

NOVEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Calvary Ev. Lutheran Church and Preschool

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Mon — Fri 8 AM — 3 PM

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THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

“Trust Not in Princes”

Every election year, I find a common temptation for Christians is to forget the bigger picture. Regardless of your political convictions, it's easy to find yourself caught up in the media hype. Televised debates, policy positions, tax cuts or increases, judge appointments — the list of things to hold our attention is endless. And this is to say nothing about October surprises! Depending on what happens when the votes are counted, we're either on the brink of going into the Dark Ages again or into a bright and sunny future where all will be well — at least that's how the media pundits present it to us.

Now I'm not saying we shouldn't have political convictions or act on them. I certainly do myself, and, like most people, I have a mixture of hopes and fears that coincide with the election results. So, yes, being engaged in our system of government is well and good. BUT what we must not lose sight of is the Lord's work in all this, regardless of who wins or loses. In both times of feasting and in times of famine, God is in control, and He is *always* working for the good of His people (Romans 8:28).

Consider these words from Psalm 146: *“Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish (vv. 3-4).”* The psalmist understands the futility of putting all your hope in the political process. Rulers come and go, along with the good or evil they do with them. A good ruler, be it a congressman, senator, judge, governor, president, etc., can indeed do beneficial things. But someday he will go the way of all flesh. Same with a bad ruler. To think of either and the prospect of their ruling as the thing upon which society hinges forgets this.

Think about how the psalm continues: *“Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God (146:5).”* Although earthly rulers die, God remains. But more than that, whoever trust in Him is blessed. The Lord is the constant Power and Authority above all powers and authorities, and none can supplant His will. It's not to say that bad things can't or don't happen under wicked rulers. They often do. But rather it is to say that God is still in control and works good for His children in spite of — or even through — those bad things. This is indeed a comfort to know!

So regardless of what happens on November 3rd and beyond, remember that the Lord is King. We are always in His hands, and His love for us never fails. Our hopes for the political future of our community, state, and country should not be divorced from the knowledge of Who our God is and what He is always doing for us. Come what may, let us keep for ourselves the God of Jacob and thereby be blessed.

In Christ,

Pastor Uphoff



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November Birthdays!

Marcia Benoit	11/01
Tim Fletcher	11/03
Oliver Long	11/05
Betty Ahrens (83!)	11/07
Abigail Pfingsten	11/08
Ed Varner	11/09
Lucille Selk (99!)	11/10
Harry Bauer	11/11
Mallory Redeker	11/11
Tina Schaumburg	11/11
Leah Hamilton	11/14
Melinda Day	11/15
Jennifer Long	11/16
Patricia Cluver (81!)	11/17
Diane Swanson	11/17
Mickey Biernat	11/18
Ruth Vicari	11/19
Ruth Behrens (82!)	11/20
Hagen Hoy	11/23
Cy West	11/23
Dean Cluver (80!)	11/26
Jeremy Douglas	11/26
Payton Neal	11/26
Dan Cluver	11/28
Livia Kollman	11/30

November Anniversaries!

Merle & Marcia Benoit (53 years!)	11/11/1967
Jon & Amy Norder	11/15/1997
Linda & Gordon Thompsen (52 years!)	11/16/1968
David & Kendra Perzee (54 years!)	11/27/1966



LWML Weekend—Nov 7th & 8th

On November 7th & 8th we will celebrate the LWML! **We will collect a door offering in the Mite box for Pastor Hesham Shehab and Mites.** LWML Mite money goes to the elected mission projects voted on each year. There will be refreshments available following each worship service. Next year we plan to bring back our famously popular LWML Sunday brunch! We appreciate your prayers and gifts to further God's kingdom. Thank you!



Rally Day photos are up on the website. We had such a great day on Oct 25th. Thank you to ALL our Teachers, Parents and Youth who helped make Rally Day a success. It was wonderful to meet together again with our church family.

Check out the photos here:

http://calvarywatseka.com/rally_day_2020

Ladies Guild will meet Nov 10th at 1:00 PM in the south part of the basement. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend!



LWML will be collecting gift cards for the Ft. Wayne Seminary Students and their families for the holidays. National chain stores, restaurants and gas station gift cards in increments of \$10, \$20, or \$25 would be great! The gift cards need to be in the office by November 25th so they can be mailed to seminary for distribution.

Thank you so much for helping us support the seminarians and their families.



Lucille Selk is turning 99 on November 10th. She would appreciate hearing from our church family with a note or a card.

They can be mailed to Lucille Selk, Prairieview – PO Box 4, Danforth, IL 60930.

A note of thanks...

I got so many nice birthday cards from my church family! Thank you everyone for them and the extended well-wishes.

God's Blessings to you! Sincerely, Arleen Bohlmann



FOR SALE

30" Whirlpool Electric Range

Glass top, Black and Stainless Steel

Excellent condition – used for six months by the Heimgartners.

If interested in purchasing, please contact the Board of Property.

The Women's Bible Study has resumed meeting on Thursdays from 2:30-3:30 pm in the church basement.

Our study centers around a video production of The Lutheran Hour titled "Nurturing Your Faith: Prayer." Rev. Don Everts 10-12 min. video presentation will be followed by Bible study focusing on prayers offered by some of God's most faithful followers. Topics include Prayers of Intercession, Gratitude, Confession and Praise. All women are welcome to attend any or all of the four sessions! Contact Marilyn Smith, 815-432-5335 for more information.



The Operation Christmas Child shoebox drive continues through Sunday, November 8th.

There's still plenty of time to grab a shoebox from the Great Room and assemble it!

We appreciate your participation in this international outreach.

Circuit Happenings

Woodworth Fish Fry: St. Paul's Lutheran School of Woodworth will host a Drive-Thru Woodworth Fish Fry on Saturday, November 14th. Serving will begin at 11:00 am and continue until sold out. A free will donation will be collected for your meal of a Woodworth fish sandwich, chips, cole slaw and cookies. Proceeds will benefit the Technology Fund. The drive-thru will take place in the semi-circle drive on the south side of the school.

Advent by Candlelight cancelled: The Ladies at St Paul's-Woodworth regret having to cancel the Advent by Candlelight this year due to the COVID-19 virus. We plan to resume the event next year. Hope to see you in 2021!



Hello again,

Preschool News!

We are moving right along in preschool! In October, the students were very excited about starting chapel with Pastor Uphoff. It was a bit different not having guests, but fun none the less! At Jesus Time, all of our stories had a similar theme, God is always with us! I hope that you feel God's love and remember that God is always with you! In Hebrews 13:15, God says, I will never leave you nor forsake you. When you find yourself running on empty or overflowing with blessing, I hope you remember the important message that God is always with you.

The last week of the month, the Watseka Fire Department came to speak to children about fire safety. They did a wonderful presentation, showed us the equipment on their truck and even brought coloring books and fireman hats for each student! This was definitely a highlight of the kiddo's day!

Our Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough was a success! The students sold an unbelievable 880 packages of cookie dough, we profited \$6004 and had 86% participation! Thank you to all who purchased cookie dough!

God's Blessings,
Julie Ahlden

Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie Dough
will be delivered on Friday,
November 6th around 3 PM.
Thanks for your support!

Preschool Prayer Partners

Julie and Tina would like to implement the Prayer Partner Program again. It has been several years since we have done this, the following is a short summary of the program.

We are asking for people to sign up to send cards over the school year to one preschool child. It is only cards... birthday, Christmas, Easter, Thinking of You, etc. We would give you the first name of a child in our preschool and their birthdate. We also ask that you would be willing to pray for this child and their family. There will be a box labeled, "Preschool Partner Cards" in our Great Room here at church: all you have to do is drop a card in the box and Julie and Tina will make sure the cards get to the children.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Great Room, for those that would be interested in sharing cards with one of our Preschool children this school year. Our prayer is that we will have 56 church members sign up to do this so that each child will have a Prayer Partner.

As of printing, we have 37 people signed up, we could use a few more to meet our goal of 56!

Thank you!

The Preschool Board