help keep our ministries progressing, who teach God's Word and point us to Christ. We thank you all!



STEWARDSHIP

We are looking for a few volunteers to head up our stewardship committee. It's an exciting time here at St. Thomas and we're looking towards our future growth. Come use or develop your skills in the area of stewardship. Help create a great vision and plan for our future. See Steve Hlava for more information on this committee. Thank you for your help!



SPAGHETTI DINNER

A spaghetti dinner is being planned for Saturday, November 18 at 6:00 p.m. to thank all our members for being the special people you are. We are growing and it is all thanks to you. Join us for some delicious spaghetti and more.

We are going to have a White Elephant gift exchange as part of our entertainment. Bring a used, new or funny wrapped gift and we'll play a game to give them away. Mark your calendars today so you don't miss this fun event!

CATHECHISM CLASSES

Confirmation classes will be starting on Saturday, Oct. 6 at 1:00 p.m. at the parsonage at Christ Lutheran Church in Mantua. Any child in Middle School and up is encouraged to join this class. Any questions please see Pastor Blake or call him at the church on Thursdays or his cell at 989-372-5318.

BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS

Big Brothers/Sisters defend, ignite and empower the potential in youth by providing one-to-one mentoring between you ages 6-15 and adult volunteers ages 18+ who act as friends and mentors for their matched youth.

The volunteer picks up their youth from their home, they go out into the community 2-3 times per month for a minimum of 6 hours every month and they do whatever they want to do as long as it's age appropriate and something that they are interested in. They would like the match to stay together for at least a year, and if all goes well, then they can stay in a match until the youth turns 18.

They also have a site-based plus program. This program is new and will start as soon as there are 25 matches for the program. It will be based at the King Kennedy Community Center in Ravenna and the matches will meet 3 times per month for a year where a staff member will provide the activities or you have the option of meeting up on your own in the community.

Volunteers can start the process by going to BBBS.org, selecting "Get involved" and inputting their info. Once a volunteer has done this, BBBS staff will contact you and further explain the program and the process that you can expect.

They would love to hear from you today.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Gilbert Ayers	Kathy Brashear	Palagia Hlava	Stephanie, Gabe & Nicole
Lorene Kozar	Carol Poston	Heather Poston	Becky Larkins & Rowan
Patty Abramovich	Adalyn	Diane Altier	Ray Bishop
Archer Bradshaw	Barb Basmagy	Carl	Russ & Lana Carnes
Shirley Corban family	Billy Earle Jr.	Evelyn French	Dennis Fuldauer
Daniel Gump	Mary Hardesty	Lance	Laurance Jeanblanc
Steve Mamber	Frank Manijak	Amanda Nicely	Larry Powell
Don Thornton	Bennie Wegener	Renee White	Ukraine refugees
COVID-19 patients	All Natural disaster victims especially those in Maui		

We would love to have updates on our prayer list. If you have good news about someone on this list please let the church know or call Marla at 330-472-3045. Thank you!

Our shut-ins—please send them a card

Carole Poston 12790 Chamberlain Aurora, OH 44202	Lorene Kozar 8460 Westport Dr. #225 Mentor, Oh 44060
--	--

Our College Students—Grace Rohaley, Abigail Ayers, Corey Hautmann, Thomas Ayers, Jenna Zimmerman, Jacob Zimmerman

Our Military members—Troy Roman and Ben Wolff

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays

3-Kim Kinder
3-Kathy Brashear
7-Joe Earle
9-Jim Doerfler
15-Stephanie Johnson
17- Abigail Ayers
20-Madelyn Ayers
24-Linda Beuck
27-Linda Hautmann
31-Brianne Wolff



OCTOBER BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Baptism Birthdays

9-Trudy Ayers
13-Joanna Nicely
13-Gilbert Ayers
13-Thomas Ayers
20-Nick Phillips
Steve Hlava

Happy Anniversary to...
4-Keith & Becky Larkins

If anyone has been left off this list or any other list, please let Marla Manijak know so she can add you. I would love birthdays and anniversaries and baptism birthdays if you know when it is. Thanks!

Our prayers are with the families in Maui, Hawaii on the devastating fires that destroyed the island. To help out these families you can make a donation by marking your envelope or check MAUI and we will make sure Lutheran Missions Ministry gets your donation. They are doing a great job helping these families.

Please remember the families of Streetsboro by donating to the Streetsboro Community Pantry with a monetary donation or food donation. You can do this through the church through your offering or placing food items in the basket in the Narthex.

Deb Wolff has pickles ready. Please bring back your empty jars and she will fill them up again. The pickles are delicious!!

Becky Larkins is collecting Paper towels and toilet paper rolls for craft projects. Also 2 litre plastic bottles. You may give them to Deb Wolff. Thank you!

Deb Wolff is collecting bottle caps for Ohio Easter Star Home. They will be using them to make park benches. Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who came out on Sept. 23 for our fall cleanup day. Your help was greatly appreciated. There are still items on the list that need to be done. See Del for further information.

Church Council will be meeting Sunday, October 15 after the worship service. If there is something you would like the council to work on, please let one of the council members know. They are Steve Hlava, president, Del Groff, Guy Jeanblanc, Joyce Torres, Deb Wolff and Marla Manijak.

Contact Person: Please call Pastor Blake Martzowka at the church on Thursdays from 9-3 at 330-626-4945 or on his cell phone 989-372-5318 for emergencies or Council President Steve Hlava at 330 422-1959 for any emergencies or questions.

Finance Report

TREASURERS REPORT - Month of AUGUST 2023

	Current Month:	Current YTD	Prior YTD:
TOTAL INCOME - General Fund Only	5728.12	51217.51	39126.84
TOTAL EXPENSE - General Fund Only	5045.68	41220.28	37776.75
NET GAIN (LOSS)	682.44	9997.23	1350.09
TOTAL INCOME - Special Funds (See Below)	81.10	2245.10	663.84
TOTAL EXPENSE - Special Funds (See Below)	58.09	303.27	503.82
NET GAIN (LOSS)	23.01	1941.83	160.02
Average General Fund Income Per Week	1432.03	1463.36	1117.91
Amount needed to meet expense budget - per week	<u>1292.31</u>		

Special Funds include:

Special Building/Property, Pastor's Second Chance, Memorial Gifts, New Building, Lutheran Women's Group, 5th Sunday Benevolence

STEWART FESTIVAL

PUMPKINS-FOOD-FUN ITENERARY

Pumpkin Patch opens 10am- 6pm

12pm Fall Festival Opens

- Chili & baked potato bar (donations welcome)
- Raffle Basket table opens
- Kids games open
- Registration for pet costume contest opens

2PM- Special Craft

3PM- Pet Costume Parade and Contest

Awards immediately after

5PM- Pumpkin Hunt (like Easter Egg)

6-PM Movie under the sky

pull up a haybale and enjoy

7 OCTOBER, 2023

PUMPKIN PATCH 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

HAY MAZE - CHILI- CRAFTS- KIDS GAMES 12:00 PM

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

10027 MAIN ST, MANTUA

PUMPKIN PATCH

Open Saturday's

10am to 6pm

Sundays 9am to 12pm

or until we sell out



MORE DETAILS

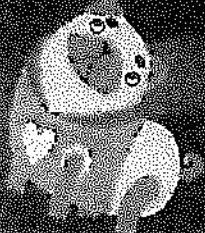
SCAN HERE



OUTDOOR MOVIE
8PM

IT'S A GREAT PUMPKIN
SHAVEL PRODUCE





CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Halloween PET COSTUME CONTEST



Prizes Supplied by Pet Supplies Plus Streetsboro
3 Local Judges - Fun fab prizes!

7th

**FUNNIEST, BEST DUO/GROUP, BEST OVERALL
& MOST CREATIVE COSTUMES**



CHECK OUT OUR FALL FESTIVAL
FB PAGE

Registration in advance
or in person (please come early)
www.mantualutheranchurch.org



PET SUPPLIES PLUS.
GREAT PRICES. NO BEGGING.

**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
Web Site: www.stthomasstreetsboro.com**

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

**TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 A.M.
IN CHURCH PARKING LOT ON CHANNEL 96.9 FM**

LIVE ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

OR PLEASE JOIN US INSIDE

WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU!!