



# ST. BARTHOLOMEW NEWSLETTER

## NOVEMBER 2021



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

### GREETINGS!

"Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything" (Eph. 5:20).

How can we always be thankful and give thanks for *everything*? What is there to give thanks for at times?

Here's one person's perspective on thankfulness. Matthew Henry, author of a famous commentary on the Bible, was once assaulted and robbed by thieves. Later, he wrote in his diary: "Let me be thankful first, because I was never robbed before; second, because although they took my purse, they did not take my life; third, because though they took my all, it was not much; and fourth, because it was I who was robbed, not I who robbed."

May each of us remember to always thank the Lord in all circumstances. There's always something for which to be thankful. And may the thankfulness always come from the heart as it did with one young girl.

A young girl sat at the counter of an ice cream store. "How much is an ice cream sundae?" she asked. "Fifty cents," the waitress said with hardly a glance at the child. The girl opened her fist and looked at her coins. She asked, "How much is a dish of just plain ice cream?" Annoyed, the waitress snapped, "Thirty-five cents!" The girl counted out 35 cents and handed it to the waitress. "I'll take the plain ice cream."

The waitress took the money without a word and brought the ice cream. After the small customer had eaten and left, the waitress, cleaning up, suddenly flushed with shame. There, placed neatly beside the dish were two nickels and five pennies - her tip.

That girl's thankfulness not only came from the heart but also came even before she was served, unbeknownst to the waitress.

On Wednesday, November 24 we will once again have the opportunity to formally gather and give thanks to God for all His wonderful blessings.

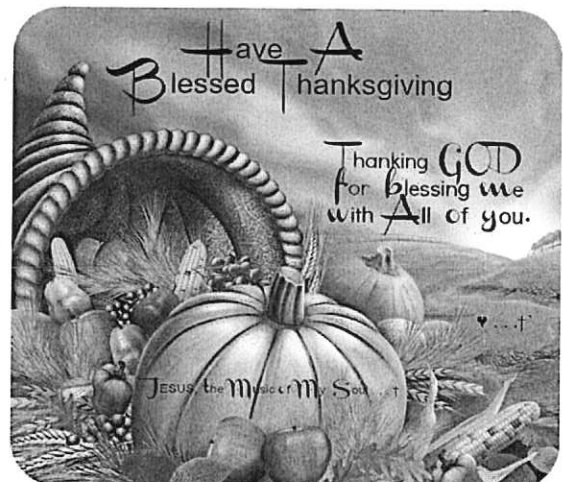
"Come, ye thankful people, come;  
Raise the song of harvest home.  
All be safely gathered in  
Ere the winter storms begin;  
God, our maker, doth provide  
For our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come;  
Raise the song of harvest home."

(LSB #892, v. 1)

Together in Christ,

*Pastor Kuege*

Sharing, Believing, Living, Caring



## FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

September 2021

Year-to-date Income:	\$111,646.29
Year-to-date Expenses:	\$127,157.40
Year-to-date Budget:	\$127,476.00

+ + + +

### REMOVALS

Denise Emmer—released upon request	10/13
Alexis Bailke—whereabouts unknown	10/24

### DEATHS

Ron Davidson	10/14
--------------	-------

---

## KINGDOM WORKERS - NOVEMBER

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

**Altar Guild:** Andrea Grenzer  
Rhonda Geiger

**Acolytes:** Nov. 7 - Natalie  
14 - Addison  
21 - Emma  
24 - (Thanksgiving Eve) Kelvin  
28 - Simon

**Ushers:** Wednesdays: Lon & Lori Fels  
Sundays: Pete Kittel, Harlen Krahn

**Greeters:** Wednesdays: Rhonda Geiger  
Sundays: Janet Kalies

---

## ELDER GROUPS

(A-G) Tanner Behnke	(920) 427-6201
(H-M) Ron Detert	756-3439
(N-Z) Gary Lemke	853-3846



## Prayer Chain

A prayer request may be made to any member of the prayer chain. If you are requesting a prayer for someone, let the person know so that they are aware and respect their wishes if they do not want the request given to the prayer chain.

Judy Baer	756-2696
Florence Behnke	(920) 418-4315
Renee Bonick	(920) 296-9164
Sue Detert	756-3439
Lori Fels	(920) 639-3792
Rhonda Geiger	(920) 371-7375
Sandy Haberland	(920) 524-2016
Kris Krueger	756-3912
Faith Sonnabend	756-2779
Diane Zickert	(920) 841-8951
Joan Zutz	756-2501



"This is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us" (1 John 5:14)



Mark your calendar: The Children's Christmas Service will be Sunday, December 19 at 9:00 a.m. Please make sure your children are in S.S. as we will be practicing for the service soon.

---

## 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)

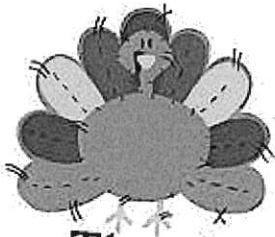
**SHARING, BELIEVING, LIVING AND CARING**

Join us Wednesday,  
Nov. 24 at 7:00 p.m.  
for a special  
Thanksgiving worship  
service with communion.



# 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.



## Happy Thanksgiving

### Worshipping God through Giving

We worship God through our worship services as we pray, sing, and give Him praise. We can live lives that give Him honor and glory; however, in some ways, the money that we give to God is one of the most special ways that we can worship Him. It is difficult to give money because there are many things that can be purchased with our money to make our lives easier and more comfortable. The giving of our money is a testimony of our praise and gratitude to God. Is there anything more worshipful than honoring God with our money?

### Build your House on the Rock

Jesus said, *"Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on a rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the*

*winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash"* (Matthew 7:24-27).

The wise builder selects a site on a rock. Then he will not need to worry about heavy rains or strong winds. A house built upon rock has a foundation that lasts. A foolish builder constructs his house as though he is pitching a tent.

Through this parable, Jesus is telling us that a person who hears His words and puts them into practice is like the wise builder. It is foolish to hear the words of Jesus and not obey them. Such a person may be compared to a builder who builds his house on the sand without a foundation. Jesus wants us to hear His words and obey them.

### The Pump Needs to be Primed

If you've ever been on a farm, you may be familiar with old-fashioned water pumps. When pumps have been out of use for a time, they can often be pumped fruitlessly. The problem can be solved by priming the pump with water, which expands the cork, bringing up water, rather than just air.



Life can be compared to that pump. In order to receive, one may need to give first. We have to put something into life to get something out of

it. Paul stated this principle in Galatians 6:7: *"A man reaps what he sows."* Rewards and successes in life are earned; they result from hard work and time.

This principle of priming the pump, of sowing and reaping, applies to our giving as well. It is true that God provides for all. Jesus Himself said, *"He [God] causes His sun to*



*rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous” (Matthew 5:45). However, He also promised a special blessing on those who are generous in their giving: “A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed” (Proverbs 11:25).*

As redeemed children of God, our main motivation for giving is our desire to respond with grateful hearts to Him for His marvelous gifts to us, especially the gift of His Son, Jesus, Who brought us forgiveness of sins and life eternal. We will desire to give, not for reward, but to honor Him with our lives and our time, our talents and our treasures. We will find that we cannot out-give God. Speaking through the prophet Malachi, God challenged, “ ‘Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house. Test Me in this,’ says the Lord Almighty, ‘and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it’ ” (Malachi 3:10).

Accept God’s challenge: put Him to the test. Prime the pump.



### **Your Final Message**

Most people want to put off thinking about and preparing for the time when the Lord will take them to His eternal home. You should be prepared because only God knows each person’s timetable. Whether you are given a

short or long life, you can have a final opportunity, through a will or trust, to share a message of your love for Christ and a gift to continue your faithful stewardship. Your last will and testament can proclaim your love for the Lord and provide an encouragement to your families and friends to grow in their faith. Through a Christian Preamble, which is the way you can begin a will or trust, you have your last opportunity to witness to your loved ones.

If your will or trust gives a final testimony of your trust in the Lord, it will be a real source of encouragement to those you leave behind. It will comfort your family and friends to know that you believed and trusted in the promise that Jesus gave in John 11:25-26, “*I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.*” If your Christian preamble is in a will, your message will go beyond your family and friends, because a will is filed in probate court which is public record.

A will or trust is also a wonderful time to put your love for the Lord into action with a gift for the Lord’s work through your church. For many Christians, this may be the biggest gift they make. A bequest in your will gives the message of Christ’s importance to you. A gift for the Lord’s work acknowledges God’s ownership of your life and things and that you are simply returning them to God Who provided them for your use. As J. Gregory Pope said, “Planning an enduring gift that supports and perpetuates the Gospel message is a significant—sometimes final—witness of a faithful and maturing disciple in response to the grace of a loving God.”

May God grant us all an abundant measure of His grace so our final messages will bring glory to Him.

**Blessings as you Live Generously!**



## ADULT INFORMATION CLASS

If anyone is interested in joining our congregation from a non-Lutheran background or is interested in learning the basics of our beliefs as Lutherans, contact Pastor Krueger (756-3031) so a class can be set up beginning in January.

## "END OF YEAR" CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

The 2021 'end of year' statements will be emailed to those members whose email addresses we have on file. If you need a hard copy please let the church office know. For those members without email addresses, your statements will be in your church mailbox by Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to pick them up for tax purposes! Thank you.

## WAIT UPON THE LORD

### Midweek Advent Worship

Wednesdays @ 7 p.m.

December 1, 8, & 15

The season of Advent is characterized by waiting – waiting upon the Lord for His presence to be revealed to us on Christmas. In this Advent series, we look back in Scripture at those who waited upon the Lord for His promises to come to pass through the Christ Child. We also look forward, contemplating how we should wait upon the Lord in this present moment of our lives, as God continues to make Himself known to us.

## CHURCH CLOSINGS

Before we know it, winter will be upon us. We will be notifying members of any church closings this winter season due to inclement weather via email for any of those members whose email addresses we have on file. You can also tune into radio station Y100 100.3 FM or turn your TV to WBAY Channel 2 or WFRV Channel 5 for any worship service cancellation.



## SHARE YOUR BOUNTY!

### Food 'N More

Bring non-perishable food items, toiletries, and/or paper products to St. Bartholomew.

Items in need this year are: canned corn, cereal, mac & cheese, peanut butter, tuna & canned fruit. 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 28<sup>th</sup>.



## LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD . . . .

Women, men, or couples to serve on the Altar Guild for 2022. In fact, any confirmed member can serve. If you are interested, contact the church office and we will put your name on the list. We will also begin contacting the current Altar Guild members sometime in November to determine your willingness to serve.



Greeters

## 2022 Schedule

We are in need of Greeters for Sunday and Wednesday services next year. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. Greeting periods are for the full month. Fill in which month you would like to greet and which service. We also have an opening for a Greeter for Wednesday night services in December of this year. Thank you for your service.

- Stewardship and Evangelism Committee



## SCHOLARSHIPS FOR LUTHERAN CONGREGANTS

Concordia University Wisconsin and Ann Arbor is proud to offer scholarships that are uniquely designed to support the future leaders of the Church—individuals who will live out their vocations in both called and non-church work settings. Two such scholarships are:

**Luther Promise** (for undergraduate learners): High school graduates in this congregation may receive up to \$20,000 annually. Visit [cuw.edu/luther-promise](http://cuw.edu/luther-promise) for details.

**Uncommon Scholarships** (for graduate learners): Lutheran congregants may receive \$500 per each three-credit course on eligible graduate programs. Visit [cuw.edu/uncommon-scholarships](http://cuw.edu/uncommon-scholarships) for details. Learn more or schedule a visit today by visiting [cuw.edu](http://cuw.edu).

## A BIG THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who took down the trees! It was a big job.

Thank you for your hard work and for volunteering:

Mark & Jan Wittman  
Craig Scharbarth  
Gary Koerth  
Joel Koerth  
Brian Krahn Family

## Pastor on Vacation November 15-22

If pastoral care is needed, contact Pastor Brett Simek (618-410-9827) or one of the elders.



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



Daylight Savings Time Ends:  
Don't forget to turn your clocks back 1 hour before you go to bed on Saturday, November 6th.

## POINSETTIAS FOR THE ALTAR



Watch your church mailbox for order forms.

If you would like to donate a poinsettia for the altar this Christmas season, the deadline for ordering will be Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.

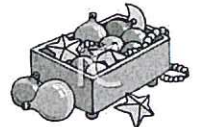
Please drop your form off in the church office along with your payment.



## DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS....



We will be decorating the tree and church as well as putting up the outdoor Christmas display on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 a.m. Please consider helping even if you can only give an hour of your time. Thank you!



## PORTALS of PRAYER

If you are not receiving a copy of the Portals of Prayer, but would like the quarterly publication; let the church office know and we will gladly place a copy in your church mailbox four times a year. We receive regular, digest-size, and large print of this publication. Let the office know which size is right for you.

## Go ahead! Kiss the frog!

Ever feel like a frog?

Slow...low...ugly...drooped...pooped

The frog feeling comes when you  
want to be bright, but feel dull  
want to share, but are selfish  
want to be thankful, but feel resentment  
want to be big, but are small  
want to care, but are indifferent.

Each of us has found himself on a lily pad  
on the great river of life....  
Frightened and disgusted....  
Too froggish to budge.

We all know the story of the frog.  
But he was not really a frog....  
He was a prince who looked  
and felt like a frog.  
Only a kiss of a beautiful maiden  
could save him ...  
But, since, when do cute chicks  
kiss frogs?

But miracles do happen...a beautiful maiden  
grabbed him up and gave him a big smack.  
CRASH – BOOM – ZAP! He was  
a handsome prince!  
You know the rest. They lived happily ever after.

The frog experienced a great reversal  
a metamorphosis,  
a great transformation,  
from something ugly into  
something beautiful.

That's what God does for people.

He takes us where we are and  
works changes in us  
so there is an alteration,  
in structure,  
in constitution,  
in appearance.

We become new persons in Christ and ...  
miracles of miracles.....  
He can touch and transform  
other lives through us.

Remember....Peter, the boisterous apostle,  
Thomas, the skeptic,  
Mary, the prostitute?

Jesus "kissed them" and they became new.

God changes frogs into princes.  
Jesus gets people right with God...  
And then gets them going.

So, what is the business of the church?

Kissing

Frogs.

What

else?

"Faith at Work"

(from the files of Pastor Krueger)

---

Here's something for all you students:

## TEST PRAYER

Now I lay me down to study  
I pray the Lord I won't go nutty,  
I pray the Lord I will not flunk.  
But if I do, don't pity me at all,  
Just lay my bones down in the study hall;  
Tell my teacher I did my best,  
Then pile my books upon my chest.  
Now I lay be down to rest  
And pray I'll pass tomorrow's test.  
If I should die before I wake,  
That's one less test I'll have to take.





## ***Your Perfect Volunteer Opportunity!***

Hilbert's St Vincent de Paul store wants some of your time, talent and support so we may help others in our community.

**Why is St Vincent de Paul a great place to volunteer?** We offer flexible hours that will fit within your schedule –at this time we are open for volunteers between the hours of 8:45 am – 4:45 pm Tuesday through Friday and 8:45 to 12:25 pm on Saturdays.

We have various volunteer opportunities in the following areas

1. Friday Afternoon Cashier (1 to 4:30/4:45 shift)
  2. Sorting Donations as they arrive (any day we are open)
  3. Back Room- Pricing Home Goods and placing out – Tues afternoon, Wed any time or Friday afternoon.
  4. Selling certain items online
  5. Christmas store – Cashiering / Placing items out (items are priced)
- Christmas store will open beginning of October and stay open till the new year.

We are a Christian based organization and welcome everyone! Join our growing group of volunteers by starting today. We enjoy personal fulfillment and the friendship of fellow volunteers.

As a charitable 501 © 3 organization, your travel and certain other expenses are tax deductible.

Drop in anytime during store hours for a volunteer application

Any questions please feel free to call Susan during business hours 920-853-3449.



## SEPTEMBER SCRIP TOTALS

CARD NAME	TOTAL	PROFIT
BP	850	12.75
Cobblestone	50	2.50
Culver's	25	1.25
Deer Run	25	2.50
Econo	1,450	43.50
Exxon	100	5.00
Festival	400	12.00
Fleet Farm	200	10.00
Kohls	250	10.00
Kwik Trip	400	16.00
Piggly Wiggly	100	3.00
Red Robin	100	8.00
Shell	100	5.00
WalMart	150	3.75
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4,200.00</b>	<b>135.25</b>

# Thank You!



**FOOD FOR THE POOR**

6401 Lyons Road, Coconut Creek, FL 33073 • 800-487-1158 • 954-421-2222

[www.FoodForThePoor.org](http://www.FoodForThePoor.org)

*"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of Mine, you did for Me." (Matthew 25:40, rev)*

September 22, 2021

St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church  
105 Horn St  
Brillion, WI 54110

Dear Friends in Christ,

On behalf of those we serve who have been blessed by your congregation's loving and generous support, we thank you.

Your faithful gift of \$3,800.00 has transformed lives, allowing Food For The Poor to provide secure housing for the destitute in the Caribbean and Latin America. You have brought hope and the light of Christ to families in need, helping them find a path out of the dark, endless cycle of poverty and move toward a brighter future. What a beautiful way to let your lights shine!

Through your compassion, your brothers and sisters will no longer be forced to sleep on torn mattresses or discarded pieces of plastic on a dirt floor. By answering the call of Matthew 25 and sharing of your blessings, your church family has given those in dire need the incredible gift of safe shelter they can proudly call home.

We continue to give prayerful thanks for you and your partnership. May God protect and bless you and your congregation.

United in God's work,

Alvaro Pereira  
Executive Vice President  
Church Alliances



# November

## Birthdays

1 <sup>st</sup>	Duane Loose	15 <sup>th</sup>	Emmeline Hurda
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sheri Levash	16 <sup>th</sup>	Casey Kalies
4 <sup>th</sup>	Katie Horn	16 <sup>th</sup>	Amanda Denor
5 <sup>th</sup>	Dale Streck	17 <sup>th</sup>	Dave Sonnabend
5 <sup>th</sup>	Gary Lemke	19 <sup>th</sup>	Dan Geiger
6 <sup>th</sup>	Florence Behnke	20 <sup>th</sup>	Nancy Kabat
9 <sup>th</sup>	Patsy Wendling	21 <sup>st</sup>	Simon Horn
9 <sup>th</sup>	Jody Denor	21 <sup>st</sup>	Dwane Kalies
9 <sup>th</sup>	Chris Gade	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Derek Koffarnus
10 <sup>th</sup>	Harlen Krahn	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Joan Lemke
11 <sup>th</sup>	Amy Woldt	25 <sup>th</sup>	Lori Fels
13 <sup>th</sup>	Kelvin Gilbertson	29 <sup>th</sup>	Jay Krahn
13 <sup>th</sup>	Clay Brehmer		

## ANNIVERSARIES

8 <sup>th</sup>	Simon and Rhonda Geiger
14 <sup>th</sup>	Andy & Cara Geiger
14 <sup>th</sup>	Joel & Connie Koerth
17 <sup>th</sup>	Pete & Judy Vechart



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

## A Prayer for Our Veterans

Oh God, Our Heavenly Father,  
You have blessed us with  
brave men and women  
who are willing to defend our freedom.  
May Your protection and grace  
surround them each day.  
Let Your healing hand be upon those  
who suffer wounds and injuries.  
May those who have made the  
ultimate sacrifice rest forever in  
Your Holy Presence.  
Comfort the families who mourn  
and are left to remember  
the precious lives of their loved ones.  
Help us to honor and support them.  
Let us ever be mindful of each sacrifice made  
on behalf of the American people by our  
sons, daughters, husbands, wives, mothers,  
fathers, and friends.  
Amen