From the Pastor's Desk

FIRST EDITION
NOVEMBER 2019

"We are called by God to grow in faith together, sharing Christ's love with each other and our community"

Where does your energy, time and all of your talents go? Family, work, volunteering and of course our church? And as far as the church goes, what shall we support? What gets the most attention and is at top of our list? What is it that shall we do for the good of the church, our neighbors and the world? There are so many great projects and we are so blessed to have God's church to serve, yet is there a line to draw in the sand and if so where do we draw it?

Right where it is at is going to be great I would say. These last few weeks God's Church that we are allowed to serve for Jesus Christ has been busy. And this is good. We have so many activities and projects going on all for the good of the world, the church, our community and each one of us individually. First Lutheran Church and every person that belongs here is a part of the bigger picture, yet I would venture to guess that we all have priorities that come to the top of the list that we will give to and support above and beyond what we give and do in our lives, because they are important to us.

This is good. And I thank each and every one of you for working together and for using your passion and energy no matter what that project or where you use your talents as we serve God's Kingdom. We gather as a church to worship, hear the Gospel, hear that our sins are forgiven and then go out into the world doing what we can for the betterment of the world. We do all to further the Kingdom of God in the world and we want what is best for all of God's people. Everyone is welcome, no exceptions. Thanks for walking together with each other in this wonderful and exciting venture.

This month we celebrate and bring our gifts and statements of intend to the altar on November 3rd, 2019 at Worship on All Saints Day. How wonderful to celebrate our church with all the Saints before us and working now for the kingdom. We give thanks for all who have supported and given their time and talents for the work that has been done and continued as we go forward in Christ.

November 27th we will have our third annual "Thanksgiving Dinner Church." This will begin at 5 pm with dinner, Worship and Holy Communion all in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us. This will be in lieu of 7 pm Worship.

The Thanksgiving Community Meal will be held at First Lutheran on November 28th, 2019. Sign-up sheets will be available as we join together to assist in this marvelous endeavor.

Advent begins on Sunday, December 1st as we wait and experience the Birth of Christ. We will be having 11:30 am simple soup and bread, Wednesday services on December 4th, 11th and 18th with portions of the Holden Evening Prayer. We will have the Holden Evening Service December 4th and 11th at 7pm and Blue Christmas on December 18th, at 7 pm. And then…….well you know what's coming. We wait, we anticipate we give thanks.

In Gratitude and Thanksgiving,
Pastor Brenda

Because of God's Great Mercy

a stewardship program for our congregation

Sunday, November 3rd

"Because of God's Great Mercy" is the title of our stewardship emphasis this year. The scriptural basis of focus on our stewardship of all that God has entrusted into our care is I Peter 2:9, "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness and into his marvelous light."

We begin by proclaiming all that God has done for us, hence the title "Because of God's Great Mercy." God had made us God's own people. We will also consider how generous giving is an important part of every Christian's life, and how our combined generosity can make even greater things possible through our congregation.

We will think together about how our giving to First Lutheran is an important part of our Christian faith, and how First Luther uses our offerings to do God's work within the congregation's walls, in our community, and around the world.

"Because God's Great Mercy" will ask you to do two things. First, you will be asked to increase your giving to First Lutheran by at least ½ of 1$ of your household income. Second, you will be asked to consider using an automatic funds transfer program that First Lutheran already has in place for your giving.

"Because of God's Great Mercy" will use mail, e-mail, and time in worship to share information with you. Please make a special effort to watch for material during this important time in our congregation's life.

Women of the ELCA

Women's Bible Study's ongoing mission project.

We ask members to join us and bring **washcloths** during the month of **November** for homeless packets. Please put them in the basket marked "Homeless Packets" in the cabinet in Narthex. Thank You.

We only processed two new books this month, one children's book and one adult book (but maybe of interest to teens, kids.)

Children's' Book:
Precious Moments Bedtime Stories

Adult (non-fiction, biography) Book:
Adam Thielen

Prayer Concerns ~ (Names will be on for one month unless requested longer.) Carol Bostrom, Max Tatting, Dorothy Svendsen, Reverend Delwayne Hahn, Diane Lunder, Bruce Zehms(nephew of Joyce Seegebarth), John Jabe, Leigha Ness (Pastor Brenda's great-niece), Larry Garaghty, Judy Oredson, Debbie Amerine (niece of Joyce Seegebarth), and Barbara Ekberg (sister of Loretta Sprado).

For our members in care facilities ~ Ruta Kalnins, Nancy Nelson, Freida Pfahl, and Max Tatting

For our missionaries Jacqueline and Patrick Bencke.

We pray for those men and women who serve and protect us: Firefighters, EMT's, those in the armed forces and law enforcement officers.

November

11/2	Tom Swaim	**11/9**	Jody Storlie	**11/19**	Lee Guilliams
	Bella Ziegler	**11/10**	Dalton Davis		Katori Fae Samuelson-McCormick
11/3	Donna Martin	**11/12**	Shirley Allen	**11/21**	Dana Marks
	Joanne Richards		Amanda Robbins	**11/23**	Krista Matson
	Kathy Thompson	**11/14**	Rylie Kreger	**11/24**	Tom Robbins
11/4	Alaina Hartl		Bridget Reamer	**11/29**	Pat McCarthy
11/5	Mariah Haugen	**11/15**	Diane Maser		Kyle Nicholson
11/6	Jason Thom	**11/17**	Rick Bicking	**11/30**	Adam Alexander
11/8	Peggy Cahoon	**11/18**	Jay Kreger		Shane Koski

†Octogenarians ***Please let us know if there are any corrections or additions. Thank You!**

Dinner Church
November 27th
5 pm

Join us at 5 pm for "Dinner Church", November 27th! We will gather together for a meal and fellowship that will include Worship and Holy Communion. Participate in this new worship and dinner as we give thanks to God for all our blessings and give thanks and prayers.

NO 7 PM WORSHIP SERVICE

Baptized at our font on October 20th was Milo Jeffrey Mans, son of Jeffrey and Alison Mans. His sponsors are Nate and Ashley Bialke. His congregational sponsors are Charles and Ann Mans. We welcome Milo into the family of God at First Lutheran.

Remember if you cannot serve, to please find your own substitute. Thank You!

November 2019	Lector	Assistant	Acolyte	Element Presenters	Coffee Servers
3 Sun. All Saints Day (white)	Rev. Jack Koch	Diane Ausmus	Josie Kordiak Ben Strauch	Ron and Lana Jensen	Joe Cappuccino and Carole Lahti
6 Wed. (green)	Youth	Youth	Bella Zeigler		
10 Sun. (green)	Troy Tvedt	Deanna Gorsegner	Val Belgard Bryan Blowers	Donna Martin Robin Hendrix	Colleen and Dennis Volden
13 Wed. (green)	Youth	Youth	Griffin Stiel		
17 Sun. (green)	Carole Lahti	Elliot Golly	Evelyn Klein Devon Mulder	Dennis and Colleen Volden	Donna Martin Kathy Thompson
20 Wed. (green)	Youth	Youth	Lainey Johnson		
24 Sun. Christ the King (white)	Linda Libra	Wendy Reamer-Johnson	Adam Nelson Libby Pahkala	Kevin and Nancy Stephenson	**OPEN**
27 Wed. Dinner Church (white)	Youth	Youth	**NO ACOLYTE NEEDED**		

Greeters

Nov. 3-Gale Vayder

Nov. 10-OPEN

Nov. 17-OPEN

Nov. 24-Elaine Garaghty

If you can help greeting, please contact the church office. Thank you.

Altar Guild

Donna Martin
Kathy Thompson

All Board Meeting

November 25th
Property
Devotions

Out To Lunch Bunch
November 14
10:45 am

Brass Rail, Grandy

Dirk Nelson
John Shober

Community Meal and Farmer's Market
November 12th
5-6 pm

All your children shall be taught by the LORD, and great shall be the peace of your children. Isaiah 54:13

Faith in Action:

Reminder that Faith in Action will be every Wednesday night from 5:00-7:00 It is still not too late to join or volunteer. YOUTH GROUP will be from 7:30 -8:30 for 7th – 12th graders will follow the same schedule as FiA. There will not be FiA or Youth Group November 27th (Thanksgiving break) there will be dinner worship.

Soup and Sandwich Fundraiser November 9th money raised will go to Youth Mission trip and Women on A Mission service projects this year. Please sign up to donate or serve and help support both great ministries of our church.

Wreath and outdoor Christmas displays – please get your wreath or Christmas display from the youth this year! Work night will be November 7th from 3:30 – 6:30 . We are also in need of decorations so if you have bulbs, bows, ribbons, and pinecones or any other Christmas supplies you would like to donate we would appreciate it☺

November community meal will be hosted by the Youth – November 12th – please sign up with Mindy to help volunteer, set up will start after school. Meal is from 5-6 and clean up will go until 7 pm.

Middle School Gathering: Nov.22nd – 23rd for 6th – 9th grade. Theme: Ten Commandments. Leave church at 3:30 pm and return Saturday 2:30 pm. All info on youth bulletin board.

Christmas Service project retreat: 6th – 12th grade

We will spend a weekend in the cities working with Salvation Army (Bell ringing), Harbor Light (Soup Kitchen), Mary's Place and Feed my starving children. We will also go to Christmas light displays and Holidazzle village. Cost will be $25. Dates and forms will be out soon.

Christmas service project night: packing will be November 20th from 5- 6:30pm – please donate small toys, crayons, coloring books, school supplies or shoe boxes and wrapping paper. We will also be filling back packs for Lutheran World relief and sewing t shirt diapers for Global Health Ministries. Please donate or join in

Thank you to everyone who volunteers, donates to, and prays for our Youth and Family Program☺

Youth and Women on a Mission
Soup/Sandwich/Craft and Bake Sale

Saturday, November 9th
9 am- 1:30 pm
First Lutheran Church, Hinckley

If you would like to bring bake sale items or crafts items for this fundraise, it would be appreciated OR if you would like to make a financial donation, you may do so by using your offering envelope, just circle under WELCA "Craft/Soup" on back or turn in cash donations (marked Craft/Soup) by Nov.3rd

Please help us make our day a successful one.

If you would like to help or have questions???
Contact Mindy Johnson

Please join us for our

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 28th
Noon-2 pm
First Lutheran Church-301 Lawler Ave. South

Join your community to celebrate this day in the true spirit of Thanksgiving-Turkey and all the trimmings, homemade!

Reservations Appreciated by November 24th

(Home delivery and pick-up is also available upon request.)
Robin Hendrix – 320-279-0961 *Lois Kunze- 320-384-6399*

Everyone Welcome!
GOOD FOOD-GOOD FELLOWSHIP

We also will need workers on Tuesday, November 26th at 6 pm to do food prep for dinner and workers to help serve, clean-up, etc. on Thursday, November 28th.
Sign-up sheets will be on the Usher's table in Narthex.

We are in need of people to help with:

Greeters –If you are willing, we need someone to replace Terry McConnell to find greeters. If you are interested, please call the church office 320-384-6393.

Coffee servers-call Elaine Garaghty 763-229-1035

Lectors and Worship Assistants, please call church office 320-384-6393.

Thank You!

First Lutheran Church
301 Lawler Avenue South
P.O. Box 459
Hinckley, MN 55037

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