



A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE ON GIVING THANKS...

GIVING THANKS keeps us mindful of God's continuous generosity.

It's easy for Christians to fall into the temptation of celebrating Thanksgiving without the centrality of God. Often there is a great deal of stress placed on generalized gratitude for all that we have in this world. We are told to be thankful, to value what we have received—but to whom are we thankful? Instead of being thankful to Jesus, we often substitute life, this world, nature, goodness, and the like.

During the month of November, as we give thanks to God our heavenly Father, remember that *everything* we have doesn't merely come from stores, factories, or even the earth, but rather is a blessing from God Almighty.

The above was edited from "Teaching Thanksgiving through Jesus' Example" by Phil Rigdon. To read Rigdon's blog visit blog.cph.org.

NOVEMBER

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY EVENING—6:00 pm

SUNDAY MORNING—8:00 am | 10:30 am

HOLY COMMUNION—November 4 and 5; 18 and 19

THANKSGIVING SERVICE—November 23 at 9:00 am

COMING IN DECEMBER...

ADVENT 6, 13, 20—5:00 pm Meal | 5:45 pm Worship | 6:30 pm Confirmation

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM—Sunday, December 17 at 10:30 am

NO SERVICE—Saturday, December 23

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES—Sunday, December 24 at 9:00 am and 6:00 pm

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE—Monday, December 25 at 9:00 am

SAT. DEC. 30 w/HC—6:00 pm | **SUN., DEC. 31 w/HC**—8:00 and 10:30 am

(The December 30 and 31 services will be led by Pastor Kolander.)

BIBLE STUDIES, CLASSES and ETC...

EDUCATION HOUR FOR ALL AGES—Sunday following the 8:00 am service

LADIES MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY—November 6 at 6:30 pm. Chapter seven from "A Case for Miracles" by Lee Strobel will be discussed. Contact Mindy Braun at 608-792-9238 with questions. For a recap of the October Bible Study, please refer to page three.

CASUAL CONVERSATION with Pastor Mark and Marilyn Kolander

November 7 and December 5 from 9:30—11:00 am. Stop by the Narthex for conversation, encouragement, sharing of ideas and tasty baked goods!

BOOK of REVELATION BIBLE STUDY—Led by Pastor Mark Kolander

November 7, 14, 21 and 28 from 6—7:30 pm.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY—Wednesday at 9:30 am

CONFIRMATION—Wednesday at 6:00/6:30 pm

No class November 22. Happy Thanksgiving!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY—Thursday at 9:30 am

ONGOING MINISTRY MEETING SCHEDULE

TRUSTEES—Thursday, November 9 at 5:30 pm

FELLOWSHIP—Monday, November 13 at 11:30 am at Perkin's

ELDERS—Monday, November 13 at 6:00 pm

EDUCATION—Tuesday, November 14 at 6:30 pm

COUNCIL—Thursday, November 16 at 6:30 pm

Schedules subject to change. Check the church bulletin, Facebook, Website or Weekly Update for updates.



IS GOD CALLING YOU TO SERVE?
HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Look no further! Your help is needed here—right now

GREETERS

Say “Hello” to people—members and non-members—who are joining us for worship

Greet people prior to the service. Following the service invite visitors to fill out a Connect Card and to pick up a “Goodie Bag”. To volunteer,

PROJECTOR

Advance the projector slides during the church service

To volunteer contact an Elder

COUNT OFFERING

Record the offering or help assist, organize and count funds.

To volunteer contact Betsy Jessie at betsylou13@hotmail.com

SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS

Provide treats, coffee and fellowship

Sign up sheet at The Welcome and Opportunity Center.

USHERS

Help people get to where they are going

To volunteer contact an Elder

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

SHARE TIPS, CONCERNS AND SUPPORT WITH THOSE AFFECTED BY CANCER

The “Cancer Support Group” will not meet during November and December, but will resume in January.

Cancer Support Contact: Shawn Mahoney 608-797-1927

EDUCATION MINISTRY

ASSISTS WITH THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF OUR STUDENTS

FALL TEACHER’S MEETING—Sunday, November 12 at 11:30 am in the chapel. A light lunch will be served. The children and spouses of the teachers are welcome for lunch.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE SCHEDULE

The Sunday School students will present “Away in the Manger” on Sunday, December 17 during the 10:30 am service.

Practice for “Away in the Manger” will be held on Sunday, December 3 and 10 during Education Hour following a brief Sunday School lesson.

On Sunday, December 24 and 31 students are asked to meet in the chapel for a Christmas movie and craft during Education Hour.

Education Contact: Hanni Cowley 608-863-6767 | hannicowley@yahoo.com

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY

CONNECTS PEOPLE THROUGH FUN, FOOD and FELLOWSHIP

CRAFT DAY—Saturday, November 18 from 9:00 am—3:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. This event is open to anyone who wants company while they quilt, do needlepoint, scrapbook, etc. Bring your own lunch and snacks. **It’s time to get creative!**

ADVENT by CANDLELIGHT REHEARSAL—Sunday, November 26 after the 10:30 am service. Meet in the Fellowship Hall.

Fellowship Contact: Jana Underkofler jounder5js@gmail.com

HUMAN CARE MINISTRY

SERVES THE NEEDS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY AND OUR COMMUNITY

PRAYER CHAIN

to submit requests (or to join the prayer chain) please contact Sharon at sryan6731@gmail.com, 608-526-6731, or the church office.

ONALASKA FOOD PANTRY

November request—Hamburger Helper, etc. Donations may be left on the shelves located across from The Welcome and Opportunity Center.

Human Care Contact: Sue Mravik at suemravik@gmail.com

MUSIC MINISTRY

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD!

CHIMES—Wednesday at 6:00 pm | **CHOIR**—Wednesday at 6:30 pm

THE CHOIR SINGS during the 10:30 am service on the second and fourth Sunday of the month.

COMBINED CHOIR CONCERT—Sunday, December 10 at 6:00 pm. Visit page four for more information on this special event.

Sign up for all events at The Welcome and Opportunity Center

CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS FOR October 19

Submitted by Carolyn Bey

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mark reported that SOTH has still been experiencing a summer-like slump in giving, relative to expenses, through September and into October. There are currently more expenses, (bills and salaries), needing to be paid than there is money coming in to cover them. The financial stewardship report, year to date, 9/30/2023, is as follows--
-Total Ministry Support Received = \$314,816. Total Ministry Expense = \$350,638. Total Ministry Support received/Budget = 87%. Total Ministry Expense/Budget = 77%.
Mortgage Principle paid = \$\$25,816. Current Mortgage Balance = \$331,707.

ELECTRONIC SIGN UPDATE:

SOTH will not have to pay the \$500 to La Crosse Sign Company, at this time, to design an electronic sign for us to purchase at a later date. We would only be charged that amount if we do not use their company at such time that we order a sign. There is currently \$2,050 in the designated sign account.

BUDGETS:

Mark would like all of the ministries to get their projected 2024 budgets in as soon as possible so the council can discuss them at the November meeting.

WORSHIP SERVICES:

All of our services are strictly Bible Based. The style and music for our services is still being worked on by Pastor and Kay Conzemius.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS UPDATE:

John Berg went through the changes the committee is recommending for the new Constitution and Bylaws and addressed questions that came up. It is close to being voted on by the council, then there will be a voter's information meeting where it will be presented and questions can be asked and answered. Then there will be a Voter's Meeting to approve or reject the changes proposed, and if approved, it will be forwarded to the South Wisconsin District for their approval.

GIVING TREE:

There will soon be a giving tree in the Narthex where we can take several "ornaments" that will have a Christmas gift request on each one, some for people in need, and some for Pet Smart gift cards to support La Crosse's Canine Unit. Gifts and gift cards need to be returned to the church at a date yet to be determined.



RECAP ON "CALLED by the HOLY SPIRIT" - Ladies Monday Night Bible Study (LMNBS)

Called by the Holy Spirit—Submitted by Mindy Braun

Miracles today and those recorded in the Bible...What do they have in common?

The LMNBS discussed Chapter 6 in "The Case for Miracles" by Lee Strobel. Here, we read about Craig Keener's investigation into contemporary miracle claims.

We opened with an article entitled "The Miracles of Jesus" by Pastor Bryan Wolfmuehler (posted 1/24/11). In Matt 8:1-4, a leper said "Lord if You are willing, You can make me clean". Jesus replied "I am willing". In Matt 8:5-13, a centurion asked Jesus to heal his servant, who was at home. "Jesus said to him, I will go and heal him. The centurion replied,

Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed...When Jesus heard this, He was astonished... (at the centurion's) great faith...Then Jesus said...It will be done just as you believed it would."

These miracles demonstrate coming before Jesus with faith, humility and trust. Jesus is powerful and willing. We marvel at miracles. Jesus marvels at, and commends our faith. We can trust Jesus to use His power compassionately to serve us and love us. The article ends by stating that the greatest miracle of all is when Jesus speaks "I forgive you, and a miracle occurs: we are forgiven."

Why are the miracles of Jesus recorded in the Bible? John 20:31 tells us: "But these things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name."

Next, we delved into the 18 contemporary miracle case studies that Keener investigated; bodies mended, illness eliminated, physical abilities restored, and people resuscitated. Faith, humility and trust were present. The timing of prayer and healing was dramatic. Jesus was revealed to the healed individual and also to all who witnessed the miracle. People came to faith. Jesus compassionately uses His power today, just as in Biblical times, and continues to make His salvation known to us.

Join us Monday, November 6 at 6:30 pm, as we discuss the science of miracles.

HELP US MEET OUR GOAL OF FILLING 200 BOXES!

PRAY!

DONATE **NEW!** SUPPLIES:

Toothbrushes | Bar Soap | Wash Cloths | Small Notebooks | Kids' Socks | Small Toys

DONATE MONEY (it costs \$10 to send one box)

ATTEND THE PACKING PARTY—Saturday, November 11 from 11:00 am—1:00 pm. Food, packing supplies, fellowship and fun provided!

Contact: Kelly Ziegelbein at kellyziegelbein@gmail.com or Polly Howe at p.m.75@hotmail.com

HERE'S HOW
YOU CAN
HELP!



Saturday, December 2 from 4-6:00 pm

ADVENT by candlelight

Prepare your heart for the coming of the Christ Child. Music, Scripture, dessert - and "Symbols of Christmas" - set in a beautifully festive environment!



Visit The Welcome and Opportunity Center
to reserve your spot!
RSVP by Friday, November 24!

LET LIGHT SHINE OUT OF DARKNESS

LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR ADVENT

MUSIC PROVIDED BY COMBINED SINGERS FROM AREA LCMS CHURCHES

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH, ONALASKA, WI
DECEMBER 10, 2023 AT 6:00 PM





SHEPHERD'S FLOCK PRESCHOOL

November 2023 • Shepherd of the Hills Newsletter

Monthly Update

During October, we took time to learn about many different types of transportation and vehicles! We also began our fall and pumpkin unit. Every month at preschool is busy for our teachers. This month we began our fall preschool assessments that will be used during our teacher conferences in November. We had a firefighter visit scheduled on October 26th. This was also our October Color Day- orange! Finally, we ended the month with our Fall Fiesta Party on October 30th! The preschoolers were able to dress up and do some special pumpkin activities, including a pumpkin pinata this year!

November Photo Album



Spaghetti Dinner Planning

It's that time of the year again when our preschool team is beginning to plan our Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction. We held our 1st planning meeting on October 23rd. If you have any connections to local businesses that would be interested in participating in our silent auction, please reach out to the preschool office!

SAVE THE DATE

Preschool Spaghetti Dinner
Fundraiser & Silent Auction

Friday, February 2, 2024

Join us for our biggest event of the year! We're hoping for our largest turnout of Shepherd of the Hills church members ever this year!

We can't wait to share our preschool program with you!





HAVE A QUESTION?

FIND YOUR ANSWER HERE!

Q & A

WHY? WHAT? HOW?

Do you have a question about your faith or how our church works? Do you want to know how your faith applies to your daily life? To submit a question, visit the church website at sothonalaska.org and click the Q & A tab. An answer to your question will be posted on the website—just because you asked.

All submissions are anonymous.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

- 2 Gordon Triebs
- 5 Emma Matthews
- 6 Jim Halvorson, Nova Phillips
- 8 Carol Hancock
- 12 Mandy Robbert
- 13 Jim Finch, Brennley Matz
- 14 Mike Lewis
- 15 Noah Baumgart, Madallyn Kneifl
DeAnn Lundene

- 17 Avery Cowley, Lisa Mahoney
- 18 Maggie Kriese
- 19 Pastor Baumgarn
- 20 Raelyn Cowley
- 21 Chuck Dahl
- 22 Pam Fahy, Gloria Haugen
- 23 Ava Breidenbach
- 24 Rick Guilette
- 29 Natalie White
- 30 Scott Musgjerd

Wedding Anniversaries

- 7 Allan and Lynne Dale
- 12 Francis and Heidi de la Rosa
- 13 Tim and Linda Kneifl
- 24 Shawn and Lisa Mahoney
- 26 Mike and Lois Knutson
- 28 Joe and Jana Underkofler

CONTACT US

Kira Peters—Admin. Asst./Church

608-783-0330
office@sothonalaska.com

Rev. David H. Baumgarn

507-227-5646
david.baumgarn@sothonalaska.com

Mark Kolander—Visiting Pastor

509-885-2490
mkolander2507@charter.net

Terry Ours—Head Elder

608-780—1422
terryours@gmail.com

Shepherd’s Flock Preschool

608-781-9445
shepherdsflockonalaska@gmail.com

Martha Keeffe—Communications

608-783-0330
martha.keeffe@sothonalaska.com

Hanni Cowley—Education Coordinator

608-863-6767
hannicowley@yahoo.com

OFFICE HOURS/COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE

Kira’s office hours

Monday—Thursday

9:00 am—2:30 pm

Friday

9:00 am—12:00 pm

Martha’s office hours

Tuesday—Thursday

9:00 am—3:00 pm

Submit ALL bulletin, Weekly Update and Narthex TV entries to Martha by noon on Tuesday of that week. Items received after the deadline will not be included. December Newsletter submissions must be received by noon on Tuesday, November 21.

CONNECT CARD for members, visitors and friends -

Provide your current contact information to receive up-to-date information on church activities and announcements! Connect cards are located in the back of the church pews.