Two longs, a short and another long. Lying awake in bed the other night, I heard the horn of a train piercing the night air – warning all in its path of what was coming.

As we flip the calendar to the month of November, I always get the sense that a train is coming. It is as though this month and the next one just roll over us with a flurry of activities and worship services. In fact, people will often ask, “Are you ready for the holidays?” And with all that has gone on with the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation – I sense that train is already upon us.

I am not sure how many of you were able to make to the Reformation Concert on October 22 at the Episcopal Cathedral downtown. A portion of the theme wrapped around what we know as “Luther’s Seal.” It was done well. I do know that our own parishioners who participated thoroughly enjoyed it. I give thanks for being able to see the day of this anniversary. My father was born ten years after the 400th Anniversary and died ten years before this one. He would have enjoyed the day down there.

Speaking of which – a reminder of our annual All Saints’ Day observance is in order. We are given the opportunity to remember those who have gone before us in Christian faith. With the Anniversary of the Reformation observed on the 29th of October, we – at Living Savior – will observe All Saints’ Day on November 5.

And since we are walking through the calendar, the musicians of Concordia University will be with us on Sunday, November 12 at both services. Dr. William Kuhn will lead the music and the professor assigned to preach that day representing the University is known to us – Rev. Dr. Phillip Brandt.

As is our custom, we will set aside time on the eve of Thanksgiving for a communion service at 7:15pm on Nov. 22. It should also be noted that because the 24th of December falls on a Sunday there are only three Wednesdays in Advent this year. We all seem to look forward to the Holden Evening Prayer Service. Just to be clear – those services will be held on December 6th, 13th and 20th at 7:15 pm.

The Spiritual Life Board has also set the Christmas Schedule as follows:

**December**

1. **December 2** Birthday for Jesus Party
2. **December 3** Pin Pals Christmas Boutique
3. **December 6** Jr. Youth Progressive Dinner
4. **December 13** Advent Worship Services
5. **December 10** Sr. Youth Progressive Dinner
6. **December 24** Christmas Eve Service
7. **December 25** The Nativity of our Lord

And perhaps that is why I sense that November (and December) are rolling upon us. Yet we must never forget that we gather in a spirit of great joy for it is God who has looked down upon us in our helpless condition and provided for our salvation in the sending of His Son. He comes to rescue us, lead us, challenge us, comfort us and bless us.

Pastor Brandt
**Thanksgiving Food Drive!**

It’s Thanksgiving Food Drive time!
YOU can help contribute to the Thanksgiving Meals that the Jr. and Sr. Youth will prepare for 12 Tualatin families in need. Please bring non-perishable food items or a cash/check donation to Living Savior from ...  

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 through WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OUR WISH LIST!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canned Fruits &amp; Vegetables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuffing Mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canned Cranberries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canned Refried Beans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash or Check</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Be sure to check the expiration date on the items—we are unable to use if expired. Place your donations on the tables provided in the Nar-then(entrance)way on Sunday mornings before or after worship, Wednesday evenings or during the week during office hours.

It’s an all-church effort! …

The Jr/Sr Youth Neighborhood Food Drive is Sunday, Nov. 12. The Jr. Youth shopping spree for perishable items is Friday, November 17 at midnight!

The Sr. Youth assemble and deliver meals Saturday, Nov. 18.

Checks payable to: Living Savior with note: “Thanksgiving Meals”

Don’t miss your opportunity to help!

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**NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD DRIVE**

**LOCK-IN!!** (10:00 pm - 9:00 am)

**FRI-SAT., NOV 17-18**

**SUNDAY, NOV 12**

**NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD DRIVE - Jr. Youth vs Sr. Youth! (12:15-3:00 pm)**

**FRI-SAT., NOV 10-11**

**“BELIEVE” GATHERING** at Rolling Hills Church

**“BEYOND BELIEVE” GATHERING** at Living Savior (both groups will stay overnight at Living Savior)

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**SR. YOUTH**

**WEDNESDAYS**

1/7 “WHAT WAS I THINKING?” - Special guest speaker, Kate Kelleher, talks about the steps of a decision-making process, where cause and effect are a BIG DEAL. We’ll talk about options for taking personal responsibility as teens prepare for the REAL World of adulthood.

1/8 BIBLE STUDY - You’ll need to bring your own Bible!

1/15 Thanksgiving Meal FOOD SORT!

1/22 Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

1/29 No Sr. Youth

**FRI-SAT., NOV 17-18**

**LOCK-IN!!** (10:00 pm - 9:00 am)

**JR. & SR. YOUTH**

**SUNDAY, NOV 12**

**NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD DRIVE** - Jr. Youth vs Sr. Youth! (12:15-3:00 pm)

**FRI-SAT., NOV 10-11**

**“BELIEVE” GATHERING** at Rolling Hills Church

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**NOVEMBER DEVOTION**

**A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

-by Judy C.

Has a song every become stuck in your head so that it repeats over and over again, even when you try your best to divert it with something else? This can be a good thing if it is a hymn that is uplifting and states scriptural truth. It is not so good if it is a silly song or a catchy tune with no redeeming value to the lyrics.

Having been immersed in Reformation history and celebrating the 500th Anniversary of this event, we have been hearing a great deal about Martin Luther and how his writings and his musical compositions have impacted the entire world. And of course, his most famous hymn is A Mighty Fortress Is Our God. This is the music that has been playing in my ear for several weeks now.

The words of the hymn are based on Psalm 46:

**God Is Our Fortress**

To the choirmaster. Of the Sons of Korah. According to Alamoth. A Song.

46 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.
The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah
Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth.
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.
20 He still, and know that I am God.

I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" 11 The Lora of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah

I find it so interesting that the same Psalm which speaks of the earth giving away, mountains being moved into the heart of the sea, roaring and foaming waters, mountains trembling as the water swells, moves into verse 10 which advises us to be still.
We don’t live in a time of much stillness. We need to keep track of all of our activities and commitments on our electronic devices which keep us continually in touch with others. Even when we have a spare minute, there never seems to be a prolonged time of quietness, unless we plan for it.

And with the holidays rapidly approaching, we need to decide in advance when we will be taking the time to be still and focus on how we will exalt God “among the nations and in the earth!”

Advent devotion books will soon be available as a tool for preparing a quiet time and to keep our focus on the reason for the “holy-days.” Inasmuch as Christmas decorations are already showing up in the aisles of our stores and in TV commercials, I bet that soon we will be hearing Christmas music as we shop for our groceries.

Don’t let the secular celebrations and activities of Christmas intrude upon our sacred preparations for the days to come. We remember that God is our refuge and strength. He is our Mighty Fortress. He can keep us singing His songs of praise and thanksgiving as we choose to spend time with Him.

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**MIGHTY FORTRESS**

- Judy C.
News from Bethesda

Open Hearts

Open Hearts is an adult Sunday School class for students with intellectual disabilities, ages 16+. Individuals of all abilities come together weekly to share our joys and love for God and each other. Happy voices ring out as the students join in singing God’s praise, acting out Bible stories, completing a craft or exchanging warm hugs. We also take part in activities that bring God’s love into our community and beyond—for example, through a Christmas card ministry which places a prepared card into prisons around the country. If you know anyone who may like to join us, please know that they are welcome. Family members may want to sit in on one of our classes to see if Open Hearts is right for them. You are most welcome! Questions? Please contact Roberta in the church office.

Sundays at 10:45 am
Joppa Room
Living Savior Lutheran Church

OPEN HEARTS BIBLE CLASS AT LIVING SAVIOR

Auxiliary

It was good to have Pastor Philemon Ngare come speak to us and share information about Bethesda Lutheran Community. We enjoyed seeing his family. We thank Pastor and Mrs. Alexander for taking them out to lunch to show our appreciation. Thank you to all of you who helped in many ways at the bazaar. We contributed $1256.00 to the Auxiliary treasury.

Thinking ahead — we hope to develop a program to meet new state regulations. People in Bethesda homes leave the home each day and go to day programs. They will now have the opportunity to choose where they want to go. It is our hope they will choose to come to our fellowship all twice a month for Bethesda Connection. It is our opportunity to share the story of Jesus’ love for all God’s children. There will also be time for music and activities.

If you have ideas or suggestions, please share them. Also pray that this will be the beginning steps for them to call Living Savior their church home.

-Sylvia S.

Group Homes

The Fall, Thanksgiving, and Christmas are such a special times of year, a very busy time of year. Our church tradition of supporting our Group Home Friends will continue this year. The theme for the November dinners and Bible study will be “How Blessed We Are” and how we should give thanks every day.

The Annual Christmas Service and luncheon will be on December 2nd from 12-2:30. Help will be needed. The gift list will be up early December. We are in the middle of organizing a new bimonthly program which will be a fun event for our Group Home Friends more information in December.

Please pray for God’s guidance to help this time be a benefit for our Group home Friends.

Wishing everyone a very blessed Thanksgiving.

-Kathye G.

Secular themes include leaves and Thanksgiving. The wonderful changing of fall leaves will be explored through the touch table, art projects, science, and books. Thanksgiving will be learned through books, activities, and our feast later this month.

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, November always reminds us of all the ways God blesses us and our thankfulness to HIM. At preschool, we’re thankful for the wonderful families who bless our lives with their precious children.

Our Bible stories this month all share the lesson of giving thanks to God, often in difficult situations. We start the month learning about Gideon and his small army. God was with them as they fought in battle. Next, we learn about David the shepherd boy. God protected him as he watched over the sheep and fought Goliath. Then we learn about the tabernacle, the tent church, and how the people worshipped God when times were very difficult. Through all the difficulties these people faced, God was with them every step of the way. For that, they were all thankful. The last week we look ahead at the coming of the Savior.

Mark Your Calendars for Pie Pick-up:
IF you supported the preschool fundraiser and bought a “Pie for Preschool”.

Friday morning, November 17th the pies arrive!
Denice will be calling you to setup a time to come to church and pick up your order that day. Thank you all for your support of preschool! Enjoy your pies during the holidays!

Mark Your Calendars for Pie Pick-up:

The preschool staff and I give thanks for all your support!
Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!
Denice and Staff

At preschool

As the leaves fall from the trees, November always reminds us of all the ways God blesses us and our thankfulness to Him. At preschool, we’re thankful for the wonderful families who bless our lives with their precious children.

The first part of the month we will have a restaurant in the dramatic play area. Children will be customers and order food, while others take orders and serve the food prepared by the chefs. The last two weeks the children can explore theater with puppets. A variety of puppets will be available for children to share common and made up stories with their friends.
**Stephen Ministers: The After People**

People often ask, “What exactly is a Stephen Minister?” One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the *After People*.

Stephen Ministers are there:

- ...*after* the phone call you hoped you’d never get.
- ...*after* the divorce papers are served and the bottom falls out of your life.
- ...*after* the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you’ve held at bay come crashing in on you.
- ...*after* the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, “Welcome to your new home.”
- ...*after* the last child horns the horn, waves and drives away – and the house suddenly seems empty.
- ...*after* the gavel goes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.
- ...*after* the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.
- ...*after* you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.
- ...*after* your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the “*After People.*” They are ready to come alongside you – or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives – and provide comfort and support for as long after as needed.

If you or you know of someone who needs an “*After Person*” to walk alongside them, contact the church office at 503.692.3490.

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**Come Check Us Out!**

**Time to curl up with a good book?**

DVD’s and books are plentiful in our church library. Please take a minute to browse through our inventory. The library is located on the second floor, next to the Upper Room (arched entries). There is self-check out.

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**Shut In Ministry**

“You are those who have stood by me in my trials.” — Luke 22:28

Living Savior has an active team of people who have a heart for those who are unable to attend church because of illness or disabilities. As a visitor to shut ins, they have an opportunity to make a positive difference in someone’s life by visiting and bringing to them fellowship and love from the congregation.

- **WOULD YOU LIKE TO VISIT SHUT INS?**
  Volunteers are trained for this ministry. If you would like to be a part of this ministry or have questions, please call the church office at 503.692.3490.
- **We welcome new members to our ministry:** Sandra and Pete P. and Kathy M.
- **DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WE CAN VISIT?**
  Contact the church office at 503.692.3490 and let us know.

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**Greeting Card Collection**

Thank you, thank you, thank you!! We have fully restocked the greeting card files at three assisted living facilities, Marquis and Riverwood in Tualatin and The Springs in Sherwood. Your Christmas card donations will be very helpful for residents who find it hard to get to a store. We are no longer collecting cards until late spring or summer.

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**Sunday, December 3**

**Between and after services**

The date has been set! The church quilting group, “Pin Pals” will hold their Christmas Boutique Sunday, December 3. It will be set up in the narthex with a wide variety of lovingly hand-made Christmas gifts including table-runners, coffee table center-pieces, jewelry pouches, and holiday themed kitchen items like aprons and pot-holders and even reusable fabric gift-bags to wrap them in.

Proceeds from the sale are used to purchase batting for the quilts and to pay for shipping the quilts to Lutheran World Relief warehouses. Hope to see you there!
BOOK CLUB
Henri J.M. Nouwen has a chance encounter with a reproduction of Rembrandt’s The Return of the Prodigal Son and begins a long spiritual journey. He shares the deeply personal and resonant meditation that led him to discover the place where God has chosen to dwell. We will discuss the impact the painting had on Nouwen and how his book speaks to us today.

We meet the second Saturday of each month, 10:00-11:30 am, September-May. A lively discussion of the book, fellowship is shared and we are refreshed with morning goodies, coffee and tea. Please consider joining the group when you can and invite a friend! There is no obligation to attend every month and no pressure to have the right answers because there are NO right answers. The following is a listing of the books that will be read and discussed:

Coming up…

Nov. 11  The Return of the Prodigal Son  Henri Nouwen
Dec. No meeting and no book assigned
Jan. 13  Anne of Green Gables  L.M. Montgomery

*Friends of Living Savior Lutheran are welcome to join us as well. You may know someone in the workplace or community who would benefit from our group. Questions? Call the church office at 503.692.3490.*

MAIL FROM OUR MEMBERS

I just wanted to give a big thank you to all involved in making the Oktoberfest event so successful and enjoyable. Thank you to the people who prepared the food, the workers in kitchen, those setting up, making food, washing dishes, planning entertainment, decorating and cleaning up—everyone! This was a wonderful, fun affair and a true celebration.

- A grateful member of Living Savior

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Year to Date Contributions, as of 10/15/2017 are as follows:

General Fund:
Received: $ 444,555
Budget: $ 404,151
Variance: $ +40,404

2017 Budget Update: At the January Voters’ Assembly meeting, the 2017 Budget we approved had $30,489 more in expected expenses than expected giving. We approved the use of excess funds from 2016 to balance the 2017 Budget. Thanks to your wonderful generosity, our year-to-date giving has exceeded our budgeted giving and we have received gifts to cover all of our year-to-date expenses. Accordingly, if our giving remains constant, we do not expect that we will have to use reserve funds to cover our 2017 expenses.

Building fund contributions: $ 49,488

Thank you for your generous gifts!

Debt Update:
The current balance on the Building Loan is $1,463,847.

During the year, we have received gifts to balance our year to date giving has exceeded our budgeted giving. We have used excess funds from 2016 to balance our year to date expenses. Accordingly, if our giving remains constant, we do not expect that we will have to use reserve funds to cover our 2017 expenses.

Building fund contributions: $ 49,488

Joining Living Savior on Sun., October 22 were John & Janice K. and Gea C.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

For those who are new to the Community Warehouse, it is like a food bank – only they focus on household goods and furnishings. They are located in Tualatin:

8380 SW Nyberg Street
503-612-0020
M-F: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Sat-Sun: 10:30 am – 4:00 pm

We will continue to collect smaller items that will fit in or next to the purple bag. If you are looking for a worthwhile organization to donate furniture that truly serves needy people in our community, this is a great place. You can either drop it off yourself or they will pick up large items at your house for $30.

For information about Community Warehouse go to: www.communitywarehouse.org

Angel Tree 2017 makes it possible for us to show the love of our Lord and Savior to the children we adopt, who will be missing their parent(s) who are in Prison. We will be partnering again this year with Beaverton Rotary.

Many Volunteers are needed to help put up our Angel Tree on Nov 11th, write Angel Tree tags to hang on our Tree, Man the Tree on Sunday Nov 12th & 19th and to help with Q’s & record each tag taken from the tree. Volunteers will take a tag, buy a gift & return with the tag & gift(s) unwrapped in a bag by Sun. Dec. 3rd or Wed. Dec. 6th. Sorting gifts by family & city, Thurs. Dec. 7th. Wrapping days are Fri. & Sat. Dec. 8th & 9th. Deliveries can start as early as Sat., Dec. 9th. You will be able to set a time that works for both you and your Angel Tree Family for deliveries.

I will have a sign-up sheet in the Narthex soon. Thank you for considering to join us this year. Make a difference that counts. Please call or sign up to join us this year, WE NEED YOU! Call the church office at 503-692-3490.

SCRIP

Don’t forget to plan for your holiday shopping by stocking up on scrip which is available to order every Sunday. Scrip is basically gift cards that can be purchased for almost all of your shopping needs from groceries, clothing, entertainment, hobbies and much, much more!
LIVING SAVIOR SCHOLARSHIP

The Living Savior Scholarship will be awarded in the spring of 2018. The purpose of the scholarship is to encourage faith development and higher education in the youth of Living Savior Lutheran Church.

All members of Living Savior between the ages of 17 and 25 are encouraged to apply for one of two $1,000 scholarships to be used in pursuit of a baccalaureate or associate degree during the summer or fall of 2018.

Applications are available between January 1st and March 31st and must be accompanied by an essay on the subject of "What my Christian Faith Means to Me." The winning entry will be chosen by a 3-member panel and the scholarship will be awarded in May.

As members of Living Savior, we need to raise the scholarship funds. You can make a designated contribution directly to the scholarship fund by sending a check to the church and indicating that it is for the "Scholarship Fund" on the face of the check. Please consider making a donation as you plan your end-of-year charitable contributions.

Any questions? Please call the church office at 503.692.3490.

KEEPING IN TOUCH:

A familiar title, but a new logo. "CONNECTED"!!! My name is Lou Hanson and I have been working at taking over the reigns of this specific outreach ministry. It is one that, for me, answers the call of my Lord while speaking to my heart and soul.

The "connected" logo:

Heart = Christ’s all encompassing love in His church community.
"Connected" = Our status with the Lord & each other.
Circles = individual lives entwined in fellowship.
Circles outside the heart = those who have stepped into a temporary disconnect, for whatever reason, who possibly need the touch of a loving hand of friendship.

Today the sermon in church was by Rev. Philemon Ngare. As the Spirit would do for us, He gave me special input on this day I was set to write the final draft of my first newsletter article. The subject of the sermon? CONNECTED! The first thing he asked was “WHO are you connected to?” First we are connected to God/Christ/Holy Spirit. We all fall inside that ‘love connection’. Our second connection is to one another. Okay, that covers the commandments of our Lord!!! Now to our commissioning: we are sent out with an invitation to share His love, mercy and hope to all we touch. That happens naturally in the worship and fellowship opportunities at church. But what if someone is unable, for whatever reason, to be present in that setting?

My purpose for corresponding with you is to ask you to be more vigilant in your surrounding church setting. If you notice that someone is absent for several fellowship occasions, please make this be known.

As the Lord works in your heart to reveal to you special awareness, I so look forward to hearing from you.

In His service,
Lou

SAVE THE DATES!

PARENTING THE LOVE AND LOGIC WAY
Wednesday evenings. Jan 3 to Feb 7 (6 sessions)

Love and Logic is dedicated to making parenting and teaching fun and rewarding, instead of stressful and chaotic. Love and Logic is a way of working with children that puts parents and teachers back in control, teaches children to be responsible, and prepares young people to live in the real world, with its many choices and consequences.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE MORE FUN PARENTING?!

Then watch for more information and registration form in the December Newsletter!