



The Messenger

Our Savior Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Paradise, California

November 2017

You are Saved by Grace Through Faith:

Now What?



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The Reformation has come and gone. We have sung "A Mighty Fortress," we have eaten our beer brats (thank you Roger!) and we have been reminded that salvation is found only in the promise of God fulfilled on the cross of Calvary and not a matter of righteous living or positive thinking. My question now is: what is there left to do? Plan our Thanksgiving meal? Complain that the stores are now filled with Christmas trees and blow-up Santa globes? Let's take a look at how the Apostle Paul summarizes the Christian faith, again.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. *For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*" *Ephesians 2:8-10*

Notice that after Paul so familiarly proclaims that salvation is the work of God alone and He gives it to us as a gift, that our faith doesn't stop at the cross, or the tomb, or even at the ascension of Jesus. Faith declares us to be God's workmanship, to be His creation for the purpose of His good works. We are saved and then called new creations in Christ and told to go into the world as lights, as beacons of God's grace and mercy for the condemned and hurting.

You might be telling yourself that you are not up to the task or are simply too busy to take an hour or two out of your day for the sake of your neighbor. But listen to Paul: "created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." This faith that saves, this faith that trusts in the promises of God, also shows us the good works which God places in our path like stones that stick up out of the river that keep our feet dry. Living by faith is not necessarily a matter of carving time out of your day for God. If we are walking in faith we know He is with us and we are looking for what God is doing in our lives, who He is introducing us to.

So before you weigh the pros and cons of deep frying your turkey this year, or pin on that "put Christ back in Christmas" button, remember, you are saved by grace through faith... now "walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory." *1 Thes. 1:12*



Greetings,

Pastor Brandon was our speaker for our October meeting and the topic was the Reformation. Our business meeting included a discussion on the SMILES luncheon and also about a new Phebian President in January. We will need to take a vote on this but, Wendy Merrick has volunteered to take the job.

The SMILES luncheon was once again successful. I do believe these special people from ARC and COVE **enjoyed** our simple menu of hot dogs, potato salad, chips and colorful fall cupcakes. This is an annual project for the community that we do every year and have for many years.

It is always amazing to me how so many volunteers step up when there is the Lord's work to do. Thanks to all the volunteers and to John Hantelman who continued on with his yearly joke telling and entertaining job when he had so many other things to be concerned about. I thank him very much.

Our November 6 Phebian meeting will include some simple crafts that Linda Johnson has prepared for us to do. We will be preparing for our craft and bake sale on the following Sunday, November 12.

Blessings,
Judy Klaves

From the District LWML...

Mites

As a district we are still \$97,000 away from our Mission Goal. Of this amount, half will go to our local mission projects and the other half goes towards national LWML mission projects and the general fund. At present we are working on **GRANT #10 - LINC BAY AREA THEOLOGICAL TRAINING for \$20,000**. The purpose of this grant is as

follows: "Most of our congregations in the Bay Area are struggling to make their presence felt. A large factor which cannot be ignored is the huge demographic shift that has taken place in many communities in the past decades. The "nations" are no longer "over there somewhere", they are here. The Bay Area is considered the 2nd most diverse region, of the 150 largest, in the U.S. More than 120 languages are spoken here and 1 of every 3 people is foreign born. The time has come for LCMS to make crosscultural church planting a priority. To that end, LINC (Lutheran Inter-City Network Coalition) Bay Area, is a strategic network of people, churches and organizations that collaborate in God's work to restore the people of the area to Christ. Presently, they are partnering to develop training for local indigenous missionary leaders as LCMS pastors, through a Concordia Seminary (St. Louis) theological education distance program. This grant will fund scholarships for 5 present indigenous church planters."

District Convention

Make plans now to join us April 27 – 29, 2018 at the Doubletree Hotel in Newark/Fremont for the district convention. The theme will be "*Rejoice...Pray...Be At Peace.*" More details will be available after the first of the year.



This month, in preparation of Advent next month and the birth of Jesus Christ, I am recommending a Lutheran Hour Ministries Bible study on Joseph, husband of Mary and father to Jesus. "The man driving the Christmas story in this Bible study is none other than Joseph, the foster-father of Jesus. Join us as host Rev. Gregory Seltz, Speaker for The Lutheran Hour, sheds light on one of the New Testament's unsung heroes in *Joseph: Carpenter of Steel*. Adding historical perspective to this study is scholar and best-selling author Dr. Paul L. Maier."



October was a very busy month at the Day Care. Our Busy Beaver class had a very successful open house where the parents were able to come and meet their children's teachers. It was a great bonding time for children, teachers, and parents. Miss Ingrid and Miss Farron were able to meet each parent. The parents were able to see what their children will be working on in the classroom this year, as opposed to just reading about it or hearing about the activities from their children.



On October 31st, Halloween, the preschool class had a pajama and pancake day. They had a fun time wearing their pajamas and everyone enjoyed the pancakes that the teachers made.

They all want to know when they get to have another "fun" activity day.

November will also be a very busy month, as it is the start of the Holiday season. We will begin planning our Christmas Program. The preschool children will be doing many fall activities. The Busy Beaver class will put on a luncheon and program for their parents as they have done in the past. The children always enjoy helping to cut up items for the luncheon and singing for their parents.



Families become very busy this time of year. There is a lot of travel to family gatherings so I pray each of you enjoy the quality time with family and make it a giving time of year.

In Christ,
Miss Cheryl

TOWN HALL MEETING

On Sunday, November 19th in between services there will be a town hall meeting to discuss our new budget. A special "budget task force" was assembled for the purpose of simplifying and auditing the church and preschool budget. At the meeting, we will explain the changes to the new budget and decisions that were made in regards to projecting income and adjusting expenses. This is an informational meeting only to familiarize our members with the budget and to answer questions. There will be a voter's meeting on December 10th where we will vote to accept the budget and to vote on council members. There will be more about the voter's meeting in our December newsletter.



Our annual Bake and Craft Sale for the benefit of Bethesda Lutheran Communities will be on Sunday, November 12 after each service. Be sure and stop by to check out the crafts and to pick up some yummy treats. If you love to bake or have a special recipe that you would like to contribute, please bring in your items Friday, November 10th in the afternoon or by 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 11th.

Church Officers & Board Members

As we approach our fall voters' meeting in December, there will be positions available. If you are approached to serve, please give prayerful consideration. Terms are for one year and the positions are:

President - Chairs the monthly Church Council meeting and the annual Voters Meeting. Reviews and approves all requests for payment made through the church office. He is responsible to sign documents as congregation's legal representative. Appoints committees as needed. Time commitment varies, but 30 minutes per week to approve requests for payment and one hour a month for church council are the ongoing time commitments.

Vice-President - Chairs Church Council or Voters assembly in absence of President. Serves as member of the Board of Education. Time commitment is one hour each month for Church Council meeting and a hour every other month for Board of Education meeting.

Financial Secretary - In charge of the collection of offerings and counting the offerings and having offering recorded. Primary "job" is to recruit and assign weekly counters. New Financial Secretary will have ongoing crews with which to work. Office staff handles the posting of the offerings. Financial Secretary attends monthly church council meeting. Weekly time commitment is to pick-up offering and place in church safe. Fills in for counters when a crew member can't take their normal turn.

Secretary - Attends the monthly church council meeting and annual voters meeting. Time commitment - an hour a month for church council and another hour for publishing the minutes of the meetings.

Treasurer - Responsible for paying all bills for the congregation and maintaining financial records. This is done in partnership with the church office which does the check preparation and posting of income and expense. Time commitment is probably 1-2 hours per week.

Board of Elders - Meet monthly with Pastor to discuss & plan the worship life of the congregation. They assist the pastor as needed to support him in his work. Each elder is assigned approximately 20 families to be their link to the congregation and pastor. Time commitment is hour and half for monthly meeting and then as much as

needed for contacting their member families through the year.

Board of Education - Serve as school board for the daycare and preschool. Responsible for Sunday School and Bible Classes, and youth group activity. Much of their area of responsibility is carried out by church staff but they provide oversight and assistance as needed. Bi-monthly meeting which usually lasts one hour.

Board of Health and Wellness Ministry - work with elder chairman of the group once a month to discuss individuals who need visits and support, upcoming projects, and ongoing activity such as quarterly blood pressure screening. Time commitment will vary, one-two hours for monthly meeting and then varies with calls needing to be made or special seminars or projects that need support.

Board of Trustees, Chairman - Responsible for the maintenance of buildings and grounds. Attend monthly meetings of church council, meet with other members of the Board of Trustees as needed. Currently striving to spend 1-2 hours a week working on projects. Other time commitment comes from special projects.

Board of Outreach Ministry - meet monthly to discuss ways to encourage fellowship among our own members and ways to witness to our community. Ongoing projects like every three year picture directory, and Angel Tree Christmas gift project. Time commitment varies with number of special projects being done.

The Church's by-laws have a more extensive list of responsibilities.



An additional opportunity to serve...

We are in need of someone who would be willing to update the message on our front sign each month. It is very easy and would be less than an hour of your time. Please see Pastor Brandon or Roger for more information. Thank you.

November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Our Savior Lutheran Church 6404 Pentz Road Paradise, CA 95969 530-877-7321			1	2	3	4
			9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Choir	10:00 In Home Bible Study		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	9:30 Phebian's (no Large Print)	9:30 Large Print 5:00 Small Group 6:00 Church Council	9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Choir	10:00 In Home Bible Study 6:00 Girl Scouts		9:00 Craft & Bake Sale Set up
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Craft & Bake Sale		5:00 Small Group	9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Choir	10:00 In Home Bible Study		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Budget Info Mtg between services	9:30 Large Print	9:30 Large Print		Thanksgiving Holiday Church Office & Day Care Closed	Church Office & Day Care Closed	
26	27	28	29	30		
		5:00 Small Group	9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Choir	10:00 In Home Bible Study 4:00 Bd - Outreach 5:00 Bd - Education 6:30 Bd - Elders		

November 2017



Carol Arrington	11/5
Art Larsen	11/7
Cindy Schatz	11/7
Hellen Bonesio	11/8
Cheryl Mock	11/11
Barbara Richardson	11/11
Carl Johnson	11/13
Laurel Ferretti	11/15
Robert Mangold	11/15
Jan Wade	11/19
Stephen McDermott	11/20
Don Zimmer	11/26
Dottie Deffner	11/27
Jerry Kahovec	11/29

If your birthday or anniversary should be listed, please let the office know.

Thank you.

Elders: November 12: John Hantelman and Dan Hall
November 26: Lee Bess and Carl Johnson

Ushers:
November 5 8:00 Mike Lange and Ray Redinger
10:30 Ryan and Curtis Eiler
November 12 8:00 Cal and Kathy Richardson
10:30 Larry and Jacque Bonesio
November 19 8:00 Ken Scott
10:30 Jason Berg, Carl Johnson, Karen Mueller
November 22 6:30 p Thanksgiving Eve Service
November 26 8:00 John Diefenderfer and Don Long
10:30 Dan and Kerry Hall

Acolytes
November 5 8:00 Katelyn Merrick
10:30
November 12 8:00 Hollyn Merrick
10:30 Jackson Merrick
November 19 8:00 Michael Diefenderfer
10:30
November 22 6:30 p Thanksgiving Eve Service
November 26 8:00 Hollyn Merrick
10:30 Jackson Merrick

Altar Guild: Hilary Fleischmann and Anita Towslee



Mark ♥ Susan Stenbeck 11/1
5 years together