



ST. BARTHOLOMEW NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2018



"To God be the Glory!" (1 Peter 4:11)

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF OUR GRACIOUS LORD AND SAVIOR, JESUS!

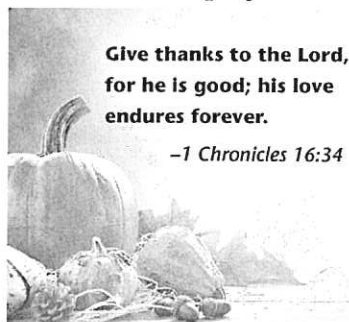
God's nature is love. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). Jesus tells us to love others as He has loved us (John 15:12). Love is the heart of the Gospel. The Apostle Paul, who wrote much of the New Testament, wrote again and again about Christ's love for us and our need to love Him by loving others. In his letter to the people in Corinth, Paul devotes a whole chapter to describe love (1 Corinthians 13).

When Sir Ernest Shackleton, an Irish-born British explorer of the Arctic, was asked to describe his most terrible moment in the Arctic, he said it occurred one night when he and the other members of his expedition were huddled together in a barren hut, trying to sleep. They had divided up the last of their food rations. There was nothing more to divide.

Then in the cold darkness, Sir Ernest heard a quiet movement. He turned and saw one of the men reach over and pick up the provision bag of the man beside him. Shackleton said he lived through an eternity of suspense the next few moments. He would have trusted his life to this man. Was he now turning out to be thief who would steal his comrade's last morsel of food? Then Shackleton saw the man open his provision bag, take out his last biscuit, and place it in the bag of his sleeping friend. Shackleton said, "I felt I had witnessed a secret moment between that man and God."

Because God has first loved us (1 John 4:19), each of us can be that person who gives away the last of our food. We can show love to one another in such a way, openly or in secret, that we are raised above the level of mere mortals to become more like our Creator. That is truly the imitation of God. As Jesus loved without expectation of that love being reciprocated, so we can learn to love not caring if we receive love in return. We can demonstrate our love by what we say and do. As we love others, we will become "little Christs." As Paul tells us: "Love one another with brotherly affection" (Romans 12:10). May Christ's love in us overflow to others.

You have already shown evidence of that love by your generous donations for the school kits. You now have more opportunities to demonstrate that love of Christ in you by giving to the Food 'N More project in November and the upcoming Adopt-A-Family project in December.



Give thanks to the Lord,
for he is good; his love
endures forever.

—1 Chronicles 16:34

Let us give thanks to God for His love in Christ and for blessing us so bountifully that we can be a blessing to others

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving

Pastor Krueger

Sharing, Believing, Living, Caring

FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

September Totals
Year-to-date Income: \$ 134,870.35
Year-to-date Expenses: \$ 133,847.31
Year-to-date Budget: \$ 122,292.00

+ + +

SPECIAL FUNDS CONTRIBUTORS

Nativity Fund

Matt Juno
Bud & Elaine Zeamer
John & Sheri Levash
Elliot & Dorothy Maile
Jerry & Sharon Urban
Pete & Judy Vechart
Norman Krahn
Janet Kalies
Shelly Jost
Lori Krueger

RELEASE

Bill & Dianne Schmidt to Trinity Lutheran, Brillion

KINGDOM WORKERS - NOVEMBER

The following members are listed as Kingdom workers for November in the following areas:

Ushers (Wednesdays): Lon Fels, Gary Koerth
(Sundays): Pete Kittel, Harlen Krahn

Altar Guild: Norma Drumm, Rhonda Geiger

Acolytes: Nov. 4 - Rachel
11 - Bailee
18 - Hilary
21 - (Wed.) Thanksgiving - Ava
25 - Alandra

ST. BARTHOLOMEW MISSION STATEMENT

Sharing the Good News of salvation with others
(Matt. 28:19)

Believing in Jesus as our Savior (John 3:16)

Living our faith in what we say and do (James 2:18)

Caring for those in need (1 Peter 3:15; Mark 10:45;
Eph. 4:28; 1 John 3:17)

SHARING, BELIEVING, LIVING AND CARING



If you would like to have a prayer sent on the Prayer Chain, please contact any one of the Prayer Chain members:

Judy Baer	56-2696
Renee Bonick	(920) 296-9164
Sue Detert	756-3439
Ralph & Sandy Haberland	(920) 524-2016
Kris Krueger	756-3912
Jean Peter (920)	875-0164
Faith Sonnabend	756-2779
Joan Zutz	756-2501

All requests will remain strictly confidential!

ELDER GROUPS

(Baer - Hammond)	Keith Polkinghorne	756-2370
(Horn - Olm)	Rick Riemer	(920) 841-7346
(Peter - Zutz)	Deacon Bonick	(920) 366-2766

A mother and her 5-year-old son entered the church to attend the morning service, but she couldn't sit with him because she sang in the choir. So she asked the boy's grandfather to accompany him. Realizing that the grandfather always nodded off during services, she gave her son 50 cents to keep him awake.

Halfway through the sermon, the mother glanced down from the choir loft, and saw and heard the grandfather snoring away.

After the service, the mother asked why the boy didn't do his "paid job" of keeping his grandfather awake.

"But Grandpa gave me a dollar to let him sleep," the boy replied.

— via Rev. Bill Park
Bethany, OK

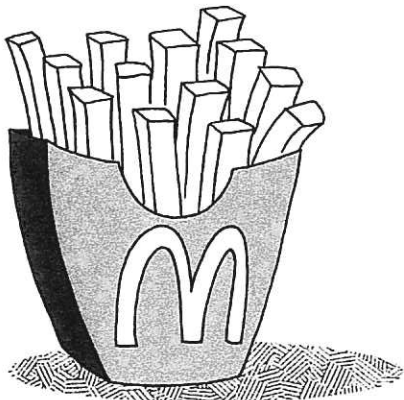
Living Generously

The purpose of this newsletter is to share God's Word so that our members will better understand who we are to be and what we are to do in the light of the Scriptures. It is our hope that this monthly publication will help you grow in your relationship with the Lord and as a Christian steward.



Expressing our Gratitude

A father and his young son were eating a meal at McDonalds. The father who had no French fries, started to smell the wonderful aroma of the fries his son was enjoying so he reached over for one of the fries. The father was shocked to hear his son say loudly, "Stop, these are my French fries." Even though the father was the one who a few minutes earlier had paid for his son's meal and fries, the son was still unwilling to share any of his fries.



This story in many ways reminds us of how we show our lack of gratitude for what God so generously provides us. In order for us to express our gratitude, we need first to understand that all that we are and have are gifts from God. In the words of King David, "*The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein*" (Psalm 24:1). We all belong to God the Creator. God is the giver of "*every good gift and every perfect gift*:" (James 1:17), but, more important, through His Son we have received forgiveness and are saved from eternal prison. When we truly understand that all we are and all we have are gifts from God, we can begin to express our thanks in words and actions.

As God's stewards, we also realize that our talents and abilities are gifts from God that are to be used in His service. When we use our gifts for God's glory, we acknowledge that He is the provider, and we express our thanks for all He gives to us.

Is Money a Blessing?

It is "*God Who richly provides us with everything to enjoy*" (1 Timothy 6:17). Certainly, money and possessions are some of the gifts which God gives us. They continue to be a blessing, unless...

- money and things related to it are your greatest priority, causing you to place God second.
- money and things related to it keep you from regular worship of God.

- money and things related to it keep you from generously giving for God's work.
- money and things related to it offer you false security and keep you from relying on God alone.



One the other hand, money is a blessing when...

- it's returned to God in thanksgiving for all His benefits to you.
- it's used to care for the destitute.
- it's used to bring the Gospel to all people.
- it's viewed not as your own, but as a loan from God.

Let us keep money in perspective. It is a blessing from God to be used as a tool according to His plan. Chief among our blessings is our salvation won for us by Christ as He shed His blood for the forgiveness of our sins. Realizing this, we can then count money as a blessing.

Experience the Joy

Watching your favorite sports team win the big game is an exciting, joyful experience. If you are in the stadium, the joy is contagious. Everyone is clapping, celebrating, and singing. It is wonderful to be part of the crowd and share in the joy of the moment.

Such is the joy of the body of Christ as it is in process of being built up. Such growth progresses as the Church's various parts function to the glory of Christ as the Gospel is preached, people are served, and the members share their faith and love for Christ with one another and those outside the church doors.

Yet do we see such joy often in the Church? Is such a demonstration of joy out of place in the Church? Perhaps we would be uncomfortable with a "pep rally." But do we experience the joy of being about Christ's work, the joy of seeing others serve as the Holy Spirit has called them? Or are we programmed not to be joyful? Maybe we have come to view Christ's work as an obligation, as drudgery, and not as a thankful response to the grace which has called each of to the body of Christ. Regardless of the reason for our lack of joy, Christ is always with us, ready to touch us with His joy. He constantly comes to forgive us and to empower us through the Holy Spirit to be joyful.



We can indeed sing along all year long with the Christmas choir, "Joy to the world, the Lord has come" That joy is contagious in the church because the Body of Christ is truly being built up.

Blessings as you Live Generously!



Daylight Savings Time Ends:

Don't forget to turn your clocks back 1
hour before you go to bed on
Saturday November 3rd!

Christians should give so much time to the
improvement of self that they have no time
left to criticize others.



Join us Wednesday, November 21 at
7:00 p.m. for a special Thanksgiving
worship service with communion.

"Every Sunday the pastor would observe
Sam Campbell and his wife, Sara, holding
hands in the front pew. And they held hands
all through the service. It made him happy to
see two such loving folks.

"One Sunday, greeting them as they filed
out the door, the pastor said to Sam and Sara,
'It sure does my heart good to see two such
loving people as you two holding hands
through the service. It's such an inspiration.'

"Sara replied, 'Pastor, it's the only way I can
keep him from cracking his knuckles during
the service.'"

— via Rev. Bill Park
Bethany, OK

**thank
you!**

THANK YOU to Dave & Debbie Kamps for
picking up the Nativity figurines.

THANK YOU to Jim & Patsy Wendling for the
use of the trailer to haul the Nativity figurines.

FOOD 'N MORE



Bring non-perishable
food items, toiletries,
and/or paper products to
St. Bartholomew. Items collected will be given
to the Food Pantry at Holy Family Church in
Brillion. Please note the deadline for your
donations is Sunday, November 25th.

PHILLIP'S FLOCK

by Doc Goodwin



from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
©Doc Goodwin (Phillip's Flock)
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FAMILY FUN NIGHT

The DQ Family Fun Night will be held on Tuesday, November 13 from 4-7pm. We will need members to help that night bringing food out to the customers, wiping tables, and just being friendly St. Bartholomew members greeting the people as they come in. We ask that members donate at least 1 hour of their time. The sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board. Instead of money, we lose sight of the fact that we can serve the Lord with our time and talents, too. This is a good opportunity to do just that.



CHRISTMAS TREE SALES BEGIN...

St. Bartholomew will begin selling trees on Friday, November 23rd from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Help is needed from the congregation to tend the tree lot and sell trees. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board for the days and times sellers are needed. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

Tree Lot Hours

Monday—Friday	3-6 p.m.
Saturdays	9 a.m.—6 p.m.
Sundays	Noon—6 p.m.



KID'S CHRISTMAS AT LUWISOMO NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 2

The Christmas season is a wonderful time of year, but it can become a blur of programs, parties, shopping, and a million other things to do before the end of the year. Camp LuWiSoMo offers a chance for kids in grades 1-8 to take a break, slow down, and remember what Christmas is truly all about - Jesus Christ.

Kid's Christmas will be November 30 - December 2, 2018. Visit www.luwisomo.org/kids-christmas or call (920) 622-3350 for more information or to register.

Registration closes on 11/16.



The new pastor asked an old member what he thought of the Sunday sermon. "Excellent, sir," enthused the old gentleman. "It was really something! Why... we didn't even know what sin was until you moved here."

— via George Goldtrap
Ormond-by-the-Sea, FL



JOY:FULLY LUTHERAN

1 THESS 5:16-24

WHEN YOU THINK “LUTHERAN,” DO YOU THINK JOY? When you tell your neighbors and friends that you are a Lutheran, do they say that Lutherans are joyful people? When you go to worship on Sunday morning, do you go in joy, listen in joy, sing in joy and leave with joy?

“Rejoice always” (1 Thess. 5:16). That is the whole verse — easy to memorize. Rejoice. Always. Because God loves you. Because Jesus died and rose for you. Because the Spirit has called you by the Gospel into this saving faith. Because God is faithful to His promises, and He will surely do it (1 Thess. 5:24).

“Joy:fully Lutheran” is the theme for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod through the 2019 Synodical Convention. Joyfully Lutheran, we live in response to God’s love for us in the death and resurrection of Jesus. We live joyfully, because God’s love is freely given to sinners through faith for Christ’s sake. We live joyfully, because we do not work to earn God’s love and forgiveness but receive it by faith alone in what Christ has done for us.

Joyfully, we receive God’s Word and Sacraments as His means through which He gives to His children His love and mercy in Christ. We live joyfully, because though we cannot believe by our own reason or strength, the Holy Spirit has called us by the Gospel, enlightens us with His gifts, sanctifies and keeps us in the one true faith in Christ Jesus. We live joyfully, because the Father invites us to pray to Him as children talk to their dear father. We live joyfully, because Jesus has done it all for us.

Our joy is not generic joy. We are not just happy people. We are joyfully Lutheran. We live our lives trusting in the mercy and love of God. Our Savior suffered for us, and we know that our lives also will be filled with trials and suffering, yet we live in joy.

Joy does not mean that we ignore the realities of our lives. Faith in Christ does not remove us from the trials and temptations that befall people in this life. Faith in Christ does not mean that we cannot suffer or sin. Faith in Christ points us to the hope we have in the midst of the difficulties of this life. And Christ is our joy.

The cross is the most prominent symbol of Christianity. We proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes. With our Lord, we know that suffering and pain is inherent in our lives as we dwell in this sinful world. With our Lord, we do not expect sinners to embrace the Kingdom, but trust that it is through suffering and death that the Kingdom comes among us. With the Lord, we bear our own crosses and rejoice in the will of the loving Father, even when it seems hidden from our view.

The Christ on the cross is the Christ who conquered death and the grave. We rejoice, because our sins have been removed from us. We rejoice that death no longer has the final word over our lives. We rejoice that our Savior is coming again. We rejoice in the promises of life with Him forever. We rejoice that He is with us in His Word, Sacraments and Church.

I, a poor miserable sinner, am Joyfully Lutheran. Because of Jesus. God’s love in Christ is the reason for joy. Grace, faith, forgiveness, suffering, learning, repenting, washing, eating, drinking, fellowship, mercy, life together — all joys in Christ.

Rejoice always. Pray continually. Give thanks in all circumstances. In Christ Jesus. Amen.



Becoming Successful God's Way

We may be willing to put an inordinate amount of time and effort into being successful because we value success too highly. Many have climbed the ladder of success only to find when they get to the top, that all they have is money, sorrow, and loneliness. Looking down the ladder, they see destroyed marriages, broken homes, and no happiness.

Webster's New World Dictionary defines success as: "A favorable result; the gaining of wealth, fame, etc.; a successful person." Scripture doesn't give a precise definition, but we know that it is God who grants success. "As long as he sought the Lord, God gave him success" (2 Chronicles 26:5). We can climb the ladder of success, but we are to climb it God's way. As God's people our success in life begins when we acknowledge that God created us for His benefit, understand that He loves us beyond our comprehension, accept His love, abide with Him in reverence and obedience, and faithfully serve Him and others.

C.S. Lewis wrote, "It is not your business to succeed, but to do right. When you have done so, the rest lies with God."

Thank You for your Commitment Forms

We received many commitment forms on Commitment Sunday. God bless us as we strive, by God's grace, to embrace our calling as disciples, to commit to His Word, and live a life of joyful generosity. If you have not yet had a chance to turn in your Commitment Form, copies are available in the church office. Please complete the form and drop it off in the church office.

*Thank
You*

With Thanksgiving

The world is full of heartache. Heartaches of all kinds: financial difficulties, health problems, broken relationships, job stresses. You can name more. Look around you, and often you can see hurt in people's eyes. More often, we learn to mask our hurt and present a "happy face." The apostle Paul had plenty of heartaches, too. He was beaten, stoned, shipwrecked, without a home of his own, in danger from the elements, from enemies, and, sadly, in danger from false brothers. He suffered from hunger, the cold, and lack of clothing. He felt the pressure of concern for the new churches he established and served.

Surely Paul had a right to complain, not just to those who brought these calamities upon him, but to God who allowed them! So we might think, anyway. Not so! Paul boasted in his weakness, in the circumstances over which he had no control, for he knew God was in control. "*That is why,*" Paul said in 2 Corinthians 12:10, "*For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, in insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*"

Paul taught the new Christians to depend on God for all their needs: "*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God*" (Philippians 4:6). That two-word phrase in the middle is easy to miss: "*with thanksgiving.*" And why should we not pray with thanksgiving, knowing we have a gracious God who delights to bless us! Why should we not pray with thanksgiving, knowing we have a God who has spared not even His own Son! Should we lose all, we still pray with thanksgiving that nothing can separate us from our Savior.



We will be adopting families for Christmas. More details to come.

Jokes pastors can tell

Rev. Dale A. Schoening of Madrid, IA, passed along this medical terminology reputedly from a backwoods hospital:

Benign: what you be, after you be eight

Artery: the study of paintings

Bacteria: back door to the cafeteria

Barium: what doctors do when the patients die

Cesarean section: a neighborhood in Rome

Cat scan: searching for kitty

Cauterize: made eye contact with her

Colic: a sheep dog

Coma: a punctuation mark

Dilate: to live long

Enema: not a friend

Fester: quicker than someone else

Fibula: a small lie

Hangnail: what you hang your coat on

Impotent: distinguished, well-known

Labor pain: getting hurt at work

Medical staff: a doctor's cane

Morbid: a higher offer

Nitrates: cheaper than day rates

Outpatient: a person who has fainted

Pap smear: a fatherhood test

Post operative: a letter carrier

Recovery room: place to do upholstery

Rectum: pretty near killed him

Secretion: hiding something

Seizure: Roman emperor

Tablet: a small table

Terminal illness: getting sick at the airport

Tumor: one plus one more

Urine: opposite of you're out

Varicose: near by/close

The best place for your bathroom scale is in front of your refrigerator.



ADVENT MEALS 2018

We are in need of people to host an **Advent Meal**.

If you are interested, please sign up on the bulletin board. The dates for the meals are December 5, 12 & 19.

Anyone who volunteers to do an Advent Meal can get reimbursed for the cost of the food. Please consider this as it is a great time for fellowship.



Look for the sign-up sheets with menu and cost on the bulletin board coming soon.

2018 District Convention Proceedings

If you are interested in knowing what took place at the South Wisconsin District Convention this past summer, go to the following website: <http://swd.lcms.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/2018-Conv-Proceedings.pdf>



CHURCH CANCELLATIONS

Before we know it, winter will be upon us. To check on church cancellations, tune your radio to Y100 (100.3 FM) or turn your TV to WBAY Channel 2 or WFRV Channel 5. We also hope to notify members by email if we have your current email address.

The Wednesday night church service coincided with the last day of the hunting season in Louisiana. The pastor asked who had bagged a deer. No one raised a hand. Puzzled, the pastor said, "I don't get it. Last Sunday many of you said you were missing because of the hunting season. I had the whole congregation pray for your deer." One hunter groaned, "Well, it worked. They're all safe."

— via Jeff W. Totten
Lake Charles, LA

September SCRIP TOTALS

CARD NAME	TOTAL	PROFIT
Amazon	25	0.63
BP	700	10.50
Culvers	50	2.50
Dairy Queen	70	14.00
Econo	2,575	77.25
Exxon	275	13.75
Festival	450	13.50
Kohls	400	16.00
Kwik Trip	675	27.00
McDonalds	65	2.60
Menards	25	0.75
Piggly Wiggly	200	6.00
Shell	300	15.00
Shopko	400	20.00
Subway	50	5.00
Target	100	2.50
WalMart	800	20.00
TOTALS	\$7,160	\$246.98



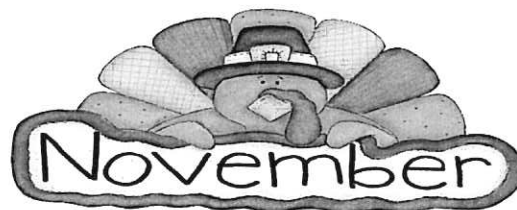
Mark your calendar:
The Children's
Christmas Service
will be Sunday,

December 16th at 9:00 a.m.
Please make sure your children are
in Sunday School as we will be
practicing for the service soon.

An usher went up to a man who had
his hat on in a church pew, and asked him
to
remove it.

"Thank goodness," said the man, "I
thought that would get a reaction. I've
attended this church for weeks, and you
are the first person to speak to me."

– via Rev. Bill Park
Bethany, OK



BIRTHDAYS

1 st	Bailee Schlender	16 th	Amanda Denor
1 st	Duane Loose	16 th	Casey Kalies
3 rd	Sheri Levash	16 th	Barbara Kupsky
4 th	Katie Horn	16 th	Jared Plate
5 th	Gary Lemke	17 th	Dave Sonabend
5 th	Dale Streck	19 th	Dan Geiger
6 th	Florence Behnke	20 th	Nancy Kabat
6 th	Phyllip Eichhorst	21 st	Simon Horn
9 th	Jody Denor	21 st	Dwane Kalies
9 th	Zachary Eichhorst	23 rd	Derek Koffarnus
9 th	Chis Gade	23 rd	Joan Lemke
9 th	Patsy Wendling	25 th	Lori Fels
10 th	Harlen Krahn	29 th	Ron Davidson
11 th	Amy Woldt	29 th	Jay Krahn
13 th	Kelvin Gilbertson		

ANNIVERSARIES

8 th	Simon and Rhonda Geiger
10 th	Matt and Vanessa Reinke
14 th	Andy & Cara Geiger
14 th	Joel & Connie Koerth
17 th	Pete & Judy Vechart

Please forgive us and politely notify us if an anniversary
or birthday is missing from the list. Thank you.



BANNER MAKER(S) WANTED

We are looking for a person or persons to make a
cloth banner of the picture above. It would be used
annually on Life Sunday in January. The next Life
Sunday is January 20, 2019.

If you are interested in the project, contact Pastor
Krueger.