



ST. BARTHOLOMEW NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2016



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

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF OUR ALMIGHTY GOD!

I apologize for the delay in publishing this month's newsletter. Don't blame Terri!

November is upon us, the month in which we observe our National Day of Thanksgiving. This day was established by our forefathers because they recognized the many blessings that God had bestowed upon them despite the hardships they faced.

How fitting for us as Christians to be mindful of this Day. We may be plagued with problems, disappointments, even illness, but we have so much for which to be thankful. We live in a country which allows us more freedom than any other nation in the world. Within a few days of when you read this you will have the freedom of electing local, state, and national officials who will set the policies for our nation. If we're unhappy with the way they govern, we have the right to elect others to replace them when their term expires. This is a freedom that is almost unheard of anywhere else in the world.

We live in a country that allows us the freedom of religion. We can worship our God, the Triune God, without any outside interference. Unfortunately, many are not always as mindful of this as they ought to be which is evidenced by their lack of church attendance. How about you?

We are in the harvest season with most of the harvesting completed by now. Once again God has blessed our nation with a bountiful harvest. We give thanks that we are faced with plenty rather than with want.

Each of us can add things that we have been personally blessed with during the past year.

On Wednesday, November 23, we will have the opportunity to gather in God's House to thank and praise God for these many blessings. Will our church be filled? Will you be there?

O Lord, whose bounteous hand again
Hath poured Thy gifts in plenty down,
Who all creation dost sustain
And all the earth with goodness crown,
Lord of the harvest, here we own
Our joy to be Thy gift alone.

Oh, may we ne'er with thankless heart
Forget from whom our blessings flow!
Still, Lord, Thy heavenly grace impart;
Still teach us what to Thee we owe.
Lord, may our lives with fruit divine
Return Thy care and prove us Thine. Amen.
(TLH 567)

Give Thanks
to the Lord
for he is Good,
His mercy endures forever

Together in Christ,

Pastor Krueger

Sharing, Believing, Living, Caring

FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

September 2016

Year-to-date Income:	\$120,167.57
Year-to-date Expenses:	\$111,961.07
Year-to-date Budget:	\$116,784.00

+ + +

SPECIAL FUNDS CONTRIBUTORS

Organ Fund

Kay Koffarnus in memory of E.J. (Gene) Draheim
Janet Kalies in memory of Olga Streck
Elliot & Dorothy Maile in memory of Olga Streck

KINGDOM WORKERS - NOVEMBER

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

Ushers (Wednesdays): Lon Fels, Mike Fels
(Sundays): Steve Gilbertson, Harlen Krahn

Altar Guild: Norma Drumm, Rhonda Geiger

Greeters: (Wednesdays): Tony & Susan Wittmann
Nov. 6 – Ron & Nancy Davidson
13 – Kris Krueger
20 – Janet Kalies
27 – Bonnie Smith

Acolytes: Nov. 6 – Bailee
13 – Hilary
20 – Meghan
23 – (Thanksgiving Eve) – Evan
27 – Ashley
30 – (Wednesday) - Spencer

ELDER GROUPS

(Baer-Geiger)	Gary Koerth	(920) 864-7714
(Giese-Krahn)	Rick Riemer	(920) 841-7365
(Kremer-Reinke)	Gary Lemke	853-3846
(Riemer-Zutz)	Tim Pope	756-2622



Join us Wednesday,
November 23 at 7:00 p.m. for
a special Thanksgiving
worship service with
communion.



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

Judy Baer	756-2696
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!



Daylight Savings Time Ends:
Don't forget to turn your clocks
back 1 hour before you go to
bed on Saturday, November 5th!

Prayerfully consider serving on
the Altar Guild for 2017.

Women, men, or couples; in
fact, any confirmed member
can serve. If you are

interested, contact the church office and we will
add your name to the list. We will be contacting
the current Altar Guild members early November
to determine your willingness to serve in 2017.
Current members check your church mailbox for
your note.



Sunday school (all grades) will sing in the worship
service on Sunday, November 13th!!



Mark your calendar: The Children's
Christmas Service will be Sunday,
December 18 at 9:00 a.m. Please make
sure your children are in S.S. as we will
be practicing for the service soon.

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.

Blessings on your Thanksgiving

Testing your Knowledge of Scripture

Can you identify who the following person may represent in Scripture?



If you said the Prodigal Son, you were right. In Luke 15:11-32, Jesus told the parable of a wealthy farmer who had two sons. The younger of the two sons was not happy living at home so he left home with his share of the estate which was given to him by his father. While he was gone, he *"squandered his wealth in wild living"* (verse 13).

When the son finally came to his senses, he was ready to go home. He confessed his sin to God and to his father. He said, *"I have sinned against heaven and against you, I am*

no longer worthy to be called your son" (verses 18-19).

The parable ends with his loving father embracing him and celebrating his return. In this parable, Jesus illustrated the love of the father for his son in order to make it abundantly clear that God's love is infinite. God's love toward us sinners is unconditional and eternal.

The love of the Father shown in this parable is our motivation for Christian stewardship. In spite of who we are and what we do, God doesn't stop loving us. We respond out of gratitude in honoring Him with the faithful use of our time, talents, and treasures.

On the Lighter Side

A pastor was talking to the church organist. "When I finish my sermon," he said, "I'll ask for all those in the congregation who want to contribute \$500 toward the church's debt to stand up. In the meantime, you can provide appropriate music."

"Any suggestions?" the organist asked.

"You might try 'The Star Spangled Banner,'" the pastor replied.

Stewardship Corner

In our spiritual journey, it seems that, too often, as we take one step forward, we take two steps back! Some days we seem to "grow up" and become more Christ-like, and the next day we slip back to the "old self" we don't want to be. Growing as followers of Christ, reflecting Him, His will, His values, His purposes, is motivated by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. In Christ, God makes us new people (2 Corinthians 5:17). Thank God that when we slip, He is there to forgive us.

A Stewardship Thought

While opportunities to use our gifts seem almost limitless, we must be willing to make ourselves available. Often our tendency is to look at our shortcomings rather than to focus on Philippians 4:13: *"I can do all things through Him Who gives me strength."* As stewards we are to use our gifts gladly and wholeheartedly in service to God alone.

Expressing Your Thanks to God

How are you saying THANKS to God for all that He has entrusted to you? When you think of Christian stewardship, you probably think of what you place in the offering plate. I hope that you are showing your gratitude through generous giving, but what about using your talents for God through the church?

All of us, to one degree or another, have the ability to do things that can be of benefit to our church. In other words—after you have heard the sermon and participated in Holy Communion—now it's time to show your thanks by doing some work for the Lord.

You may ask: "Why should I?" Think for a moment about our situation. Many do not realize that sin is a big problem and obstacle in this world. We do. Thanks to the Word of God, we have been brought to the realization that forgiveness is needed every day. Scripture also tells us that salvation is a free gift that we can't earn. That fact should make us more eager to say thanks to God Who has saved and freed us from eternal prison and gives us a fresh start every day.

As stewards, we 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 are acknowledging that

He is the provider, and we express our thanks for what He gives to us. Some of the tasks that we can do around the church are fairly obvious, such as being kind and courteous to fellow worshipers and visitors, giving words of encouragement, singing in the choir, ushering, teaching Sunday school, serving on committees or boards, washing the windows, etc. Check with us in the church office to see how you can use your gifts.



There are many ways of expressing thanks to the Lord. We hope that one of the ways that you will say thanks is through using your talents at our church.

*God must work in us if
He is to work through us.*

Closing Thought

We can live one of two ways—with or without Christ. We can live without Christ, living just for ourselves, exalting worldly pleasures and success, or we can live with Christ, exalting Him as the risen Lord. We can squander our talents, waste our time, and spend our money foolishly, or we can use these God-given gifts to His glory as they benefit others. *"Each of us will give an account of himself to God,"* we read in Romans 14:12. Let us be among those who hear the words, *"Well done, good and faithful servant!"* (Matthew 25:21).

Blessings as you Live Generously!

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.



“END OF YEAR” CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

The 2016 ‘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 6th. Please remember to pick them up for tax purposes! Thank you.

THANKSGIVING THOUGHTS....

“Thanksgiving should be more of an attitude than an observance;

More of a way of life than a day apart;

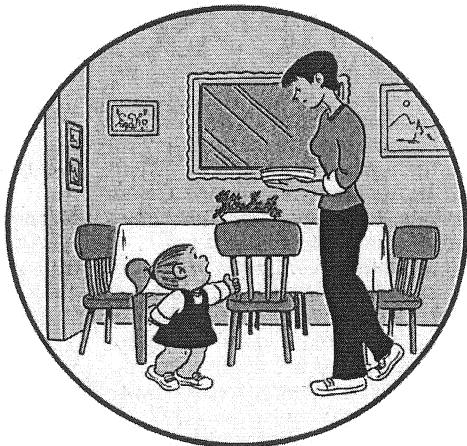
More of a spirit of gratitude than a time of feasting.”

-William Arthur Ward
via *Apple Seeds*

“Thank God every morning when you get up that you have something to do that day, which must be done, whether you like it or not.”

-James Russell Lowell
via *The Joyful Noiseletter*

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane



“Will our company and all of us fit at the same dinner table on Thanksgiving, or will us kids get demoted?”

Fun Thanksgiving Facts



1. Thanksgiving hasn’t always been a National Holiday.

Sarah Josepha Hale, a magazine editor who also happened to write “Mary Had a Little Lamb” lobbied for making Thanksgiving a national holiday.

Seventeen years and five presidents later, Abraham Lincoln finally established Thanksgiving as a holiday in 1863.

2. Thanksgiving hasn’t always been on the same date.

Abraham Lincoln declared in 1863 that Thanksgiving fall on the fourth Thursday of November. But in order to stimulate the economy and extend the holiday shopping season during tough times, Franklin D. Roosevelt moved the date in 1939 to the third Thursday. It stayed that way for two years until Roosevelt moved it back to the fourth Thursday, where it stands today.

3. We consume an average of 3,000 calories at Thanksgiving.

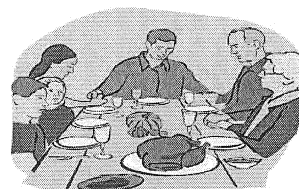
From the butter volcano in the mashed potatoes to the mishmash of sweet potato casserole and cornbread stuffing slathered in gravy, each American is estimated to consume anywhere from 3,000 to 5,000 calories at the average Thanksgiving meal. But the biggest calorie bomb on your Thanksgiving table? (Drum roll, please.) Pecan pie! It packs a whopping 503 calories a slice.

4. The original Thanksgiving lacked a few of today’s must-haves.

What wasn’t part of the original Thanksgiving? A fork! The Pilgrims ate with spoons, knives, and their hands. Forks didn’t become regulars at American tables until years later. Also missing from the settlers’ table: mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, & pumpkin pie.

5. You’d have to run a marathon (plus) to burn off your Thanksgiving calories.

A 150-pound person would have to run an average of 29 miles to burn off 2,800 calories.





Reflect on your own Christmas memories while you take an Advent journey with the Gospel writer Luke as he shares the story of the Savior's birth. This beloved account of God reaching down into your life through the birth of His Son is rich in detail, abounding in grace, and celebrates the ultimate Gift to each of us.

Download today!

LHM.ORG/ADVENT

Or you can listen to them online or subscribe to them by e-mail.

RECIPE FOR THANKSGIVING

One Cup of Contentment

I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance. (Philippians 4:11-12)

Ten Tablespoons of Thoughtfulness

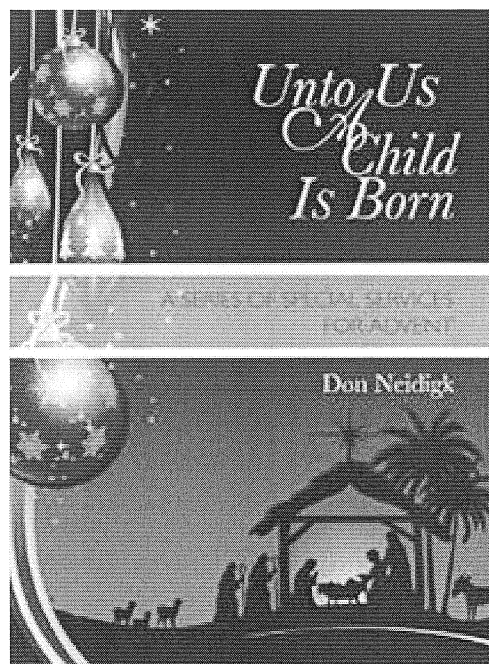
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. (Psalm 103:2)

Six Teaspoons of Self-Knowledge

For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it? (1 Corinthians 4:7)

All in a New Heart

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. (Colossians 3:15)



Unto Us A Child Is Born

Midweek Advent Worship

Based upon Isaiah 9:1-7

Wednesday, November 30 – 7 p.m.
"Great Light"

Wednesday, December 7 – 7 p.m.
"Wonderful Counselor"

Wednesday, December 14 – 7 p.m.
"Everlasting Father"

Saturday, December 24 – 4 p.m. & 8 p.m.
"Prince of Peace"

Sunday, December 25 – 9 a.m.
"One of Us"

THE LORD IS GREAT AND WORTHY OF PRAISE

"Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise" (Psalm 95:2)





Youth group is open to all youth in grades 6-12. Our next meeting is Sunday, November 20th at 6:30 p.m. It is bring a Friend to Youth Group Night! Come join us for some fun!



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 27.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

“COOKIE WALK” in fellowship hall
Saturday, December 3, 2016
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Sponsored by Ladies Aid.



Walk through and pick out the cookies of your choice for \$3.00/dozen. Proceeds will go to the Haiti victims. Everyone welcome!



DONATIONS OF COOKIES ARE NEEDED from all members of the congregation for our upcoming “Cookie Walk”. We need LOTS of

cookies (4 dozen from everyone) to make the walk successful.

Please help us by signing up on the easel in the narthex for one or more of the cookies listed. Recipes for some of the newer cookies we added this year are provided in the envelopes by the sign-up sheet. **ONLY** take a recipe if you are signing up for that particular cookie. Any questions, call Sue Detert (756-3439).

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE
FOR YOUR HELP!**



NOTE: Please do not save used postage stamps any longer. We do not have an outlet for them anymore.



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

NOVEMBER HUMOR

A pastor, a professional golfer, and a building contractor went deer hunting together one Saturday. They finally saw a 5-point buck. Each took aim and fired three shots at the same time.

The buck dropped dead, and the three men started to discuss who had hit it. As they were arguing, a game warden happened along and asked them what the problem was. They told him, and the game warden asked them to stand back, and he would examine the buck and try to figure out which one of the men had killed the buck, based on the bullet hole and rifles that were used.

After only a couple minutes, the game warden told them that the preacher was the one who killed the deer. “How had he figured it out so quickly?” they asked.

“The bullet went in one ear and came out the other ear,” the warden said.

-via George Goldtrap
The Joyful Noiseletter



“A politician awoke in a hospital bed after a prolonged operation and found that the curtains were drawn around him.

“Why are the curtains closed?” he asked a nurse. “Is it nighttime?”

“No,” the nurse replied. “There is a fire in a building across the street, and we didn’t want you waking up and thinking the operation was unsuccessful.”

-Via Jeff Totten
The Joyful Noiseletter

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 for any worship service cancellation.



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 Wednesday, December 7th.

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

Thank You

Dear members of my St. Bartholomew family,

It was wonderful to worship with you recently, celebrating our Savior, and encouraging one another to be transformed witnesses for Him throughout our lives. I pray my songs and stories brought glory to God and inspired some of you to be bold 'Every' day Christians.

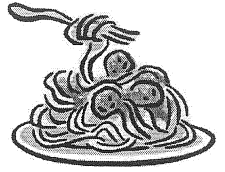
I am thankful to be a resource and partner to our Lutheran congregations and dedicated praise teams and organists, and enjoy meeting my faith family all over the country. A special thanks to Pastor for his expert tech help and preparation for the service, and to Mrs. Krueger for being a lovely hostess. A big thank you to the congregation for your welcoming, supportive and generous hearts in comments, music purchases, and offerings. Your gifts enable me to continue using my talents to serve God's people with this music ministry!

Stay connected to the Word, and sharpen each other to reach your families and your community for Jesus. I look forward to the next time we meet, and remain eternally secured and continually vocal! Peace be with you.

Wendysue Fluegge

ADVENT MEALS 2016

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 November 30, December 7 & 14. 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.



We will be decorating the tree and church as well as putting up the outdoor Christmas display on Saturday, December 3rd beginning at 9:00 a.m. Please consider helping even if you can only give an hour of your time. We will get a head start moving things around, etc. on

Wednesday, November 30th after worship service you are unable to come on Saturday. Thank you!

A FEW WORDS APTLY SPOKEN

Calvin Coolidge said, "I have never been hurt by anything I didn't say." Maybe this statement explains why Coolidge became known as the president of few words. For example, one Sunday he returned home from church services and was asked by his wife, "What did the minister speak on?"

"Sin," replied Coolidge.

Wanting to know more about the sermon she pressed her husband for details, to which Coolidge responded, "I think he was against it."

On another occasion a woman approached President Coolidge at dinner and blurted, "I have a bet with my friend, Mr. President, that I can get you to say more than two words."

Coolidge simply replied, "You lose."

Shakespeare believed, "Men of few words are the best men," I guess that would make Coolidge pretty good.



SEPTEMBER SCRIP TOTALS

CARD NAME	TOTAL	PROFIT
Applebees	25	2.00
BP	700	10.50
Buffalo Wild Wings	20	1.60
Cobblestone	65	3.25
Dairy Queen	25	5.00
Deer Run	25	2.50
Econo	2300	69.00
Exxon	350	35.00
Exxon (Presto)	200	3.00
Festival	450	13.50
Fleet Farm	125	6.25
Kohls	700	28.00
Kwik Trip	525	21.00
McDonalds	25	1.00
Piggly Wiggly	200	6.00
Red Lobster/Olive Garden	50	4.50
Roundy's	100	4.00
Shell	450	45.00
Shell (Presto)	200	4.00
Shopko	450	22.50
Subway	20	2.00
Walgreens	100	6.00
WalMart	450	11.25
Woodmans	250	12.50
TOTALS	8130	323.10

CHRISTMAS TREE SALES BEGIN....

St. Bartholomew will begin selling trees on Friday, November 25th 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

Saturdays

Sundays

3-6 p.m.

9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Noon-6 p.m.

A Sunday school teacher asked her youngsters:
"Wouldn't you like to go to heaven?"

"Sure," little Johnny replied, "but my Mom told me to come home right after school."

Via Rev. Dr. Ken Curtis
The Joyful Nokieletter



BIRTHDAYS

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

ANNIVERSARIES

8 th	Simon & Rhonda Geiger
10 th	Matt & 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.

We will again be working through the Brillion Police Department, with our contact JoAnn Mignon, to adopt two families for the Christmas season. We had such a wonderful response last year that we felt we could spread the outpouring to more than one family. The ornament tree will be going up in early November with the ages of family members and ideas for gifts. Presents should be unwrapped with the ornaments attached so we know who the recipient is. Thank you in advance for your generosity. Watch the bulletin for more details.



Just a reminder that Terri's main office hours are Monday-Wednesday from approximately 12:30-5:30. Hours vary on Thursday and Friday depending on her schedule at the school. Thank you for your understanding

