



The Messenger

*News about our church,
our ministries and our people*
NOVEMBER 2021

Living Waters Lutheran Church and Preschool

Fellowship October 16 Recap

The Fall Harvest Fest on Saturday, Oct. 16, with fellowship, games and food, was fabulous. Those who attended had fun playing the games and winning prizes and then had, of course, food: wonderful hot ham and cheese sandwiches, potato salad and coleslaw. For dessert there was apple and sweet potato pie, with yummy ice cream. Thank you to all who came and enjoyed the evening.

The next event...

Chili Cookoff, Saturday, Nov. 13 Fellowship Hall, 6 p.m.

Who makes the best chili at Living Waters? We always have a few cooks who step forward to share their favorite chili recipe. And....we all get to taste each one and vote on the one we like best. There will be a prize for the one that gets the most votes.

Along with this event there will be a pie auction. Anyone can bring a pie to be auctioned off by our famous auctioneer, Cliff Walz, who really makes it fun! The proceeds will go to our Women of the ELCA (WELCA) group to help with their projects.

We hope to see you there for a fun and tasty evening.



There will be news forthcoming shortly about our December event which will be on December 11.

Blessings, The Fellowship Committee

Living Waters 2021 Stewardship Focus is

New Year New Challenges

The Stewardship Packet was just mailed.

If you don't receive yours soon contact the church office so we can get one to you ASAP.

Please return your pledge by
Commitment Sunday, November 28.



We Salute Our Veterans

On Sunday, November 14, we will honor our veterans who have served our country in the armed forces. Every

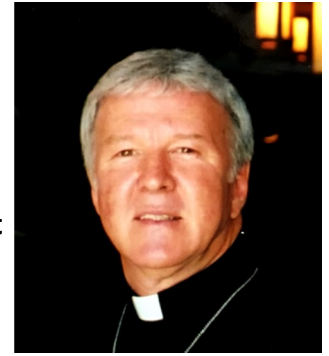
veteran deserves our thanks, our appreciation, and our respect. Every one of them has made some sacrifice to serve the country they love.

After the service we will have a special coffee hour to show our love and gratitude. Also, we will be awarding Quilts Of Valor to recognize several of our veterans who have served with honor. Please plan on attending church that day and the coffee hour after the service. Also, take time to view the display in the narthex that is adorned with pictures of many of our veterans. May God bless them all!

I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Matthew 28:20

From the Pastor

By Rev. Lyle Truitt



“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”

Philippians 4: 4-6

Dear Friends,

An unexpected death in my family required me to quickly make a trip to Hibbing, Minnesota. I needed and wanted to provide some support and love and guidance to my younger sister who lost her husband. So, as a result I was absent from church for about a week, and missed being with you on Sunday morning. But as always, our good deacons, Kimberly and Steve Vaughan took care of worship leadership and I am always so thankful for their presence.

It's always a joy to return and to see the faces of my sisters and brothers! You are such a treasured part of my life. You have become a church family that offers me and Loni so much love and support and trusted friendship. We truly appreciate your thoughtfulness that was expressed in so many ways through so many cards. I simply cannot thank you enough! We are blessed!

It's so hard to believe that we will very soon begin a new church year and celebrate and enjoy another season of Advent. At our Mid-Week Advent Worship this year, we will come together to celebrate

“A Christmas Journey” by “An Unlikely Cast”.

One might easily label the season of Advent as the “beginning of God’s holy drama.” As such, Advent is unique in that it recalls to our minds and hearts an unlikely cast of characters. After all, here is God’s wonderful decisive action on behalf of humankind, and look at those who are active in it’s unfolding: a young Nazarene maiden, a humble carpenter, common shepherds and the like.

Certainly, one would think that God could have chosen better, more appropriate characters to usher in the beginning of the New Covenant. But this unlikely cast was a sign from God that the Messiah was coming for all people, not just those in a particular social or political position. And with God, nothing is impossible! He could utilize the most mundane circumstances with the most common people to accomplish HIS purposes. So Advent is indeed a time when we can grow to appreciate the simple wonder of God’s activity in our lives.

Before we gather for worship on these nights, on 3 Wednesdays, (December 1, 8, and 15), at 7:00 p.m., we will enjoy some fellowship together in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m. where we will once again enjoy some delicious soups and maybe some bread created by our sisters and brothers.

I look forward to seeing you and sharing this Advent season with each you. It will be another joyful Christmas journey!

Love you much!
In Christ,
Pastor Lyle



of

Council Meeting Recap—October 11, 2021

Submitted by Barb Cartwright, Council Secretary

The meeting opened with a devotion and prayer. Minutes from the previous meeting, on Sept. 13, were approved.

Fellowship Events are being planned for a Harvest Fest in October, Chili Cookoff in November, and Breakfast with Santa in December. The Multicultural Dinner is planned for Feb. 19, 2022.

Community Meals will once again ask for monetary donations of \$13 to support Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinners for families in need. A canned goods donation drive will also be promoted

A property inspection by the Fire Department went very well.

Council President Craig Bitler and Vice President Joanne Carlock will participate in the Mid-Gulf Conference zoom meeting on Nov. 6.

Council voted to remove the tape from the pews on the pulpit side of the church to allow for general seating on this side. The lectern-side pews will remain every other row for the time being.

A nominating committee will be formed to recruit council members for three vacancies next year.

The next meeting will be Monday, Nov. 8, at 1 p.m. The meeting closed with the saying of the Lord's Prayer.

Nativity Figurines

By Craig Bitler

I have always looked forward to reading The Nativity Story to my children, and then my grandchildren. Through time, my readings of the Advent story evolved into a wonderful Advent long production using beautiful Nativity figurines and following the timeline as given in the Gospels of Luke and Matthew. Last year I told The Nativity Story to the Living Waters Congregation. And the Church stayed decorated until the Epiphany, Little Christmas, on January 6. This is a beautiful way to "Keep Christ in Christmas." What shall we do this year?

We all enjoy decorating our homes for Christmas. My favorite decorations have been the numerous Nativity Story figurines and Nativity Sets that I have collected to tell The Nativity Story. This year I would like request that we share our favorite Nativity Figurines or Nativity Sets with the Living Waters Congregation. I believe that every Nativity Set on display will be unique and beautiful.



Appropriate space and tables will be set to display your Nativity Figurines or Nativity Set in the Sanctuary and Narthex. We will anticipate the first Nativity Set arrivals at the beginning of Advent. The Nativity Sets will be displayed throughout Advent. For the congregation to see. Please contact me, Craig Bitler, at cdbitler@comcast.net or by text or phone at (941) 234-6311 to coordinate and reserve a location for your Nativity Set display. May God's Love be with You!

ATTENTION all knitters and crocheters

By Char DeWitt

You are invited to join the Prayer Shawl Ministry. We create prayer shawls for those who are ill, grieving, struggling, or those who deserve a special blessing. Shawls are placed in the cupboard by the women's bathroom off the fellowship hall.

Yarn is available and If you need patterns, or If you would like more information about this important ministry, please contact Char DeWitt at charlottedewitt51@gmail.com.

Adopt a Family —Season of Harvest

Community Meals Team News

The Mr. Turkey note cards and contribution envelopes are available in the Narthex. Your donation of \$13 for each meal will provide a Thanksgiving or a Christmas dinner for area families in need.

In October we began our Season of Harvest. Collecting food items each Sunday to be used for our Thanksgiving and Christmas Day dinner gift bags. We have had a wonderful response. Some of you asked for a list of the upcoming food items we will be collecting and here it is:

For Thanksgiving bags

November 7: Potatoes, any kind fresh or boxed, stuffing mix

November 14: Cookies, candy, brownie mix or some type of dessert.

Continuing collecting for our Christmas bags we will need:

November 21: Soup, beans of any kind to be used with ham, corn bread or muffin mixes.

November 28: Canned vegetables.

December 5: Cookies, candy, brownie mix or some type of dessert.

December 12: Sweet potatoes or yams - canned or fresh.

Thank you for your continued support and please don't forget to fill out a greeting card to go along with your donations that we will include in our gift bags located in Mr. Turkey in the Narthex.

All excess items not needed for the Holiday meal gift bags will be donated to our local Homeless Coalition, the Jesus Loves You Ministry, or kept for our own Community Meals program.

God's Blessing to you all and thank you for making our Community Meals program such a success.



Pastor Lyle



To recognize our Clergy and
Deacons

Let there be cake



Kim & Steve
Vaughan



HARVEST FEST Oct. 16, 2021



Pictures supplied by Karen Hoeppner

Living Waters Lutheran Church & Preschool — November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 All Saints' Day	2 Election Day Preschool Board Meeting 1:30 PM	3 Cut Ups 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Preschool Chapel 10:20 AM	4 Community Dinner 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM Choir Practice 5:15 PM	5 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	6 Turn Your Clocks Back 2:00 AM
7 Daylight Saving Time Ends All Saints Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM	8 Church Council Meets 1:00 PM	9 Music & Worship 1:00 PM	10 Preschool Chapel 10:20 AM	11 Veteran's Day Bread Ministry 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Choir Practice 5:15 PM	12 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	13 Annual Chili Cook Off and Pie Auction 6:00 PM
14 Worship Service 10:00 AM	15	16	17 Cut Ups 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Preschool Chapel 10:20 AM	18 Community Dinner 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM Choir Practice 5:15 PM	19 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	20
21 Christ the King Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM	22	23	24 Preschool Chapel 10:20 AM	25 Thanksgiving Bread Ministry 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Choir Practice 5:15 PM	26 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	27
28 Commitment Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM	29	30				

Thank You!

Steve and I would like to thank you all so much for the kindness you showered upon us for serving as your Synod Parish Deacons. The cake was delicious! We opened the cards that evening and were overwhelmed with gifts and beautiful words expressing your appreciation. It warmed our hearts and made me cry. (Steve won't admit to crying!)

We are so blessed to be able to serve all the wonderful people at Living Waters Lutheran. Our only wish is that we could do more.

In Christ's service, Steve and Kim Vaughan

Prayer Team Meets Again

By Gayle Backiel

The Prayer Team will be meet again beginning November 16, at 1 pm. In the Social Hall. We are currently reading The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom. This is a wonderful, horrible true story about the Ten Boom family during the Holocaust of World War II and God's grace. If you have read the book or not, come join us as we read and discuss the horrors of the war, and a family's faith and witness.

We collect one dollar each week for a charitable cause and always end the session in prayer. For more information, contact Gayle Backiel 941-769-0882.

Happy Birthday

Surprise someone on the list by sending a birthday greeting.



Nov. 4	Al Rybicki	Nov. 21	Loni Truitt
Nov. 10	Nancy Bremer	Nov. 22	Nicholas Serianni
Nov. 11	Henry Morley	Nov. 23	Sue Hill
	Beverly Simas	Nov. 24	Clarence Hillegass
Nov. 13	Cecile Bitler	Nov. 29	Jerome Pauley
	Janet Pelto	Nov. 30	Harrison Reece
Nov. 14	Dexter Morgan		Kay Sheils
Nov. 16	Michael Perry		Kim Vaughan

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To have information included in the newsletter, please write your content and send it to Barb Cartwright, editor and publisher: anchorstitch@aol.com or phone 941-743-4770. Articles must be submitted by the 21st of each month. Articles may be edited.

If you have questions about our church, its ministries or about becoming a member, please email Pastor Truitt at plylet65@gmail.com or call 941-625-8090.