

Do It Anyway

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered; Love them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motive; Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies; Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight; Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will forget tomorrow; Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough; Give the world the best you've got...anyway You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God, it never was between you and them anyway.

By Mother Theresa



Trinity Tidings "Sound the Good News"



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1 Samuel 28:8

So Saul disguised himself in different clothes, and taking two men with him, he went to see this woman [a medium, or a witch] in the dark of the night.

Halloween approaches and with it all the fun costumes and scary monsters and most importantly kids knocking on our doors trick or treating for candy. Halloween has a long history which predates our American customs of candy and costumes. Many ancient cultures have had a fall festival honoring their dead, the harvest, and their different gods.

As the early Christian church developed, many of these ancient pagan traditions were adapted into Christian traditions. And, a holiday called "All Saints Day" or "All Hallow's Day" became an important tradition filled with rituals to honor the blessed dead, or saints. The word Hallow comes from a word that means Holy, and we also hear this word in our Lord's Prayer when we say "Hallowed be thy name." As All Hallows Day became important, so did its "Eve" day, which became known as All Hallow's Eve, eventually simplified as Halloween.

In today's culture, there are various pieties within our Christian Church regarding Halloween. Some Christians feel Halloween is filled with too many pagan traditions, the scary monsters, the scary horror movies, and the connections to witchcraft and wiccan traditions. Other Christians feel Halloween is an innocent fun day of costumes, laughing at ghouls and evil spirits, and of course lots of sweets. There is no right answer or right piety about this end of October holiday.

There is an element to our current cultural holiday of Halloween that does bother most Christians. And that is the connection to witchcraft. I shared the verse from 1st Samuel and I would invite you to read the rest of the 28th chapter. This is the story when Saul goes to seek the counsel of Samuel, who had died a few months earlier. Saul tried going to the Lord Yahweh, but felt the Lord was not answering him. So in desperation, Saul goes to a medium who lives in the city of En-Dor.* The medium is able to conjure up the deceased prophet. But the ghost of Samuel is not very pleased at being awakened, and he does not give Saul good news.

There are witches, ghosts and all sorts of other mysterious things that are frightening that we will encounter whether it is Halloween or just any ordinary day of the year. This should not surprise us for even in the Bible there are witches and ghosts. But above all our imaginations, above all the things of this world that we do not understand, there is only one God - the Lord, Yahweh, his Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. There is only one God who blesses, who sanctifies, who makes holy, who hallows. There is only one God who "is bigger than the boogey man," to quote a favorite Veggietales song of mine. And we have been called to worship not the demons, ghosts or witches. We have been called to worship The Only God.

Let us enter into the fall celebrations and holidays with that in mind. And let us cast all our fears aside, for God has made us His holy saints.

* Yes, George Lucas took the name of one of his Star Wars worlds Endor from this chapter in the Bible.

In Christ's love, Pastor Jamie



Week of October 5 to 11

Sunday, October 5th, Time after Pentecost

Devotional Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

This Week in prayer our homebound members: Myron and Linda Deets, Adeline Sheehan, Frank and Leona Ward, Gladys Reed, Elnora Hinrichs, Helen Friel, Elda and Dick Dalquist, Bill and Ruth Borth, Elsie Heward, Joan Massengil, Ardree Fogel; Pray also for the residents of Southtown Terrace, a home here in Milledgeville for adults with mental and physical challenges.

Week of October 12 to 18

Sunday, October 12, Time after Pentecost

Devotional Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

This Week in prayer: This week is the Northern Illinois Synod Assembly, keep in prayer all who attend the assembly, all the work of our Synod and national church, and in particular for the Northwest Conference of the Northern Illinois Synod, the Northern Illinois Synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Bishop Gary Wollersheim of the NIS and Bishop Elizabeth Eaton of the ELCA. Continue to pray for our local partners here as well: Faith on Forty Ministry, Church of the Brethren on Main Street, Dutchtown Brethren, Milledgeville United Methodist, and Community Baptist Church.

Week of October 19 to 25

Sunday, October 19, Time after Pentecost

Devotional Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 96:1-13; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

This Week in Prayer: For victims of domestic abuse, for victims of child abuse, for shelters and centers of safety for those victims, for those who work tirelessly to bring justice for victims of abuse everywhere. For those who are shamed by bullies. For school counselors, especially Mrs. Stacey Bontz of the Milledgeville-Chadwick School District.

Week of October 26 to November 1

Sunday, October 26th, Reformation Sunday

Devotional Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 46; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36

This Week in Prayer: For those who are trapped by systemic poverty, for those trapped by the cycle of addiction, for those who have no one to stand up for their rights and equality. For our elected officials and those seeking office, that they may seek justice in their efforts to govern rightly. For our law enforcement officers, fire fighters, first responders, paramedics and other emergency personnel, that their work may be safe.

October Mission Food Pantry



Items needed:

Elbow

Spaghetti

Egg Noodles

White and Brown Instant rice

Canned Chicken (small cans are available at the Dollar General & Dollar Tree for \$1)

Canned chunked/ground Ham (same as above - makes good ham salad

Sweets are always welcome - jello, pudding, cake mixes, cookies

Paper/Cleaning products (paper towels, Kleenex, toilet paper, dish soap)

Personal Health products (shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant)



"Every shoebox offers an opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with a hurting child."

Franklin Graham President, Samaritan's Purse

Operation Christmas Child

National Collection Week October - November 16th

To make it easier, the WELCA ladies got some pre-made boxes.
These boxes can be picked up in the Narthex.

Questions call: Kim Stewart 225-5541 or Carol Lee Bushman 225-7757

<u>Church Directory</u> **Trinity Lutheran Church**

<u>Council President</u> Kevin Anderson 625-3403

Council Members

 Patty Murray
 855-0532
 Sharon Woodard
 225-7973

 Karen Landers
 225-7755
 Cherrie Simpson
 225-7673

 Ken Kaufman
 225-7660
 Jerry Heeren
 535-4069

 Harlen Meinsma
 499-2080

<u>Treasurer</u> Connie Brockhouse <u>Parish Secretary</u> Amy Hook

<u>Deacon (Custodian)</u> Lynn Kaufman

Choir Director Cinda Heeren Organist Corrine Nye

<u>Financial Secretary</u> Ken Peterson

Cooperative Ministry
1st Lutheran W. Jordan

<u>Council President</u> Jan Wetzel 631-9353

<u>Council Member</u> Jan Koett 718-5144



5th Quarter Youth Events

After every Milledgeville home football game, 7th graders through 12th graders are invited to the Milledgeville Brethren Church for fun and food and a brief devotion. No need to sign up in advance, friends are welcome. Just come and have fun. Parents: pick-up time will be 1 hour after the game has ended.

Don't let the Friday night lights fun end just because the refs said the game is over! Have more fun at the Milledgeville Brethren Church!



Elementary School Mentoring

Beginning Wednesday, September 3rd, at 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, volunteers are sought to be a "grandparent" to the elementary school kids here in Milledgeville. Meet in the Elementary wing, get a desk and plan for 2 hours of amazing fun - reading and playing school games with kindergarten through 3rd graders. See the light on their face as they grow in their reading and math skills over the course of the year. Take joy in knowing you will be recognized by a kid in a store or at a restaurant simply because you gave 2 hours of your time one afternoon a week. No prior experience necessary, just a joyous heart.

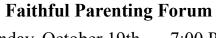
Questions: Contact Mrs. Diane Bracken at 815-225-7022.



CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by local congregations or groups to raise funds to end hunger at home and around the world. With its inception in 1969, CROP Hunger Walks are "viewed by many as the granddaddy of charity walks," notes the Los Angeles Times (Oct. 26, 2009).

On October 17, 1969, a thousand people in Bismarck, ND, walked in what may have been the first-ever CROP Hunger Walk – and raised \$25,000 to help stop hunger. Several other CROP Hunger Walks occurred soon thereafter, and before long there were hundreds of Walks each year in communities nationwide.

Currently, well over 2,000 communities across the U.S. join in more than 1,600 CROP Hunger Walks each year. More than five million CROP Hunger Walkers have participated in more than 36,000 CROP Hunger Walks in the last two decades



Sunday, October 19th 7:00 PM.

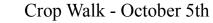
The Faithful Parenting Forum is for all parents of preteens and teens. Our youth face challenges today that are more and more difficult with each passing day. This forum is a safe place for parents to gather, to support one another, to learn from one another, and to hear how our faith shapes our parenting skills. Join us for this great opportunity to grow in faith and to be strengthened as parents.

Grace Meal

September 16th @ 11:30

Pulled Pork Sandwiches, salad's & desserts will be served

Anyone over the age of 60 is welcome



A Little Help Can Make a Big Difference:

- \$25 can provide blankets to a family of 5 displaced by violence or natural disaster
- \$50 can provide oral rehydration therapy for 55 children suffering from diarrhea a deadly disease to children in the developing world
- \$100 can provide a micro-credit loan to a women trying to start a business to support her family
- \$200 can provide a water buffalo to a farming family struggling to increase their farm production.

Donations can be made to any confirmand or Pastor Jamie





Confirmation Class

Class times are 11:30 am to 1:00 pm on Sundays. Friends are welcome to join us for worship and for class.

Please pray for our confirmation students as they prepare to affirm their baptismal faith: Connor Eubanks, Clayton and Colton Simpson, Alyvia Woodard, Heide Gallagher, Jenna Green, Brendan Eve

This month's class topic is the Bible. Our class has learned about how the Bible was written, discussed the issue of "truth" and discovered contradictors in the Bible should not worry us, they all help point to God's amazing work.

Confirmation Mentors Meeting

Wednesday, October 8th at 7 pm there will be at meeting for the Confirmation class mentors. This meeting will be for the 7 mentors that will be AAA adults for our confirmation students. AAA means Available, Authentic, and Affirming. We will talk about mentor expectations, participation, and define more about being Available, Authentic, and Affirming.

If you have interest in assisting with the Confirmation class, but are not one of the 7 identified mentors, you are still welcome to come and learn more.

> The Confirmation class will walk in the Annual Crop Walk on Oct. 5th.



Saturday, October 19th 9:00 - 1:00

Coffee Hour 9:00 - 10:30 Lunch 11:00 - 12:30 (BBQ Sandwich/Salad)

Raffle Drawing at Noon

Crafts, Bake Sale, Church Made Noodles, Fun & Fellowship Please help support our church Bazaar by donating and attending



1st Place: Ouilt

2nd Place: Christmas Wall Hanging

3rd Place: Fall Wreath

Tickets 1 Ticket \$1 6 Tickets \$5

> If you would like to buy a ticket see any WELCA member, or call the church office 815-225-7410









RETREAT

October 10-11, 2014

☑ Rest ☑ Renew ☑ Recharge

Up for quality time away to find new life in your energy & faith?

Join us for a weekend of fraternity, inspiration, meaning & fun

For more information on any of these activities, please see the bulletin board in the front room.



Third Annual Tri-Synod Youth Leader Retreat

> October 20th-21st **Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center**

Come and be affirmed in your ministry with young people at this Practice Discipleship Training Event!

Who: Youth Leaders, Pastors, and Volunteers who work with youth

Purpose: To network, enjoy fellowship, share best practices and concerns, and learn more ways that you can accompany young people on their faith journey. Practice Discipleship Coaches from CSIS. NIS and Metro-Chicago Synod will share highlights and lead the group through activities from this year's curriculum: "Frame"

Register Today! \$35.00/person

Includes overnight accommodations at Freedom Tree Village at LOMC in Oregon, and 3 meals Begins at 1:00 pm on Oct. 20th—3:00pm on Oct. 21st Call Audrey at LOMC to Register

NIS Practice Discipleship Coach: Michelle Heinrich

vandf@faithlcrochelle.org More info on PD go to their website: www.practicediscipleship.org



forty years of ministry at our annual Autumn Fest! Be with us

