

On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – November 2020

Growth

Pastor's Paragraphs

One of our Bible readings for Reformation Sunday this year is 1 Corinthians 12. Early in that chapter (vs. 3) Paul writes, "...no one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit."

Although it is the oldest Christian confession, "Jesus is Lord" may ring hollow to our ears. It is a throw away statement; maybe even meaningless to us. However, with a highly divisive election going on it is not only meaningful but central to understand ourselves as citizens of this nation.

To the Corinthians a lord was someone who both demanded allegiance and offered protection. Saying Jesus is Lord was then a whole life pledge to follow Christ. In the *New Interpreter's Bible Commentary* theologian J. Paul Sampley writes, "All of life was dedicated to honoring Christ. Every day. Every decision. Every nook and cranny of one's being and doing. Jesus' lordship is over all of life, or it is properly over none of it. Today we tend to divide up life into sacred and secular, with the sacred being rather restricted to Sundays and perhaps to a few times of daily devotion. In a like manner, we may think to restrict Christ's lordship to those sacred times of our lives and figure that in the rest of our time we can operate on a different basis, perhaps the way the rest of the world does. To say that 'Jesus is Lord' has meant, from the earliest days, to refuse to have life divided into secular and sacred with two value systems operative in the two areas." (Volume 10, Pg. 942)

While I certainly have my political opinions they are largely irrelevant. Neither Donald Trump nor Joe Biden will ever be my lord. Neither the Republican Party platform nor the Democratic Party platform dictate my life or my thoughts. My loyalty is to Jesus who is my lord. He has already accomplished the work of salvation. He has witnessed to God's love of the world. And he is promised to ultimately finish up God's purposes for everything. No politician can ever make good on a claim like that.

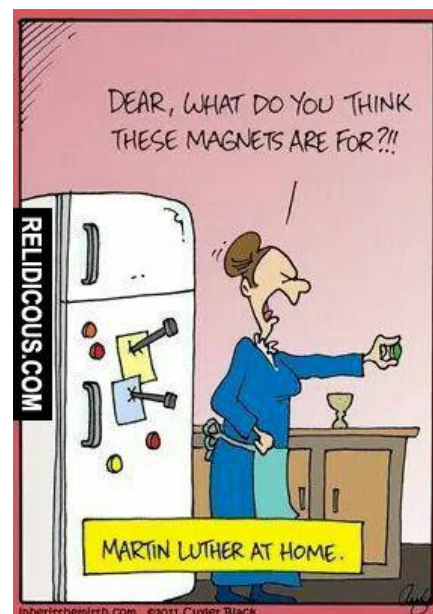
As we vote, as we live in a pandemic, as we earn and spend money, as we worship, as we eat, sleep, and breathe Jesus is Lord. Regardless of your political

views, to say that Jesus is Lord is to affirm that your loyalty is to Christ. It is to acknowledge that the world is a broken place. Evil and wrongdoing happen and they are unacceptable. It is also to acknowledge that God is working to reclaim all the world for himself. We live and work and have our being in that safety. That is our hope. That is our freedom.

Blessings,
Pastor Jon

Adult Sunday School

The adult Sunday school class begins Sunday October 25 at 9:30. It will be both available in-person and online. We begin with a six session video course called *Theology of the Augsburg Confession*. It's from 1517.org and taught by Dr. Scott Keith. You may remember that the Augsburg Confession is the document the Lutheran reformers wrote to explain their actions to the Roman Catholic Church. The biblical interpretation outlined there makes the foundation of what became Lutheranism. Though originally written for church scholars this course will show everyday applications of the writing. If you wish to participate in-person please come to the sanctuary at 9:30. For online we will begin the same Zoom meeting used for worship at 9:30. Talk to Pastor Jon if you have any questions.



Worship

Sunday Worship

- 8:30, worship in the fellowship hall.
- 10:30, worship in the sanctuary and online via Zoom.
- Communion is weekly, alternating services.
- If you are unable to get to worship for communion please be in touch with Pastor Jon. Other arrangements can be made.

All Saints Remembrance

All Saints Sunday is November 3rd. As a part of worship services that day the names of all congregational members and friends of the congregation who have died during the past year will be read. If you have a friend or family member you'd like to have included in the prayers please give the name to Pastor Jon.



November Bible Readings for Worship

In October and November we are looking at 1st and 2nd Corinthians. From these writings from St. Paul we get a glimpse into some of the issues the earliest Christians faced. Paul words carry several messages: advice, criticism, praise, and encouragement. We'll see where we are similar and where we are different from those people.

The final Sunday of November is the beginning of Advent. For Advent we will look at prophesies in Isaiah about Jesus' birth.

Nov. 1 – Divisions/Lawsuits 1st Cor. 3, 6:1-11 (All Saints Day)

Nov. 8 – Sexuality/Holy Living 1 Cor. 6:12-20

Nov. 15 – Orderly Worship 1 Cor. 11:1-26, 14:26-33, 37-40

Nov. 22 – Textual Corruptions 1 Cor. 10:31-11:17

Nov. 29 – Isaiah 11:1-10, Luke 1:5-24

Connecting to Worship with Zoom

If you have a computer and internet connection:

The link to the service is emailed out. For security reasons it is no longer directly available on the website.

If you cannot connect with a computer:

You can still hear and participate in the service with any phone. Use the most appropriate phone number below and enter the meeting number when you are asked.

Dial by your location

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 834 9025 1842

Password: 778805

Service

Food Cupboard Thanksgiving Baskets

The food cupboard will be assembling Thanksgiving food baskets this year on November 19. No volunteers are being requested because of the pandemic. The food cupboard is still short of stuffing mix and chicken broth. If you are willing to contribute these items please place them in the shopping cart in the entrance. The final day to drop these items off at church is November 11.

The food cupboard is also asking for monetary donations to help with buying some food items. Talk to Burdie Gillern for more information. The Farmington Food Cupboard will be doing Thanksgiving baskets again this year. They have not decided on a date as yet or if they will be able to have any volunteer help. We can help with monetary donations to buy items or buy instant mashed potatoes (as the real potatoes we raised in the garden will not last that long). Talk to Burdie Gillern if you'd like more information.

Mitten Tree

We will have a Christmas tree in the gathering area for donations of gloves, mittens, scarves, and hats of all sizes. The deadline is December 20th.

Service (Cont.)

Christmas Gifts for Area Families Deadline

Thank you to everyone who is participating in this years Christmas gifts for area families. If you purchased a gift card please bring it to church by Sunday October 25. There is an old mailbox in the secretary's office to collect the cards.



Veteran's Day - November 11th

We will be hosting the annual, area-wide Veterans Day blood drive on Wednesday, November 11 from 1:30-6:30. In order to limit social contact, we will be running with a minimum number of volunteers.

HOWEVER

If you wish to donate blood, please go to the Red Cross website where you will be able to make an appointment that is convenient for you. Making an appointment will help us be certain to have an adequate number of Red Cross staff. So make an appointment!!

This will be our 15th drive. Over the years, we have collected 406 units of blood, providing support to a possible 1218 patients! Don't take a knee on this one... come out and honor our Veterans with a donation. When blood is needed, nothing else can take its place!

Any questions? Ask Mary Zuege.
315/986-2015



- Thank you to Mike Ross for inspecting the roof leak in the sanctuary and getting the repair process started.
- Thank you to Gary Boisseau for helping to diagnose the sprinkler system problems.
- Thank you to everyone who helped mow the church lawn in September.
- Thank you to Bruce Stevenson and John CiPollina for making various repairs around the building.
- Thank you to everyone who helped with the fall clean-up day at the church.



- The Rev. Matthew Nickoloff and the South Wedge Mission in Rochester.
- Rev. Karen Anderson for her missionary work in Chile.
- Gary Myers who is being treated for multiple myeloma. He is doing well and is responding to the treatments
- Linda Ellis who continues to monitor her cancer issues. Also for both Dick and Linda as they rebuild from a house fire.
- Bob Stroup, Rob Stroup's dad, who has been suffering from dementia and other health problems.
- Knute Halvorson, who is living in Atria Nursing Home in Penfield.
- Kevin Sackett as he receives chemotherapy.
- Eleanor Spawton, Jim Spawton's mother, who has a weakening heart valve.
- Janice Lockwood as she is treated for heart issues.
- Jeff Rogers, friend of Scott Flood, who is struggling with the coronavirus.

Nuts and Bolts

October Council Highlights

- Church council held its regular monthly meeting on - October 19. Topics and decisions were:
- various committee reports
 - Classical Conversations homeschool group's lack of compliance with social distancing and mask wearing
 - sprinkler system problems on 10/17
 - pie Sunday preparations
 - 2021 stewardship drive
 - approving the lease for a new photocopier

Financial Update

Financial data as of September 30th.

YTD Income	\$156,247.74
YTD Expenses	\$152,827.25
Difference	\$3,420.49

Fun



October Bible Trivia Answers

1. What is one of the people in Corinth Paul baptized?
Answer: Crispus, Gaius, or possibly the household of Stephanas (1 Cor. 1:14-16)
2. Paul guilts the wealthy Corinthians to give more to his collection for the poor in Jerusalem by reminding them of the generosity of what poor church/region? Answer: Macedonia (2 Cor. 8:1-5)
3. Paul says there are a variety of gifts but the same what? Answer: Spirit (1 Cor. 12:4)
4. Paul says, "...the eye cannot say to the hand..." what? Answer: "I have no need of you." (1 Cor. 12:21)

November Bible Trivia Questions

Hint: All of the answers may be found in the readings appointed for Sunday worship in November.

1. Paul says he planted, Apollos watered, but who gave the growth?
2. Paul says we are God's temple and what dwells in us?
3. Paul says that in worship all things should be done for what?
4. 1 Corinthians 11:1-16 was probably not written by Paul. According to that passage what should a woman do if she will not veil her hair?

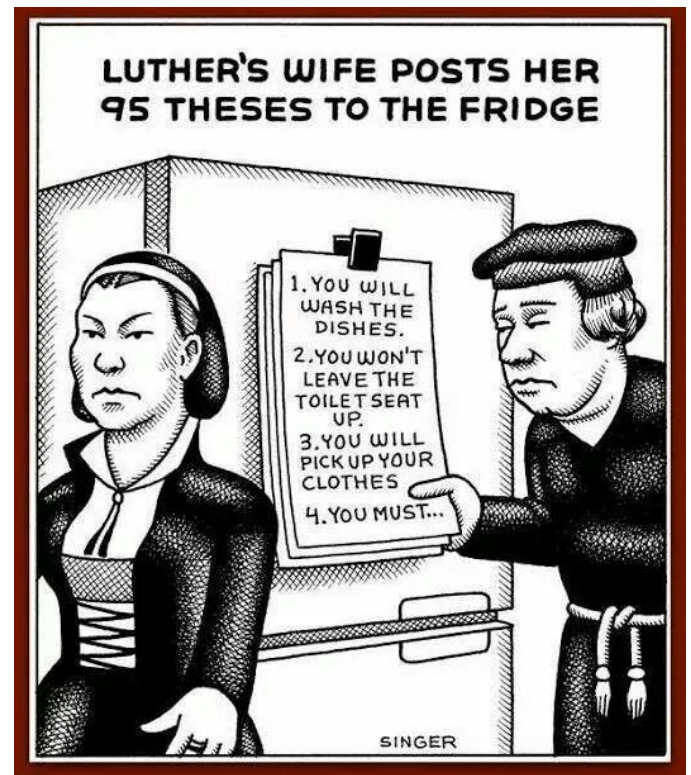
Pie Sunday



Our annual Reformation Sunday (October 25) tradition will continue with pie for coffee hour. All the pies will be store bought. They will be cut, plated, and wrapped. You may eat your pie at church but it will also be ready for you to take it home and enjoy as dessert for your lunch!

Parish Thanksgiving Dinner

The parish thanksgiving dinner is cancelled this year due to the pandemic. You'll have to be content with one less turkey feast this season!



NOVEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <u>All Saints Day</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion Daylight Savings Time Ends	2 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 -2:00 Classical Conversations Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	3 6:00-9:00 Voting 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	4 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast 1:00 Women's Bible Study 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	5 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care 7:00 Worship and Music Committee (Zoom)	6 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons	7
8 <u>23rd Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	9 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 -2:00 Classical Conversations Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	10 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	11 <u>Veterans' Day</u> 7:00-5:00 YMCA Fun Clubs 8:30 Men's Breakfast 1:00-7:00 Blood Drive 1:00 Women's Bible Study	12 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	13 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons	14
15 <u>24th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	16 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 -2:00 Classical Conversations Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care 7:00 Church Council	17 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care 7:00 Property Committee	18 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast 1:00 Women's Bible Study 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	19 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	20 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons	21
22 <u>Christ the King Sunday</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	23 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 -2:00 Classical Conversations Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	24 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care 7:00 Property Committee	25 8:30 Men's Breakfast 1:00 Women's Bible Study 2:30-6:00 YMCA	26 <u>Thanksgiving</u>	27	28
29 <u>1st Sunday in Advent</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	30 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 -2:00 Classical Conversations Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care					



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

**Grace for Everyone
-Always-**

*We are a community of faith
committed to living and sharing the love of God.*

St. John's Lutheran Church

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Address Service Requested

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