

Stewardship The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's Stewardship Ministry

Newsletter Article – November 2019

St. Paul wrote to the Church of Christ in Corinth: “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor 9:7). *God loves a cheerful giver.* But who is a cheerful giver?

Abel was. By faith, Abel gave the firstborn of his flock, and it was acceptable in God’s sight. Abraham was. By faith, Abraham prepared cakes and a ten-

der choice calf for God and entertained angels unaware. So also were David and Solomon. By faith, David would not make a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing, so he paid Araunah his due. By faith, Solomon built a house for God, where his name would dwell and thereby where He would dwell to be Israel’s God and they His people.

What more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of all those who gave not simply for the joy of giving but for the joy

Continued 5

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OPPORTUNITIES IN GOD’S WORD

Tuesday Morning

Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.

This group uses the magazine “Good News”, which is published by Concordia Mission Society. The editor is the former LHM speaker Wallace Schultz. There are several editions available in the pastor’s study/office for anyone who would like to review a topic or use one for personal Bible study.

If evenings are better, join us at the **Cottage Meetings** the last Friday of the month at 7 p.m. hosted at a



member’s home. Cottage meeting this month **Needs a Host.**

Pastor Snider’s Sunday

Adult Bible Study is continuing through the Lifelight Series: Acts Part 2. The book of Acts records God’s glorious actions among the first believers. It reveals the light of Christ, which spread by speech and scroll from Jerusalem down to today.

We hope to see all of you at one or more of these Bible Studies.

**Voters Assembly
November 17.
Agenda includes budget
for the up coming year**

“A Mysterious Christmas Gift”

I looked at the gift. It looked SO different than the others under the tree. It was so carefully wrapped and even had a ribbon tied in a bow. In rich red paper it was beautiful! THIS gift was larger than the others too. Something was missing. . . It didn't have a name on it. I couldn't ask whose it was; it seemed too special. I just looked in wonder. Just having it under the tree added something special to Christmas.

That Christmas, along with other holidays, was not special. Holidays, in my home, were filled with lots of drinking.

Drinking always led to yelling. . .

Yelling led to fights. . .

Fights sometimes went beyond words . . .

In our home the “special” had been lost in holiday events. This Christmas in particular was framed in angry discussions of job loss and financial stress. I overheard a lot.

The GIFT was so mysterious; it was a blaze of red color in my black and white world. It captured my mind.

I could hardly contain myself as the time came to open presents! I am the youngest of four. Presents were handed out in order, oldest to youngest. Each time another gift was handed out the anticipation built.

It did not go to my sister. . .

My oldest brother did not get it. . .

My middle brother was given the box next to it. . .

Next, my mom's hand reached for THE gift . . . **my world**

went into slow motion when she handed THE mysterious, beautifully wrapped gift to me! For just a moment I didn't move. Maybe it was a mistake. . . then I saw the hidden tag; it said, “**To Mike from Santa.**” It was real. It was for me. My fingers began to unwrap the box; I was still in disbelief. As the paper fell away, I could hardly believe my eyes; a brand new pair of black ice skates. New for ME! Being the youngest boy with two older brothers almost nothing was new coming to me. Now right in front of me were brand new shiny ice skates.

I remember nothing else of that day beyond skating up and down the ice covered country roads. I was the only one thankful for the recent ice storm! In the next few days, I'm sure I must have broken some world record for the distance skated by a 9 year old boy.

That gift lifted me out of a fog. I'm not sure what I would label the fog. Maybe it was the expectation that somehow Christmas should be special. Maybe it was TV or maybe comments I heard at school but somehow I thought Christmas should be a special time. The mysterious gift made that Christmas the most memorable of my childhood. I never found out who “Santa” was. I wish I could say, “Thank you” and let them know how much that gift meant. Someone's kindness made a significant impact and a memorable Christmas.

I now know there is another mysterious gift that makes Christmas special. Often it is missed in the busyness, emo-

tion or misplaced focus of the season. This gift has removed the fog of despair that had a grip on my life. This mysterious gift came in the form of a baby born in a stable. When I consider that Jesus left the perfection of heaven, it is almost incomprehensible. He came to walk the planet He created. Each day, His heart was broken by the people he came to serve. He did this for nine year old boys. All this is wonderful, mysterious and beautiful. What a gift. Since I do know THIS gift giver, I can say “Thank you” for a life changing gift.

By Mike Woodward

<https://thoughts-about-god.com/christmas/mw-mysterygift>



November 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
8:45 Bible class Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Comm.	7:00pm Trustees	10:00 Bible Study	6:00 pm Prayer Warriors 7:00 Choir	7:00 Posse	8	5pm Harvest Dinner
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:45 Bible class Sunday School 10:00 Worship		10:00 Bible Study 3:00 New Creation dinner host	6:00 pm Prayer Warriors 7:00 Choir	7:00 Elders		8am - 6pm Craft Day
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:45 Bible class Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Comm. Voters assembly		10:00 Bible Study	6:00 pm Prayer Warriors 7:00 Choir		Cottage Meeting Place to be announced	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8:45 Bible class Sunday School 10:00 Worship		10:00 Bible Study	6:30 Thanksgiving Eve service	Thanksgiving		
1	2	Notes Acolyte: Nov 3 Erik Swanson Nov 10 Madysin Gray Nov 17 Daniel Eppler Nov 24 Kathryn Brumm		Altar Guild Helen Riggs Barb Yek		

If you would like a link to the Trinity Google Calendar, email Lynda Minger with your request at lyndamngr262@gmail.com

December 2019



<u>Sunday</u>	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45 Bible class Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Comm.	2 7:00pm Trustees	3	4 4:30 Prayer Warriors 5:30 Soup Supper 6:30 Worship	5 6:00pm Posse Tree Decorating Every- one Welcome	6 7:30pm Outing Ladies	7
8 8:45 Bible class Sunday School 10:00 Worship	9	10	11 4:30 Prayer Warriors 5:30 Soup Supper 6:30 Worship	12 7:00pm Elders	13	14
15 8:45 Bible class Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Comm.	16	17	18 4:30 Prayer Warriors 5:30 Soup Supper 6:30 Worship	19 7:00pm Council	20	21
22 8:45 Bible class Sunday School 10:00 Children's Program	23	24 Christmas eve 6:30 Worship	25 Christmas day 10:00 worship	26 7:00pm Steward- ship and Evange- lism	27 7:00pm Cottage meeting	28
29 8:45 Bible class Sunday School 10:00 Worship	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	<p>Notes Altar Guild: Cathie Snider and Joanna Krueger</p> <p>Acolyte: 12/1 Daniel Eppler, 12/4-8 Kathryn Brumm, 12/15 Brianna Polenz, 12\22 Erik Swanson, 12/29 Luke Eppler lyte: 11/28 Madysin Gray, 12/04 Kathryn Brumm, 12/11 Eric Swanson, Christmas Eve: Ben Ratliff, Christmas: Luke Eppler</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Advent Aco- lyte: 12/18 Luke Eppler</p>				

Prayers of Trinity

Praise and thanksgiving:

Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power and might be to You, our God, now and forever! Hear us who pray in peace in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. O God, Holy and eternal, who did permit us to enter into the fellowship of that holy suffering by which Your dear Son, our Savior, conquered sin and death; grant that we may celebrate the remembrance of His passion with true devotion, accept the cross as his disciples, and thus fulfill Your holy will; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. We pray for those among us who are in special need of your

guidance and healing:

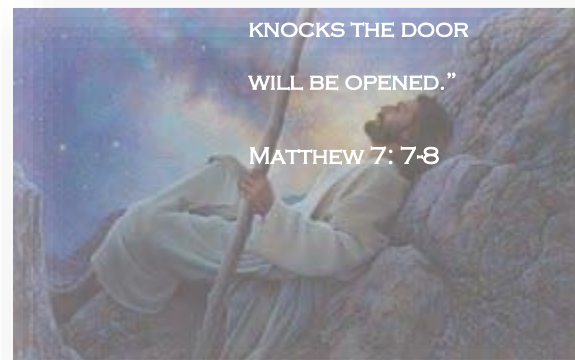
- Carole Welser, Dave Finazzo—strength and healing.
- Shut-ins--Caroline Cadeau, Al Jacoby
- Earl Sparks—Heart—tests and recovery
- Stuart Meyer — Healing and recent cancer diagnosis
- Don Van Gorden, Carolyn and Joe Benkovsky, Dianne and Rudy Vik, Dennis Miller-- strength and health
- Ed Hodgens —speedy recovery from back surgery
- Continued healing: Cynthia Moehring, Mary Meyer,

Joanne and Bob Hickman, Don Keiser.

- Chuck Harrison, Chuck Crowder, Judy Lasko, Robin Fletcher, Kyle Knipp, Ava Allen, Tracy Brohmen, Kenny Cadle, Carol Thompson, Sarah Burns, Libby in their battles with cancer.
- for all the baptized, that in daily repentance all might cling to God's promises of forgiveness and eternal life in Christ

“ASK, AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU; SEEK AND YOU WILL FIND; KNOCK, AND THE DOOR WILL BE OPENED TO YOU.

FOR EVERYONE WHO ASKS RECEIVES; HE WHO SEEKS FINDS; AND TO HIM WHO



KNOCKS THE DOOR WILL BE OPENED.”
MATTHEW 7: 7-8

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Haydin Gray	11/1	Sharon Huetteman	11/25
Betty Love	11/2	Tim Erisman	11/29
Daniel Krueger	11/8	Mitch Minger	11/29
Porter Hindman	11/10	Dahlia Schlaff	11/29
Joseph Benkovsky	11/11		
Tom Voltattorni	11/12		
Caroline Cadeau	11/15	Bryan and Amy Bickel	11/28
Jarred Snider	11/15		
Cha Snider	11/17		

Stockbridge Community Outreach

Stockbridge Community Outreach – Cathie Snider said they are in high need of dish soap. We'll collect it in October and Cathie will deliver.



Poinsettia

Every Christmas we Honor Jesus by decorating the altar with Poinsettias.

Cost \$8.

Forms will be in mailboxes on Sunday Nov 24th and need to be returned by Sunday, December 8th

Stewardship and Evangelism continued

of knowing the One to whom they gave.

So also our Lord, who for the joy set before Him, gave everything, yes, even His life, enduring the cross and scorning its shame. He gave to the shedding of His blood, willingly and resolutely setting His face toward Jerusalem to die for the life of the world. Though He

was rich in every way, He became poor, so that by His poverty we might be rich beyond measure.

So then, let us – like Abel and Abraham, like David and Solomon, and even like our Lord Jesus Christ – give cheerfully to God for the work of His kingdom in our midst. Like them, let us decide in our heart – for

the joy set before us – the joy of knowing the One to whom we give is the One who gives us all good things.

Posse News

November meeting will be on Thursday the 7th at 7 pm.

Hostess is Kristin

November

Altar Care is Kristin and Deb

We will be setting up for the Harvest Dinner right after the meeting.

December meeting will be Thursday, Dec. 5th 6pm

The hostess is Barb
Altar Care is Cathie
and Joanna.



Upcoming events

to get on your calendars:

Saturday, Nov. 9th Harvest
Dinner at 5 pm

Saturday, Nov. 16th Craft
Day 8am - 6pm

December 5th Party to
Decorate the tree and
church for Christmas . Every-
one invited to
come beginning at 6 pm.
The more, the merrier.

Holiday outing to dinner and
the Encore in Dexter to see
the play, “The Secret Garden”.
December 5 at 7:30. Talk to
Deb Dugan if you are interest-
ed in going.

We will be adorning the Altar
with poinsettia’s again this year.
Please watch for your order



forms in your mailboxes
around Thanksgiving.

Watch the weekly bulletins
for more information to fol-
low! all gift cards, so family
members can have the joy of
shopping for each other
We can have fun in creating
festive ways to wrap our gift
cards!

Watch the weekly bulletins for
more information to follow!

*(Barb always uses Cute little
Emojis. Thought I would share
them)*

Angel Tree information

The Angel tree to support the Christmas caring program thru Wellspring will be up in the gathering area on Sunday, November 24th. This year they are asking for all gift cards so the families can have the joy of shopping for each other.

\$25 amounts are good, but larger amounts are ok too. Most wanted ones are

Meijer, Walmart and Visa. Just remember with Visa cards, there is a small fee that has to be paid in addition to the amount on the card.

For our virtual shoppers, you can visit Wellspring's Amazon wish list to purchase the gift cards: wellspringlutheran.com/christmas_caring

Please have the cards back to

Barb by Wednesday, December 4th. So she can

get them back to Wellspring. All the gifts must be received by December 13th.

For Fun, lets see how creative we can be in wrapping our gift cards.

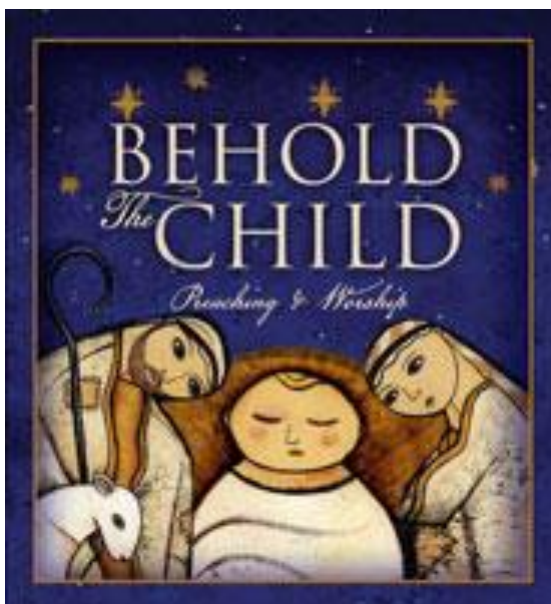
Check out Pinterest for ideas!

Christian Ed info

The Children's program will be on December 22. The kids will be starting practice on December 1 during the Sunday School hour. Please plan on making sure the children are here so that they will feel confident on the day of the program.

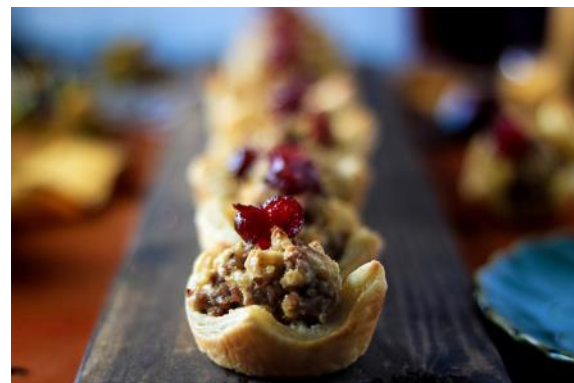
If you have any questions you can contact Elizabeth Eppler.

The Youth Group is planning a Rollerama event January 5 and a lock in after the Euchre tournament February 22.



Sausage Stuffing Cream Cheese Bites

1. Heat oven to 400°F.
2. Remove puff pastry from the freezer and allow it to thaw for about 15 min. until you can unfold it without breaking. (Make sure you don't let it get too warm.)
3. Prepare the STOVE TOP Stuffing according to instructions on box and set aside. In a skillet on stove top, cook sausage until browned and crumbled, set aside.
4. In a large bowl with a hand mixer or stand mixer fitted with paddle attachment, mix together cream cheese and 1 egg until creamed together and smooth. Stir in cooked sausage until fully incorporated. Gently fold in stuffing with a spatula.
5. Unfold the puff pastry sheets, roll out each sheet and cut into 12 squares. (The squares don't have to be perfect but each should be about 3-1/2-inch square.) Press 1 square on bottom and up side of each of 24 nonstick muffin pan cups. In a small bowl, whisk the remaining egg with a fork to create an egg wash. Brush the egg wash over the puff pastry, especially the edges. (This will give the pastry a darker golden finish. If you don't use an egg wash that is fine, you'll just get a paler finish.)
6. Using a cookie scoop, divide the sausage-cream cheese mixture among the puff pastry cups, using 2 heaping teaspoons of filling per cup. Bake for 12 to 15 min. or until the puff pastry is golden brown. Top with a dollop of cranberry sauce, or serve it on the side. Serve immediately.





TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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