

Eben-Ezer Lutheran Church November 2018 Newsletter

Ministry Message: Matthew 6:25-33

[Jesus said,] ²⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” (NRSV)

We worry about so many things! We constantly worry about our jobs, our families, the economy, politics, the state of the world. There is no end to what and how often we worry. Worry can, and does, make us sick. It shortens our life. It degrades the quality of our life and our relationships and our enjoyment of all of God’s blessings. Worry has no place in our life, and yet, we give it primary importance in so many ways and in so many settings. It’s enough to drive us to despair – and it often does!

Jesus has a word or two to say about worry. In the passage above, from the Sermon on the Mount, found in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus encourages us to let go of worry. Jesus admonishes us to turn to God and to thank God for all that we have, rather than worry about what we may be lacking. Jesus calls us to pray, to praise God, to seek God’s guidance, to thank God and to be satisfied with the blessings which God bestows on us in so many ways.

And above all, Jesus urges us to trust. We are to trust that God will provide for our needs and lift us up in blessings. Even though we suffer in so many ways. Even when we are sick or our life is broken, God still loves us and cares for us and blesses us beyond measure. It is difficult at times to see God’s hand at work in our lives but God is always there for us. Even in the most difficult of times we are called to trust God’s grace and mercy for our lives.

As we enter this time of Thanksgiving I pray that you will know God’s blessings for your life all year long. I hope that you will call upon God for all of your needs and trust that God will provide for your care. And I hope that you will extend God’s grace and blessings to others so that all may come to know God’s love.

Peace, Pastor Ken

FAMILY DAY – THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who made Family Day 2018 such a success. Special thanks to the Zionsville Worship Band for leading a Polka Worship. And to Kyle Neutzler and his family for grilling the hamburgers and hotdogs with all the fixings. Thank you also to those who donated the barrel train, bouncy house, bingo prizes and other items for the day.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY WORSHIP, NOVEMBER 4TH

Please join us in worship as we celebrate the life of all those who have died in faith of Jesus Christ. All of us may have had loved ones pass away this past year and we especially want to remember all those members of Eben-Ezer Lutheran who have died and also all those who have had funeral services through Eben-Ezer Lutheran since All Saints Sunday last year. This year we include:

- Beulah Mae Fordham - January 29, 2018
- Colt Knipstein – March 11, 2018
- Randy Sklar – April 18, 2018

We will have our regular worship service that day and a special time of remembrance for all those who have died.

SECOND SATURDAY BREAKFAST AT IMMANUEL LUTHERAN, WIEDEVILLE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH AT 8:00 AM

Everyone is invited to come out for a delicious breakfast and great fellowship at Immanuel Lutheran as they host their Second Saturday Breakfast on November 10th starting at 8:00 am. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex so that they will have enough food prepared. But if your plans change at the last minute and you can come but haven't signed up – please come out anyway.

WELCA THANKOFFERING WORSHIP SERVICE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH AT 8:30 AM

The Women of the Church will lead the worship service on Sunday, November 18th in a Thankoffering Service. Carolyn Matejowsky will be the guest speaker that day. Please join us as we thank God for all of God's blessings.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH AT 7:00 PM

All are invited to gather for worship for a special Thanksgiving Worship Service with Holy Communion on Tuesday, November 20th at 7:00 pm. We will gather with thankful hearts for all of God's blessings. Please join us!

ANNUAL STEW DRIVE THRU DINNER FUNDRAISER – THANK YOU

Thank you to all who made the Stew Drive Thru a great success. The stew was delicious and thanks go out to Glenn and Jane Neutzler and family and friends for cooking it. Thanks to all who sold tickets and made cookies and to all who helped to hand it out on that Sunday.

CHURCH COUNCIL POSITIONS FOR 2019

We have the following positions open on the church council for the coming year: Evangelism and Stewardship. We are seeking volunteers to serve. Please contact Pastor Ken if you would like to volunteer or need more information.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING AND READING

We are in need of families or individuals to light the Advent Candles and read a short liturgy and prayer at the beginning of each worship service for the four Sundays of Advent, beginning on Sunday, December 2nd. If you would like to participate, please contact Pastor Ken.

The Holy Helper
EBEN-EZER LUTHERAN CHURCH

“Oldest Lutheran Church in Washington County”

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

356 S Berlin Rd, Brenham TX 77833

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November 2018

October Church Council Meeting highlights/unapproved minutes:

SEPTEMBER 2018 MINISTRY REPORT

- Mileage: 214 miles
- Visitation: Home Communion: 2 visits, 6 people
Hospital Visits: 6 visits, 4 S&W Brenham, 2 S&W College Station
- Average Sunday Worship Attendance in August: 56
- Sunday Worship – Year-to-Date Average through August: 61

WORSHIP

- Bishop Mike Rinehart Visit: September 16 – feedback?
- All Saints Sunday: November 4. Candle Lighting.
- WELCA Thankoffering Worship Service: November 18
- Thanksgiving Worship Service: November 20 at 7:00 pm
- Advent: Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23. Advent Wreath and Candles
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship: December 24 at 7:00 pm

NEW MEMBERS

- Randy and Cathie Steinfeld transfer from St. John Lutheran Prairie Hill

OTHER

- Vacation: October 15-21. Out of worship on Oct. 21 (3rd Sunday – no communion) Pastor Skip Stutts providing Pastoral coverage. Pastor Jen Kindsvatter preaching.
- Vacation: December 25-January 1. Out of worship on Dec. 30 (5th Sunday – no communion)

TREASURER'S REPORT: General Fund: \$6,145.12 (as of Oct.10) Building Fund: \$9,933.66
Parsonage Account: \$8,251.16 Discretionary Fund: \$244.26 Youth: \$77.03
Sunday School: \$409.96 Confirmation: \$0.02 CUNA Mutual Group-Mertz: \$6,140.64
Cemetery Fund: Edward Jones - \$5,436.55 and Industry Bank CDs - \$10,543.11 & \$10,427.38

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE: All is going well.

SOCIAL OUTREACH: Our church will be sponsoring a family for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

WORSHIP: Carolyn Matejowsky is the guest speaker for the WELCA Thankoffering Service on November 18th.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Activity Building remodeling is complete. Improvements were paid for with donations.
2. Church Painting is complete with the majority of the cost paid for with donations. The Sunday School room will be getting new blinds to be paid for with a donation and remaining amount from the Building Fund. The metal for the church motto sign has been delivered.
3. Family Day was a huge success.
4. Stew tickets are available; members are asked to bake cookies and brownies.
5. Shared Ministry contract renewal is being worked on.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Liz Johnson with Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest talked about endowments and investing with the ELCA. She will be here in March to talk with any members that are interested.
2. Approved Pastor Ken's insurance plan for 2019.
3. Tabled discussion on CDs.
4. Approved cleaning of the Activity Building.
5. Men of the church are paying someone to help them with mowing the cemetery.
6. Members were appointed for the Nominating Committee.
7. Members will be appointed for the Finance and Audit Committees.

(end of report)

SOCIAL OUTREACH

Helping Families At Thanksgiving & Christmas

With your help and monetary donations, our congregation can help make Thanksgiving and Christmas special for families in our Community, especially the elderly and children.

To make a donation, please place in the offering plate or the basket in the Narthex. Contact Olivia Borgstedte for more information.

Thank You for Sharing!

HELP FEED THE HUNGRY

**Please remember to bring canned goods for
Bread Partners of Washington County.**

THANK YOU

to Butch Faske (Faske's Jewelry) for repairing the Church's 1889 Chalice and without cost to Eben-Ezer. Your generosity is appreciated.

ACTIVITY BUILDING

The remodeling and painting of the Activity Building is now complete. It looks great! The only cost to the church was the flooring, which was purchased a few years ago. Thank You to everyone who worked very hard remodeling and cleaning the building. Thank You to everyone who made monetary donations to pay for all the materials, equipment, furniture, and labor. Please contact Mary to schedule use of the building for meetings and other events.

FAMILY DAY

Family Day was a huge success!!

THANK YOU to Everyone in attendance; to the Neutzler Family for preparing and serving the meal; to Travis Cole for sharing his musical talents; to the Zionsville Worship Band for leading a Polka Worship; to everyone who brought desserts and Bingo prizes; and for monetary donations to rent the barrel train ride and the bouncy house.

God Blessed Us with a Great Day!

STEW DRIVE-THRU FUNDRAISER

Thank You to all who helped to make the Stew Drive-thru a success by buying and/or selling tickets, baking cookies & brownies, and to all who worked the drive-thru on Sunday! Thank You to Glenn & Jane Neutzler and family & friends for cooking the delicious stew!

PAINTING THE CHURCH

To date, \$7,709 has been donated! If you would like to make a donation, please place in offering plate or mail to the church with a notation "PAINTING". Thank You

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Please consider volunteering to help take care of the church flower beds and the cemetery. Contact Scott Gresham for more info. Thank You!

LOOKING AHEAD

- Order blanks will soon be available to place your order for Poinsettias
- November 24th @ 10 a.m.: meet at church to go select a tree for Christmas
- November 25th following worship service: decorate tree, Sanctuary & Annex
- December 2nd: WELCA Christmas Supper
- December 16th: Children's Christmas Program
- 2019 Offering Envelopes will be available soon for pick up
- January 20, 2019: Annual Congregational Meeting



Remember In Prayer

OUR MEMBERS

Daniel Borchgardt
Sheila Bradshaw
Tracy Draehn
Denise Ebert
Woodville Felscher
Albert Green
Marta Green

Luther Gregor
Luke Grimm
Troy Grimm
Bernice Hanath
David Hohlt
Wanda Meier
Annell Meyer

Valeria Oevermann
Clarence Steinfeld
Debora Talamantez
Lindsey Theile
Joe Turner
Dorothy Vogler
Connie Warmke
Annell Zwahr

FRIENDS OF THE CONGREGATION

Eric Baranowski
Pastor Sue Beall
Jeri Bentke
Marchel Brennan
Pat Brister
Susan Broesche
Nichole Carr
Judi Cole
Sterling Crabtree
A'vahlynn Cuellar
Pastor Bill Derrick
Elaine Duron
Sam Engman
Carol Fenton
Laura Fiesler
Archie Gandy
Beryl Glessing
Arvin Gresham
Verlin Grimm
Patrick Harper
Mattie Haynes

Ryan Hegefeld
Gene Hermann
Jeremy Higgs
Betty Hohlt
Weldon Hohlt
Lena Jacks
Billy Jo Jasinski
Leslie Kelm
Ora Nell Kuretsch
Harold Lanford
McKenzie Lasagna
Sarah Salazar Lopez
Cindy Lyles
Grant Milton
Jennifer Moore
Arlin Naegeli
Betty Nunes
Paula Nunes
Eric Ortiz
Sue Perry
Ralph Poehlmann

Mike Pope
Lana Powell
Macee Prause
Sharon Preuss
David Reimer
Linda Schulze
Amanda Sebastian
Kyree Koehne Shaver
Pastor Roger Semmler
Bobby Smith
Hannah Smith
Carol Sorelle
Jim Sorelle
Sherri Stegent
Connie Talamantez
Gene Urban
Krystal Weatherly
Mary Winkelmann
Glenda Wise

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Stacey Burgoon - niece of Scott & Sara Gresham
Steven Burgoon - nephew of Scott & Sara Gresham
Justin Hawkins - husband of Kristin Hawkins and son-in-law of Linda Koonce
Lindsey Theile - daughter of Larry Grebe

November Celebrations and Special Occasions



2nd Brian Kraft
 6th Gracie Gold
 8th Betty Goerlitz
 10th Brenda Kapchinski
 10th Dwayne Stegent Jr
 12th Travis Cole
 15th Kevin Burnett
 15th Dalton Hynes
 17th Emma Neutzler
 18th Ethan Gessner
 18th Lavonne Hegefeld
 18th Ella Rau
 19th Doris Roehling
 20th Valeria Oevermann
 22nd Paisley Huston
 23rd Roy Hegefeld
 23rd Robert Wayne Preuss
 23rd Maxwell Weidner
 26th Dorothy Hohlt
 26th De Wise
 28th Angelie Franke

2nd Mary Sklar
 4th Ayden Huston
 5th Shelbie Benitez
 12th Carolyn Brister
 12th McKenna Draehn
 12th Charles Franke Jr
 12th Jensen Ruemke
 13th Wanda Farrack
 14th Nick Schwartz
 15th Alvin Hanath
 15th Michael Hohlt
 21st Kelly Weiss
 23rd Charly Ruemke
 23rd Cora Ruemke
 25th J C Knipstein
 28th Bruce Hohlt
 29th Doris Eckert



1st	Jerry & Pat Schwartz	44 years
2nd	Josh & Charly Ruemke	5 years
6th	Clint & Rachael Lampe	26 years
6th	Jimmy & Cookie Loesch	47 years
14th	Kevin & Tammy Burnett	26 years
16th	Travis & Kailyn Cole	5 years
18th	Joe & Cheryl Turner	18 years
25th	Maxwell & Martha Weidner	62 years