



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

MONTGOMERY, MINNESOTA

Proudly Serving One Master Since 1861

NOVEMBER 2016

No Task Too Small, When Done Through Faith!

In his sermon on the “*Estate of Marriage 1522*,” Martin Luther addressed how faith is present within our daily living. The beginning of this sermon addressed how those living without faith turned the day to day tasks set before us in diminished importance with a sneer and an eye roll to anyone stooping to such a minimal place or duty. Those without faith scoff at the simple responsibilities of tending to and taking care of our families. As Christians, we are to see, know, and give thanks for the thankless duties that we are called to carry out. Luther continues on with these words of vocation, call, and faith lived out,

“What then does Christian faith say to this? It opens its eyes, looks upon all these insignificant, distasteful, and despised duties in the Spirit, and is aware that they are all adorned with divine approval as with the costliest gold and jewels. It says, “O God, because I am certain that thou hast created me as a man and hast from my body begotten this child, I also know for a certainty that it meets with thy perfect pleasure. I confess to thee that I am not worthy to rock the little babe or wash its diapers or to be entrusted with the care of the child and its mother. How is it that I, without any merit, have come to this distinction of being certain that I am serving thy creature and thy most precious will? O how gladly will I do so, though the duties should be even more insignificant and despised. Neither frost nor heat, neither drudgery nor labour, will distress or dissuade me, for I am certain that it is thus pleasing in thy sight.”

A wife too should regard her duties in the same light, as she suckles the child, rocks and bathes it, and cares for it in other ways; and as she busies herself with other duties and renders help and obedience to her husband. These are truly golden and noble works.

Now you tell me, when a father goes ahead and washes diapers or performs some other mean task for his child, and someone ridicules him as an effeminate fool, though that father is acting in the spirit just described and in Christian faith, my dear fellow you tell me, which of the two is most keenly ridiculing the other? God, with all his angels and creatures, is smiling, not because that father is washing diapers, but because he is doing so in Christian faith. Those who sneer at him and see only the task but not the faith are ridiculing God with all his creatures, as the biggest fool on earth. Indeed, they are only ridiculing themselves; with all their cleverness they are nothing but devil’s fools.”

A recent advertisement for AARP paints a wonderful picture for all of us in the transitions of our lives. This ad opens with a father feeding his reluctant child with a spoon by using the movement and sounds of an airplane in order to get the child to eat. The ad closes with this child now as an adult sitting at the table with here aged father attempting to feed her reluctant father. She takes the spoon and with the movement and sounds of an airplane helps her father. This ad comes to an end with the smiles of this father and daughter shared in love.

Whatever stations we find ourselves in life, we give thanks for our faith lived out knowing and trusting that all that we do in word and deed in Christ’s name is not insignificant. Thanks be to God for you who continue to know what a precious, undeserved gift that you have been given in the care of your loved ones whether they be brother, sister, parent, or child.

Peace of Christ,

Pr. Jason

November Worship Helpers

Readers

November 6 Carol Kiekow
 November 13 Erin Krautkremer
 November 20 Don Marcussen
 November 27 Doreen Marcussen

Head Usher

Renee Sorenson

Ushers / Greeters

November 6 Lynden & Deb Jelinek
 Dallas Horejsi
 Ralph Hendrickson
 November 13 Irene Jindra
 Carol Kiekow
 LaNette Kuelper
 Ruth Kukacka
 November 20 Steve & Tammie Pan
 John Krautkremer
 Don Marcussen
 November 27 Dave & Dorothy Scheffert
 Dick Milinkovich
 Maridan Nesmoe

Communion Assistants

November 13 Ruth Kukacka
 Don Marcussen
 Tammie Pan
 November 20 Volunteers Needed
 November 27 Brenda Peterson
 Charles Richter
 Cheryl Schulte

Acolytes

November 6 Ariana Krautkremer
 November 13 Gretchen Vlasak
 November 20 Ariana Krautkremer
 November 27 Gretchen Vlasak

Altar Guild

Renee Sorenson
 Carol Svoboda

*If you are unable to help on the day assigned,
 please EXCHANGE with someone else
 and call the church office at 507-364-5002.*

Thank you for your help!



Remember in your Prayers...

Greg Vlasak, Keith (Zeke) Zahratka, Jean Waugh, Margaret Lawson, Lois Schmidt (Megan Pratola's aunt), Milton Bauer, Haven Peterson (Susie Trendera's grandson), Gail Embretson, Rev. Bob and Ardyce Boda, Phyllis Swidorski, Amy Korhuis (Judy Ferguson's sister-in-law), Nancy Creger, Reinhold West (Carol Kiekow's father), and Kris Huhner (Kathy Peterson's sister).

Remember those serving our country...

Travis Ferguson, Colin Hulke, Shane Morris, Matthew Astorino, Adam Vlasak, and Matt Nelson.



Thank you

Thank you to everyone who helped on Sunday, Oct. 30 with yard work at the church and parsonage.

Nominating Committee

The Congregational Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 22, 2017. We are looking for people to serve on the nominating committee or to serve on the church council. Contact Dan Hardel if interested.

Newsletters!!

Would you like to receive your newsletter via e-mail. You can receive your newsletter in an easy to open PDF format. E-mailing saves money for the church by reducing the amount of paper we use, reduces the wear and tear on the copy machine and reduces the cost of postage. If interested, just notify the church office at: stjohnelca@frontier.com

Groups & Organizations that meet at St. John!

To ensure our calendar is correct and that we have the church open for your event, please inform Pastor Jason or Kay of your planned meeting dates.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Financial Corner General Fund - September

	September	Year to Date
Receipt	\$ 14,878.11	\$ 129,302.35
Expenses	\$ 12,972.69	\$ 133,168.67
Cash Flow	\$ 1,905.42	\$ (3,866.32)

Have an announcement for the bulletin or newsletter?

Drop off or e-mail (stjohnelca@frontier.com) information to the church office by:

- ◆ Thursday for the bulletin.
- ◆ The 23rd of November for the December newsletter.

St. John Church Council Minutes October 18, 2016

Present: Kathy Peterson (1/17), Wendy Vargo (1/17), Dan Hardel (1/17), Eric Schroeder (1/18), Connie Cihak (1/18), Liz Vlasak (1/18), Renee Sorenson (1/19)

Absent: Pam Edel (1/19), Greg Westerman (1/19),

President Kathy Peterson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Pastor Jason opened with devotions and prayer.

Eric Schroeder made a motion to approve the minutes from the September meeting. Dan Hardel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dan Hardel made a motion to approve the treasurers report. Liz Vlasak seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dan gave an update on the tax liability and Health Care Credit of \$3971.00 which we have not yet received. Dan also a report on the final rental agreement. We are still expecting a final payment of \$800. We also must notify the city that it is no longer a rental.

Pastor's Update: Pastor gave a recap of the Confirmation Retreat which 7 of the confirmation students attended. Currently holding Bible Study on Monday evenings and Wednesday mornings. 7th grade confirmation classes are taking place at this time. He is also preparing 5th graders for first communion which is planned for November 20th. He is also planning a new member Sunday for December 4th.

Head Ushers: Renee Sorenson will be head usher in November.

Feed My Sheep: Received a thank you from our last recipient. No family identified at this time.

Can Recycling: Next load will go for Operation Christmas Child.

Old Business:

Outdoor clean-up day is set for October 30th.

Carpeting is finished.

Hours for Pastor and Kay are posted on Sunday School door.

We are looking for people to serve on the Nomination Committee with Dan Hardel for new church council members.

New Business:

Received estimates for masonry repairs. Connie Cihak made a motion to have a water testing on the masonry with the cost to be paid from the restoration fund. Eric Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion carried. Connie also made a motion for immediate repairs to be made. Wendy Vargo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Will have Worship Committee look into setting up a training session for people to learn how to ring the bell.

Eric Schroeder will look into having a wheel chair in place in the church Sanctuary. Connie Cihak will look into getting an AED for the church. Also will see if someone from the ambulance crew could come and talk about Health and Safety in the church.

We will be performing employee reviews. There will be 2 people from the council for each employee.

Budget for 2017 will be reviewed in November for the December budget meeting.

Committee Reports:

Endowment: No report.

Women of the Church: Egg Bake fundraiser will take place on November 13th.

Cemetery: No report.

Audit: Will be setting up audit committee dates for a financial audit report for the end of the year.

Stewardship: Renee Sorenson: Looking for people to help with the Stewardship committee.

Evangelism: Wendy Vargo: Collection boxes are out for soldier boxes donations. Holy Redeemer has been contacted for names and addresses. New member Sunday will be December 4th.

Education: Liz Vlasak: Sunday School is going very well. A donation was received to be used for Sunday School items. Mission trip is set for June 24th – June 30th. Next meeting is set for Jan. 8th at 11:00 a.m.

Youth: Eric Schroeder: Many events planned for the upcoming months – Pumpkin Carving, Ninja Warrior, and Ronald McDonald House to name a few.
(Church Council cont.)

(Church Council cont.)

Facility: Greg Westerman: Absent, however, sent report in for snow removal contracts and lawn mowing contracts.

Church in Society: Kathy Peterson: Operation Christmas Child boxes to be collected in November and Salvation Army Bell Ringing is planned for December.

Communications: Dan Hardel: No report.

Fellowship: Connie Cihak: No report

Worship and Music: Pam Edel: Absent. No report.

Other Business: A donation of office furniture was made. Pastor, Kay and Kathy will see what is most needed at this time.

Connie Cihak made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m. Wendy Vargo seconded the motion. Motion carried. Pastor Jason lead the council in the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting is set for November 15th- 6:30 pm.

Women of the Church Egg Bake Fundraiser



Sunday, November 13
7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Serving: Ham Egg Bake,
Vegetarian Egg Bake,
Fruit, Pastries
Beverages

Cost: \$8 Adults
\$6 Children (10 and under)
Free - 3 years and under

Also Featuring
Bake Sale
Craft Sale
Quilt Raffle

Confirmation Class Sunday, October 30, 2016

*Alexys Boyd
Miranda Crosby
Gunner Domine
Alan Eotvos
Kayla Horejsi
Anton Nelson
Jackson Nesmoe
Madeline Novotny
Jorgia Pumper
Maggie Trnka*

Online Giving Option!!!

You can manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up one time giving or automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account or processed using your credit or debit card. Just visit our website at www.montgomerymnelcalutherans.org and click on donate button, then follow the onscreen instructions.

SNOW POLICY

In case of inclement weather the church closure policy will be as follows:

The Pastor and Church Council President or Vice President will make the decision if a church service will be cancelled. Notifications will be posted on the front door, KCHK Radio-1350 AM, and there will be a message put on voicemail at church.

THE END IS NEAR – IT'S NOT TOO LATE

If you haven't had an opportunity to join us for the **New to You & Refresher Adult Catechism Class**, we will be concluding our six weeks of time together in November. We are continuing to study Luther's Small Catechism. If you missed any of the sessions, please feel free to come and join us in conversation. The sessions will be held on **Mondays at 6 PM and second offering to join us on Wednesdays at 10 AM (New Time!)** at St. John Lutheran Church. The final sessions will be as follows:

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism Nov 14th/16th,

The Sacrament of Holy Communion Nov 21st/Nov 23rd

The Marks of the Church 28th/Nov 30th.

1ST COMMUNION

Communion education will continue for members who are in the 5th Grade. Their 1st Communion will be held on **Sunday, November 20th at the 9 AM Service.**



MUSIC NOTES

The Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be Tuesday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m. at the Church of St. Patrick in Shieldsville. The address is 7525 Dodd Road, Faribault, MN. Churches involved with this service are: Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, Church of St. Patrick-Shieldsville, Church of St. Canice-Kilkenny, Western Catholic Community (St. Scholastica-Heidelberg) and St. John Lutheran Church. It will be a service of readings and music. Pastor Jason Pollington will give the meditation. Please join us at this community event which will feature music from choirs, hand bells, harp and concertina. An offering will be taken that evening for the Montgomery Food Shelf. A monetary offering is preferred (cash or check made payable to Montgomery Food Shelf). With the special buying power of Minnesota Food Share, the Montgomery Food Shelf is able to turn your \$1 cash donation into \$3 worth of food! Non-perishable food items will be accepted too. Stay for coffee and dessert after the service. We pray you will attend.

The Bells of St. John and St. John's Women's Choir will present music during the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service. The Bells of St. John have been rehearsing their songs for the service on Wednesday nights. The Women's Choir will rehearse on November 2, November 9 and November 16 from 6:30 – 7:00 p.m. More singers are welcome to join us. Let me know.

Kathy Heyda
Music Director

Special Music for November

November 6 – Duet sings “10,000 Reasons/Bless the Lord”

November 13 – N/P/K sings “It's Good to Give Thanks” & Grades 1-4 sings “For the Beauty”

November 20 – Rock'n the Church sings “Love the Lord”

November 22 - Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Bells of St. John - “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” and “We Bow Down/Great Is the Lord”

Women's Choir - “Let Us Give Thanks to the Lord”

November 27 – Bells of St. John ring “Advent Tidings”



The Miracle of a Shoebox—Leading Children to Jesus

Girls and boys in more than 150 countries have experienced the joy of Christmas and heard the good news of Jesus Christ thanks to caring people who have packed over 135 million shoebox gifts for Operation Christmas Child since 1993. These simple shoeboxes filled with toys, school supplies, hygiene items and candy bring smiling faces to God's precious children. Help spread joy and hope to children in desperate situations worldwide by taking part in this special Christmas project sponsored by the Board of Church in Society. Complete details are outlined in the Operation Christmas Child brochures available at church beginning October 23rd. Please bring your gift-filled shoebox to church on or before Sunday, November 20th (shoebox collection and dedication Sunday). Last year we collected 142 shoeboxes — a new record for our church. Let's try to beat that record this year! For more information contact Mary Brahs at 364-8058.



Operation Christmas Child Processing Center

A group of adults and youth (9th through 12th grade) will be volunteering at the Operation Christmas Child Twin Cities Processing Center on Wednesday, December 7th from 6 pm - 9 pm. There is a sign up sheet on the youth bulletin board. Anyone under 18 must obtain a consent form from church. We will leave from the church at 4 pm and stop to eat before our work shift begins.

Soldier Packages

Again this year we will be sending gift filled boxes to soldiers in our congregation and community. There are boxes in Fellowship Hall for donations of cards, magazines, puzzle books, hard candy, gum, toiletries, anything not perishable, t-shirts, socks, etc. Be creative. Handwritten notes are very welcomed by the soldiers. Monetary gifts can also be dropped in offering plate (please mark checks as soldier package on memo line) to help fill the boxes or be used for shipping. Boxes will be sent out the end of November so they can be received by Christmas.

ADDRESSES NEEDED: Family and friends, please submit your soldiers address to the church office to ensure they receive a package.



Mission Trip

There is a group going to Pine Ridge Indian Reservation from June 24 to the 30th (driving) to work there on a Native American Reservation. For more information about this mission, go to www.re-member.org.

We still have 3 spots to fill and first deposit is paid on them. We are applying for grants and hope to have some scholarship money available. We estimate the total cost to be about \$800 a person. There will be fund raising opportunities to help pay for this trip. If you have questions or are interested in going, please contact to Missy Gregor or Kathy Westerman.

Stewardship of Time and Talents

Name A _____

Phone _____

Name B _____

E-mail _____

I (we) offer our services to God and Community in the following areas:

	A	B		A	B
Scripture Reader	___	___	Quilting	___	___
Communion Assistant	___	___	Help with office work	___	___
Usher/Greeter	___	___	Maintenance/upkeep	___	___
Nursery attendant	___	___	Help with youth program		
Music			Advisor	___	___
Accompanist	___	___	Driver	___	___
Bells of St. John	___	___	Chaperone	___	___
Instrumentalist	___	___	Serve on a Committee:		
I play _____			Youth	___	___
Vocal soloist	___	___	Worship & Music	___	___
Women's Choir	___	___	Evangelism	___	___
Teaching	___	___	Education	___	___
Assist with Confirmation	___	___	Facility management	___	___
Provide meal for Confirmation	___	___	Stewardship & Finance	___	___
Confirmation Mentor	___	___	Church in Society	___	___
Sunday School	___	___	Fellowship	___	___
Vacation Bible School	___	___	Communications	___	___
Participate in adult education	___	___	Serve on supporting committee:		
Provide transportation	___	___	Archives	___	___
Visitation	___	___	Endowment	___	___
Mentor new members	___	___	Altar Guild	___	___
Serve Sunday coffee hour	___	___			
Serve Lenten suppers	___	___			
Serve at funerals	___	___			
Bring food as needed	___	___			

All families are asked to complete this Stewardship of Time and Talents form and return to the church office by Sunday, November 20.

ST. JOHN YOUTH

T-shirts for Sale!

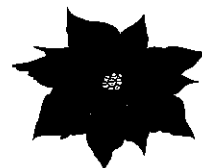


Youth sizes M & L \$10 Adult sizes XS-XL

**Will be for sale after church, also available through
Kay in church office or Missy in youth office**

Poinsettia Sales

***Poinsettia fundraiser for the youth starts
Sunday, November 6th through Sunday, December 4th***



Ronald McDonald House - Canceled

Junior & Senior League Volunteer Event at **Ronald McDonald House in Rochester**
**Sunday, November 13th has been CANCELED due to date conflict. This trip will
be rescheduled. Watch for date.**

There are ways you can help if you can't attend:

Collect pop tabs and bring them into church.

Donate \$ to purchase meal items. Money can be placed in an envelope labeled
Ronald McDonald and put in the youth lock box.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

ALL LEAGUE SHOE BOX STUFFING EVENT

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH, 11-NOON

Meet in the large upstairs Sunday School area. We will stuff shoeboxes for the following Sunday's
Shoebox Dedication Service. Event will be done at Noon. If you have items to donate for the boxes
please send them to Sunday School or drop them off in the youth office.

Youth League Night's!!!

Little League will meet Wednesday, December 7th at 3:15-4:15 PM in the youth room.

Junior League Wednesday, December 7th at 6-7 PM in the youth room

Senior League will have Coffee House Night on Saturday November 19th at LaNette's coffee
shop on Main Street 7-8:30PM.

Coffee Sales

We have COFFEE from European Roasterie! We have Breakfast Brew, Toasted Marshmallow, Cherry Devils
food cake, Banana bread, Blueberry swirl, pumpkin spice and Irish Cream . \$9 for a 12 ounce bag.

You can purchase during coffee hour or at the church office during the week. We take special
orders if we don't have the flavor you want, whole bean also available by special order.

All proceeds go to the youth league.

