



OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH 725 Gastonia Technology Parkway Post Office Box 475 Dallas, North Carolina 28034 Phone: 705-922-4648 Email: oslcdallas@aol.com Website: oslc-nc.org

# Our Saviour's Good News

#### Volume XVII, Issue XI

#### MISSION STATEMENT

Our Saviour Lutheran Church welcomes all people to a safe place to grow in faith and serve the Lord Jesus Christ

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#### Happy Thanksgiving



# All Saints Solemnity November 1

"The glorious company of the apostles praise Thee. The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise Thee. The white-robed army of martyrs praise Thee. All the saints and elect with one voice do acknowledge Thee, O Blessed Trinity, one God!" -- Feast of All Saints (November 1), Antiphon at Lauds. from the *Te Deum* 

#### Origin of All Saint's Day as a feast of the Church:

What makes this feast so important that the Church celebrates both the night *before* All Saints and the day *after* it?

The Church has always honored those early witnesses to the Christian faith who have died in the Lord. (The Greek word for "witness" is martyr.) During the first three hundred years Christians were severely persecuted, often suffering torture and bloody death -- because they were faithful . They refused to deny Christ, even when this denial might have saved their own lives, or the lives of their children and families.

The early history of the Church is filled with stories of the heroic faith of these of witnesses to Christ's truth. The stories of these saints -- these baptized Christians of all ages and all states in life, whose fidelity and courage led to their sanctity or holiness -- have provided models for every other Christian throughout history.

Many of those especially holy people whose names and stories were known, the Church later canonized (that is, the Church formally recognized that the life of that person was without any doubt holy, or sanctified -- a "saint" who is an example for us.) The Church's calendar contains many saint's days, which Catholics observe at Mass -- some with special festivities.

But there were thousands and thousands of early Christian martyrs, the majority of whose names are known only to God -- and throughout the history of the Church there have been countless others who really are saints, who are with God in heaven, even if their names are not on the list of canonized saints.

In order to honor the memory -- and our own debt -- to these unnamed saints, and to recall their example, the Church dedicated a special feast day -- a sort of "memorial day" -so that all living Christians would celebrate at a special Mass the lives and witness of those "who have died and gone before us into the presence of the Lord".

This feast that we know as All Saint's Day originated as a feast of All Martyrs, sometime in the 4th century. At first it was celebrated on the first Sunday after Pentecost. It came to be observed on May 13 when Pope St. Boniface IV (608-615) restored and rebuilt for use as a Christian church an ancient Roman temple which pagan Rome had dedicated to "all gods", the Pantheon. The pope re -buried the bones of many martyrs there, and dedicated this Church to the Mother of God and all the Holy Martyrs on May 13, 610.

About a hundred years later, Pope Gregory III (731-741) consecrated a new chapel in the basilica of St. Peter to all saints (not just to the martyrs) on November 1, and he fixed the anniversary of this dedication as the date of the feast.

A century after that, Pope Gregory IV (827-844) extended the celebration of All Saints to November 1 for the entire Church. The vigil of this important feast, All Saint's Eve, Halloween, was apparently observed as early as the feast itself.

The festival was retained after the <u>Refor-</u> <u>mation</u> in the calendar of the <u>Church of Eng-</u> <u>land</u> and in many <u>Lutheran</u> churches. In the Lutheran churches, such as the <u>Church of</u> <u>Sweden</u>, it assumes a role of general commemoration of the dead. In the <u>Swedish cal-</u> <u>endar</u>, the observance takes place on the first Saturday of November. In many Lutheran Churches, it is moved to the first Sunday of November.

#### November 2022

It is time to thank God for a bountiful harvest and for the many other blessing of life, as the Pilgrims did in New England territory in 1621, along with the Wampanoag Indians.

#### THANKSGIVING BLESSINGS

#### A POEM

Thanksgiving blessing! Oh, that we would praise our Lord eternal! For all the blessing He imparts with thankful, joyful, giving hearts. May fruits of thankfulness and praise be verdant, Lord, in all our days, That we may show the love you give in every way we love and live. To you, from whom all blessings flow, our gratitude and we owe, For health and faith and mercy dear poured out upon us, year to year.

#### A LITANY

You open your hand, O Lord, and satisfy the desire of every living thing.
For the fruitfulness of the earth, we give you thanks. You gather us into families and help us grow.
For the fruitfulness of families, we give you thanks.
You bring us together as friends and allow our relationships to develop.
For the fruitfulness of friendship, we give you thanks. In all we say and do, O Lord.

make us fruitful unto you.

#### A PRAYER

O Bountiful Lord, you have enriched us with more than we could ever ask for or imagine. Let this Thanksgiving feast spread before us be a testament to what you have done and are doing in our loves. Grace us with a new appreciation for your many gifts to us. Fill all around this table with a sense of your lavish love and care for us. shower your power and presence among us. Open your floodgates of goodness to us and let your salvation be made known, through the name of Jesus, who gave us His life that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Amen.

#### Hope Your Are Drinking from your saucer too....

I've never made a fortune, and it's probably too late now. But I don't worry about that much, I'm happy anyhow. And as I go along life's way, I'm reaping better than I sowed. I'm drinking from my saucer, **'cause my cup has overflowed.** 

Haven't got a lot or riches, and sometime the going's tough. But I've got loving ones all around me, and that make me rich enough. I thank God for his blessings, and the mercies He's bestowed. I'm drinking from my saucer, 'cause my cup has overflowed.

I remember times when thing went wrong, my faith wore somewhat thin. But all at once the dark clouds broke, and the sun peeped through again.

So Lord, help not to gripe, about the tough rows I hoed. I'm drinking from my saucer, 'cause my cup has overflowed.

If God gives my strength and courage, when the way grows steep and rough. I'll not ask for other blessings, I'm already blessed enough.

And may I never be too busy, to help others bear their loads. Then I'm drinking from my saucer, 'cause my cup has over-flowed.

When I think of how many people in this world have it worse than I do, I realize just how blessed I really am!









The Advent wreath began as a German and Scandinavian home devotional practice used to mark the four weeks of Advent. Families would light a candle for each past week and the current week at their dinner or evening time of prayer. The configuration of candles, whether in a line or a circle, did not matter. Neither did the color of the candles (all colors are used in homes in Europe). What mattered was the marking of time and the increase of light each week in the face of increasing darkness as the winter solstice approached.

As Advent wreaths began to be used by congregations on Sundays in some places in Europe and America beginning in the late 19th century, several adaptations were made to make them work better in public worship spaces. Candles needed to be larger and more uniform than the "daily candles" handmade or purchased for home use. They also needed to be more uniform in color to fit with other décor in the sanctuary. That is why candles used in the Advent wreath are usually purple or blue, to coordinate with color of the paraments used during this season.

This shift in context from home to public use also made it important in the eyes of some for the candles to be given a meaning more that simply marking time and increasing light. This led to special ceremonies being developed for lighting these special candles each week.

As this practice began to catch on by the mid-twentieth century, several church supply houses who sold Advent wreaths and candles for public worship also developed resources, banners, and bulletin covers assigning a theme to each week, and thus each candle, based on scriptures from the one-year lectionaries used at that time. Those themes were Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace, in that order.

Today, almost no one uses those one-year lectionaries, so those themes may not always fit the scriptures we hear in worship. The one exception is the Third Sunday of Advent, where the current lectionaries have continued to support the centuries old observance of "Gaudete" or "Joy Sunday." That is why church supply houses often offer rose or pink colored candles for the wreath for use on this day.

So how may we talk about the meaning of the Advent wreath today?

We can reclaim the original home use of marking time with the hope of increasing light as we await the return of Christ, that day when "The city no longer has need of the sun or the moon to shine upon it, because the glory of God illumines it, and its lamp is the lamb."

And we can develop meanings or themes for each week based on the focus of the scriptures themselves. After all, the candles and the wreath are an accessory, not an end in themselves. Their meaningfulness comes from how we use them to point toward Christ, the world's true light, who was, and is, and is to come.



First Sunday of Advent,

November 27



# THEYEAR OF OUR LORD

The Christian Church Year is living history. It is ancient events to life each year. It is history that is as alive as the Church itself.

The Church Year is a cycle of festivals and seasons. Christians around the World and throughout history have shaped their faith and marked their lives by these events.

The first half of the Church Year (Advent through Pentecost Day) recalls event in the life of our Lord, making them real for us in the present.

The rest of the Church Year (Pentecost Season) focuses on discipleship —- the new life in Christ in which we are living and growing. The community of believers, the Church, keeps observing the Church Year because it celebrates God's redemption.

When Christians observe the Church Year's festivals and seasons, we

- learn the words and acts of God that have changed history;
- remember the birth, life, death and resurrection of our Lord for us;
- participate in these saving events through which our Lord creates his Church and transforms our lives.

The Church Year revolves around three great festival days — Christmas, Easter and Pentecost — and the seasons that connect them — Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, and Pentecost or Ordinary Time.

#### Advent Season

4 weeks of preparation for Christ's coming.

#### **Epiphany Season**

4 to 9 weeks of thanks for Christ's revelation to the world, including the Baptism of Our Lord.

#### Holy Week

Palm or Passion Sunday follow by The Easter Triduum ( the three days beginning with the Lord's supper on Maundy Thursday and ending on Easter Sunday)

#### Pentecost Season or Ordinary Time

# Christmas Season

12 days of celebration of Christ's birth, leading to Epiphany, the "Christmas of the Gentiles"

#### Lenten Season

Ash Wednesday followed by 40 days of preparation, concluding during Holy Week

#### Easter Season

Easter Day followed by 50 days of rejoicing, including Ascension Day leading to the season's climax Pentecost Day.

2 dozen weeks from Holy Trinity Sunday to Christ the King Sunday. The festival of All Saints is celebrated late in this season.

Now we have done a complete cycle of the year and start the Advent Season again on November 27.



# **The Truth About The Bible**

During a question and answer session at a recent speaking engagement, a university student asked me, "Why do you believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God?"

Now this is a very interesting question, and probably one of the most important questions any Christian could ask themselves. What is so special, so unique about the Bible that Christians believe it is literally the inspired word of God?

In answering this student's question, I encouraged him to consider the following facts about the Bible. First, the Bible is not just one single book. This is a more common misconception than many people realize, especially with people who do not come from a Judeo-Christian background. Rather than being a single book, the Bible is actually a collection of 66 books, which is called the canon of scriptures. These 66 books contain a variety of genres: history, poetry, prophecy, wisdom, literature, letters, and apocalyptic, just to name a few.

Second, these 66 books were written by 40 different authors. These authors came from a variety of backgrounds: shepherds, fishermen, doctors, kings, prophets, and others. And most of these authors never knew one another personally.

Third, these 66 books were written over a period of 1,500 years. Yet again, this is another reminder that many of these authors never knew or collaborated with one another in writing these books.

Fourth, the 66 books of the Bible were written in 3 different languages. In the Bible we have books that were written in the ancient languages of Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic; a reflection of the historical and cultural circumstances in which each of these books were written.

And finally, these 66 books were written on 3 different continents: Africa , Asia, and Europe . Once again, this is a testament to the varied historical and cultural circumstances of God's people.

Think about the above realities: 66 books, written by 40 different authors, over 1,500 years, in 3 different languages, on 3 different continents. What's more, this collection of books shares a common storyline - the creation, fall, and redemption of God's people; a common theme - God's universal love for all of humanity; and a common message - salvation is available to all who repent of their sins and commit to following God with all of their heart, soul, mind and strength.

In addition to sharing these commonalities, these 66 books contain no historical errors or contradictions. God's word truly is an amazing collection of writings!

After I had shared the above facts with this student, I offered him the following challenge. "If you do not believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God, if you do not believe that the Bible is of a supernatural origin, then I challenge you to a test, I challenge you to go to any library in the world, you can choose any library you like, and find 66 books which match the characteristics of the 66 books in the Bible. You must choose 66 books, written by 40 different authors, over 1,500 years, in 3 different languages, written on 3 different continents. However, they must share a common storyline, a common theme, and a common message, with no historical errors or contradictions." I went on to say, "If you can produce such a collection of books, I will admit that the Bible is not the inspired word of God."

The student's reply was almost instantaneous, he emphatically stated, "But that's impossible!"

It truly is impossible, for any collection of human writings. However, the Bible passes this test. The Bible contains 66 books, written by 40 different authors, over 1,500 years, in 3 different languages, on 3 different continents, with no historical errors or contradictions. The entire Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, bears the mark of Divine inspiration.

The next time you encounter someone who asks you why you believe the Bible is the inspired word of God, try sharing this challenge with them. Better yet, don't wait until you're asked, just go ahead and share this challenge with a friend today. You don't even have to mention the Bible up front, just ask them if they think it would be realistic to assemble such a collection of books. After they say, "But that's impossible!" you've got a ready-made opportunity for sharing the truth!

In God We Trust.



# The Consolation of Eternal Life

A great many people believe that our eternal life will begin at the time of our death. In reality, our eternal life with God began on the day of our Baptism, the day we became children of God. As adopted members of God's family, we become heirs of Heaven; as our heritage, God shares His very life with us. Life that is eternal, life that transcends all time and space.

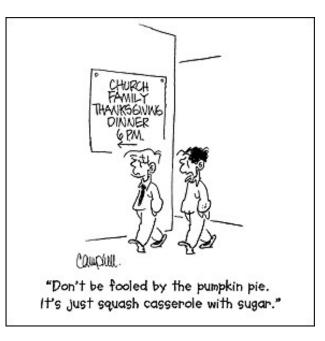
When we reflect on this great truth, we can come to realize that those we love who have gone before us, marked with the sign of faith, have not been separated from us. They are really much closer to us because they now live in the fullness of God's love, a love that embraces each one of us, whether here on earth or in the heavenly kingdom. It is in this divine live that we are truly united, not only to God, but to each other.

At a time of mourning, we often feel that we are distant from those we love, Actually, they are united with us now more that ever before. No more do they know the restraints of the human condition. Now they are able to love us with a deeper love, fuller love, a love that is enriched by God's own love. No, death does not separate us from those we love. In deepens our union with

# Prayer of Gratitude

Lord, we thank you for our blessings today, and our blessings yesterday. For the food on our table, friends and family by our side, and all who have sacrificed to better our lives.

W e thank you for what will be tomorrow, the glorious gift of a new day filled with the love of Christ, lifting our hearts, always. AMEN.







EVENT

NOVEMBER IS .....

November 5—

**National Hospice Month** Lutheran World Relief (see p 6) • November I — All Saints Day

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS • November 6—All Saints Day-

Rite of Remembrance



Sunday School: 9:45 pm Church Service: 11:00 pm

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Saints Saints Saints	2	3	4	5 Your Clodss Back
6 All Saints Day Observed.	7 Team Meetings	8 Election Day GO VOTE	9	10	11	12
13 23rd Sun after Pentecost	14	15 Prayer Group	16	17	18	19
20 Christitic King Sunday	21	22	23	Thank Silving	25	26
27 1st Sunday of Advent	28	27	30			



# Birthdays

- Betty Clemmer 2
- Sarah Wooten 4
- Anna Lowery 8 17 Becky Messick
- Danny Wilson



Bill Trudnak Ben Trudnak Ethan Petzold Allie Trudnak Stephen Lowery Jacob White Brett Lowery Easton Finger Joanna Trudnak Holy Communion Schedule:

ALL SUNDAYS Worship Service Assistance:

Acolyte: OSLC Member **Communion** OSLC MEMBER Asst: Teri Trudnak Lay Reader: Teri Trudnak Worship Asst: Greeters: Ushers:

Members of OSL Members of OSLC Steve Digh

December

Alice Vlaservich

Devotions:

Collection:



See form inside

Deadline: Nov 27 Cost: \$20 for 10"



- November 24—Thanksgiving Day
- November 27—Ist Sunday of Advent HANGING OF THE GREENS

FOOD FOR THE MONTH: Canned Pinto Beans, Blackeye Peas Canned Meat.

> CHOIR PRATICE 4:00 PM WEDNESDAY NIGHTS



FLOWERS

#### Flower Schedule:

November 6 Open November 13 Open November 20 Open November 27 Nick Vlaservich

#### A NEW FLOWER CALENDAR

will be posted on the first door in the hallway of the Education wing. So watch for it and please sign up to place flowers on the altar in the glory of God and in honor or memory of your loved ones.

# 2022 NOVEMBER MISSION EMPHASIS LASZLO MISSION LEAGUE has ministry in Papua New Guinea

Our Saviour Congregation sponsors two students in Hauna Village, PNG, a boy, Bendomas Roy Wangi and a girl, Azimah Thomson. Please pray for these children. Their whole village is very poor, but they are overcoming since the missionaries have been there. Shirley Killosky is still there, but is getting ready to retire. They live in the jungle. If the river water gets low or floods this effects their lives greatly. They fish for meat, use the river for travel, and use its water in many ways. They plant gardens of vegetables that sometimes get washed out or flooded. Sago paste, scraped from the center of a sago log makes staple food. They still live in thatched roof huts, and cook over open fires.

They have built many buildings for the community: a school, church, medical center, sheds for men to work, such as to use machinery to shell rice to sell, or saw logs to sell. Some of the men go up river as trained teachers to help students in others villages to hear God's Word and to teach the children the basics of education.

The village is Christian and has made a huge difference in the lives of the people. The men no longer go to war with their surrounding tribal peoples, but help them and help in their own village. The families co-operate together to get and prepare food, shelter, and have fellowship. The school teachers tell Bible Stories and sing Christian songs as well as teach the basics of education: reading, writing, and math.

What a privilege to be sponsors for this ministry – LASZLO MISSION LEAGUE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, HAUNA VILLAGE – the two students that we sponsor so they can go to school.

<u>Would you and your family like to sponsor a child</u> so he/she can go to school? Go to on and look at the opportunities: www.laszlomissionleague.com. Please remember to pray for the children and the adults.



God is calling all of its members of OSLC to assist Him in our worship service. Sign-up sheets for worship assistants for the calendar year of 2018 are posted in the hall way in the Education section of the church. So be a **doer** and **participant** of your service and sign-up. THANK YOU!





## A Stewardship Minute

This month's issue of *Stewardship* describes how a husband and wife manage their money. They use the envelope system. They take 12 envelopes, each of which are labeled with a word indicating where money put in that envelope is to go. For example, one envelop might have the word "Home" on it, another "Food," still another "Utilities" and so forth.

The first envelope in the stack was labeled "Church." It was obvious that they realized God and the church were a their first priority. That made sense because God is our Creator and

#### OUR SAVIOUR'S GOOD NEWS

the church is where we worship God, where we learn of God's will for our lives, where we join others in organizing to work on behalf of establishing God's kingdom on earth for which we regularly pray. The church is also where we have fellowship with other Christians, where we learn and laugh and share joys and sorrows, where we break bread together and where we sing:

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord, she is his new creation by water and the Word. From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride; with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died. (Samuel J. Stone) PAGE 9

The church was of great importance to this couple; here we are reminded that our lives are in God's hands and it is God's care that will guide us through whatever difficulties we face. It is here that we receive guidance and the assurance of God's love as we worship with the family of God.

**Prayer:** Merciful God, help us to keep our focus upon you and the helpful guidance you offer us throughout our lives. In Christ's name we pray. **Amen** 





Coming home from war can be a difficult experience for veterans. Soldiers who experience combat are often changed in ways that most civilians cannot comprehend. In a recent study conducted by the University of California, San Francisco and the San Francisco VA Medical Center, it was found that 31 percent of soldiers returning from Iraq between 2001 and 2005 were diagnosed with mental health and/or psychosocial challenges. The most common diagnoses include post traumatic stress disorder, anxiety disorder, adjustment disorder, depression and substance abuse disorder.

Many soldiers who return with war injuries - from lost limbs to blindness to brain damage and countless other disabilities that can make even simple, everyday tasks incredibly difficult. Often such injuries make finding and maintaining employment nearly impossible.

Even soldiers who return without health issues frequently find it difficult to return to their "normal" pre-war life. They may meet with incomprehension and even fear and anger from their friends, families or other civilians. And yet, these are the men and women who have willingly put their lives on the line for their country. While civilians may not be able to fully understand what veterans have endured and sacrificed for their country, you can show them the respect they deserve and accept them with the loving, open arms of Christ.

On November 11, millions of people across the U.S. will celebrate Veteran's Day. There are many ways you can take part in honoring our veterans, this day and any other:

- Write a veteran a thank you note, or send a letter to an entire Veteran's of Foreign War or American Legion post.
- Write a letter to a soldier currently in the Middle East
- Talk to your children about who veterans are, what they do and what their service means to our country.

If you would like more information on how you can support veterans visit www.vfwfoundation.org.



# Abraham Lincoln Thanksgiving Proclamation

At this time of year 158 years ago, in the middle of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln issued his second presidential proclamation setting apart the last Thursday of November as a day of national holiday.

George Washington was the first president to proclaim a day of thanksgiving, issuing his request on October 3, 1789, exactly 74 years before Lincoln's.

#### A Proclamation.

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict; while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defence, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battle-field; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixtythree, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.

By the President: Abraham Lincoln

William H. Seward, Secretary of State



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*OUTREACH MISSION* <u>SHUT-INS</u> <u>NURSING HOME RESIDENTS</u>

Please remember our church members who are shut-ins or reside in a senior living/nursing home\* and visit them or send them a card.

#### <u>Marilyn Finger</u>

2701 Jackson Square, Anderson, SC 29625

#### Jill Petzold

Brookside Senior Living, Rm 44, 1680 S. New Hope Rd., Gastonia, NC 28054

(If others, please let the church office know)

## **EVENTS for:**

## **Agrape/Kure Beach**

Contact Camp Agapé: Telephone: 919-552-9421 e-mail: agape@agapekurebeach.org

Contact Kure Beach Lutheran: Telephone 910-458-0783 e-mail: <u>kurebreach@agapekurebeach.org</u>

Web site: www.agapekurebeach.org

Directions to Camp Agapé are on the web site.

Please see calendars and other information on the bulletin board or go on-line

## **Events for:**

#### Lutheridge -Lutherock-Lutherspring- Lutheranch

Web site: www.NovusWay.com



See form inside

Deadline: Nov 27 Cost: \$20—10" If you need a Pastor, please contact Pastor Pete Feige at 704-516-2805 or our office at 704-922-4648.

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#### RACHEL GROUP

Will not meet in November

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PRAYER GROUP WILL MEET AT THE HOME OF SHIRLEE MARAZZA ON NOVEMBER 15 AT 1:00 PM

**LET US PRAY...** "Are any among you suffering? They should pray...The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up." (James 5:13-15)



**PRAYER CONCERNS:** MARGARET Addington, SETH Alexander, AMANDA (friend of the Penley's), MARVIS Anderson, WHITNEY Auten (breast cancer), KELLY Ballard (friend of Shana Dease), ADDISON Blanton (friend of Dease's), KATHY Bohanan (cancer), RONDA Bradley

(Marsha Patton's mom, surgery for neck fusion), KAREN Brady, MIKE Coffey (Robbie Wooten's uncle), STEVE Cloninger (friend of Brady Ratchford-cancer), ROB Curley (cancer), STEVE Digh (cancer), HARDY Feige (Pete's dad - chronic back pain), GLEEN Fraizer (friend of Steve & Julie Digh -cancer), NANCY Friday, DON Gardner (John Patton's uncle -caner in lung, liver, stomach, & pancreas), BECKY Goodwin (friend of Brady's - cancer), JASON Hames (friend of the White's), GRACE Harbin (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), JEAN Huffstetler, ANDER-SON Jones (friend of Penny Wilson-paralyzed by fall), JEFF Lineberger (stroke), DANA Kirshman (friend of Robbie Wootencancer), JACK Lonon (Kasey Digh's step-father-cancer), MARI-NA Marazza (Shirlee Marazza's granddaughter-Long Haul Covid19), BO Messick (foot), FRANCIS McAllister (broken hip), CHRIS Messick (recovering back surgery), JASON, ALLISON & LEX Murray, GARY Neal, (friend of Caleb Dease), SONDRA Phillips (friend of Melinda White), LEON Rawlinson (heart) TERI Trudnak, RONNIE Shiles (friend of Brady Ratchford-declining health), MARTHA Surratt (friend of Alice Vlaservich-cancer). TONY Trudnak (cancer reoccurring), STEVE Trudnak (lung cancer), GARY Turner (father of Jason Murray), ALICE Vlaservich (fluid), TIM Vaughan (friend of Robbie Wooten-declining health). JOE White (stroke), MELINDA White (blood cancer.), NANCY Wilson, REESE Wilson (blood cancer). MARY BETH Wright (cousin of Nick Vlaservich -cancer).

## A Special Prayer for Those Who Serve in Our Armed Forces

The following Scripture passages and prayer are for those who have experience something so horrible, or been involved in a situation so distressing, that their minds ar3 infected by the scene.

> "I always keep the PORD in front of me. When he I at my side, I cannot be moved." Psalm 16:8

Heavenly Father, the evil things I witnessed and experience in combat today have caused me great distress. Please uphold and comfort me. As you raised Jesus from the tomb by your glorious power and gave him victory over death and Satan, I ask that you also uplift me, my fellow soldiers, and all those who may be similarly distressed and troubled what we have witnessed today. Especially be with those who were injured during this horrible encounter, and heal them of all their injuries—both physical and mental. I pray that you would also comfort our families, and let none of us ever forget as we carry on our respective duties in the days ahead..

"The LORD your God is with you. He is hero who saves you. He happily rejoices over you, renews you with His love, and celebrates over you with shouts of joy." Zephaniah 3:17

I ask all of this in Jesus' name – the one who "renews me with His love." Amen.





### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (SHOE BOX) IS HERE!

#### What is Operation Christmas Child?

This annual project enables caring individuals, families, schools, churches, businesses, and other organizations to fill ordinary shoe boxes with small toys, school supplies, sweets, and other gifts for needy children around the world. Operation Christmas Child sends a message of hope to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes.

Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest children's Christmas project. Since 1990 the project has brought the joy of Christmas to more than 47 million boys and girls throughout the world. Last year we sent 1.24 million shoe boxes from the UK to children in hospitals, orphanages, Internally Displaced Persons camps, homeless shelters and impoverished neighborhoods. With your help we want to reach even more children in the poorest parts of the world in 2020.

**Your gift is powerful!** Your shoe box will make a child feel special and valued, and let them know that you care about them. Choosing gifts and then wrapping and filling a shoe box is a fun and rewarding activity for all the family – especially when you know these gifts are going to be used and treasured.

**From you to a child in need.** Your shoe box will be hand delivered to a child in need, asking nothing from them in return. All boxes are given to the neediest children regardless of nationality, political background or religious beliefs. Operation Christmas Child empowers local overseas partners to ensure that your shoe boxes are delivered with the highest levels of integrity and respect. Where appropriate and in culturally sensitive ways, our local overseas partners will make available a booklet of Bible stories, which gives a message of hope and includes an explanation of the true meaning of Christmas – God's gift of His Son, Jesus.

SHOE BOXES ARE DUE TO BE COLLECTED ON **NOVEMBER 21**. THEY ARE ASKING FOR A \$10.00 TO BE

INCLUDED WITH THE PROCESSING COSTS. THANK YOU FOR GENEROSITY. FOR A \$10.00 TO BE BOX TO HELP WITH

YOUR CONTINUED

Thank you for caring!

#### FIRST THANKSGIVING In 1621, the Plymouth



colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast which is acknowledged today as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies. This harvest meal has become a symbol of cooperation and interaction between English colonists and Native Americans. Although this feast is considered by many to the very first

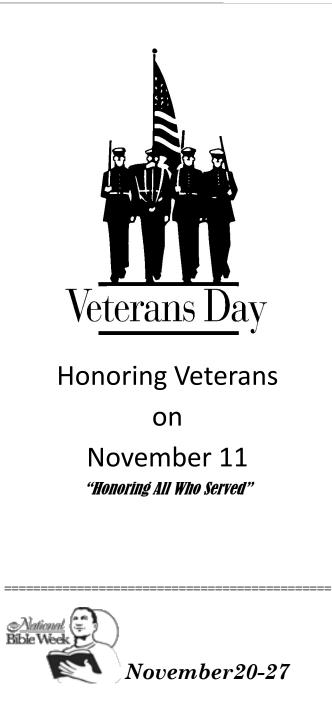
Thanksgiving celebration, it was actually in keeping with a long tradition of celebrating the harvest and giving thanks for a successful bounty of crops. Native American groups throughout the Americas, including the Pueblo, Cherokee, Creek and many others organized harvest festivals, ceremonial dances, and other celebrations of thanks for centuries before the arrival of Europeans in North America.

Historians have also recorded other ceremonies of thanks among European settlers in North America, including British colonists in Berkeley Plantation, Virginia. At this site near the Charles River in December of 1619, a group of British settlers led by Captain John Woodlief knelt in prayer and pledged "Thanksgiving" to God for their healthy arrival after a long voyage across the Atlantic. This event has been acknowledged by some scholars and writers as the official first Thanksgiving among European settlers on record. Whether at Plymouth, Berkeley Plantation, or throughout the Americas, celebrations of thanks have held great meaning and importance over time. The legacy of thanks, and particularly of the feast, have survived the centuries as people throughout the United States gather family, friends, and enormous amounts of food for their yearly Thanksgiving meal.

#### What Was Actually on the Menu?

What foods topped the table at the first harvest feast? Historians aren't completely certain about the full bounty, but it's safe to say the pilgrims weren't gobbling up pumpkin pie or playing with their mashed potatoes. Following is a list of the foods that were available to the colonists at the time of the 1621 feast. However, the only two items that historians know for sure were on the menu are venison and wild fowl, which are mentioned in primary sources. The most detailed description of the "First Thanksgiving" comes from Edward Winslow from *A Journal of the Pilgrims at Plymouth*, in 1621:

"Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men on fowling, that so we might after a special manner rejoice together after we had gathered the fruit of our labors. They four in one day killed as much fowl as, with a little help beside, served the company almost a week. At which time, among other recreations, we exercised our arms, many of the Indians coming amongst us, and among the rest their greatest king Massasoit, with some ninety men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed five deer, which they brought to the plantation and bestowed upon our governor, and upon the captain, and others. And although it be not always so plentiful as it was at this time with us, yet by the goodness of God, we are so far from want that we often wish you partakers of our plenty."



begins the Sunday before Thanksgiving A week devoted to encouraging people to read the Bible, in the belief that it will arouse a positive spiritual force in a world plagued with problems. National Bible Week is promoted by the National Bible Association (originally the Laymen's National Committee), a non-denominational group of businessmen founded in 1940 and devoted to the application of the Golden Rule in daily life. A huge audience listened to the NBC radio program that was broadcast to kick off the first National Bible Week scheduled for December 8-14, 1941; PEARL HARBOR had been bombed just hours before.



and Share the Message of Peace, Love, and Hope through the Advent Season with your Loved Ones, Family and Friends.

- 1. Use postage stamps that feature a religious theme.
- 2. Hang an Advent Calendar and open a window each day.
- 3. Display your nativity set in a window or on the lawn where others can see it.
- 4. Place a candle in the window to symbolize the light of Christ, NOTE: Use an electric candle..safer.
- 5. Listen to traditional Christmas carols that honor Christ's birth.
- 6. Call radio stations and television channels requesting Christmas carols and stories.
- 7. Ask stores for religious Christmas wrapping paper, cards, and decorations.
- 8. Read Christmas scriptures and stories to children.
- 9. Purchase a gift, wrap it, and give it to the poor—and encourage a child to do the same.
- 10. Research and then explain the tradition of the original Christmas Tree.
- 11. Utilize the Mexican custom of the Posadas, a 9 day celebration, ending on Christmas Eve, symbolizing the trails that Mary and Joseph endured finding a place to stay where Jesus could be born.
- 12. Use decorations with "Merry Christmas" instead of "Happy Holiday."
- 13. Have a child place a straw in the crèche for each good deed done as a gift to the Baby Jesus during Advent.
- 14. Pray for the young, so that when they become adults they will not regard Christmas as just another holiday free from work.

### **HISTORY OF VETERANS DAY**

World War I – known at the time as "The Great War" - officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of "the war to end all wars."

In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."

The original concept for the celebration was for a day observed with parades and public meetings and a brief suspension of business beginning at 11:00 a.m.

The United States Congress officially recognized the end of World War I when it passed a concurrent resolution on June 4, 1926, with these words:

*Whereas* the 11th of November 1918, marked the cessation of the most destructive, sanguinary, and far reaching war in human annals and the resumption by the people of the United States of peaceful relations with other nations, which we hope may never again be severed, and

*Whereas* it is fitting that the recurring anniversary of this date should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations; and *Whereas* the legislatures of twenty-seven of our States have already declared November 11 to be a legal holiday: Therefore be it Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), that the President of the United States is requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on November 11 and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies of friendly relations with all other peoples.

An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I, but in 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation's history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

Later that same year, on October 8th, President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued the <u>first "Veterans Day Proclamation"</u> which stated: "In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all veterans, all veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to join hands in the common purpose. Toward this end, I am designating the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs as Chairman of a Veterans Day National Committee, which shall include such other persons as the Chairman may select, and which will coordinate at the national level necessary planning for the observance. I am also requesting the heads of all departments and agencies of the Executive branch of the Government to assist the National Committee in every way possible."

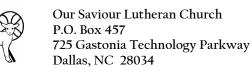
On that same day, President Eisenhower sent <u>a letter to the Honorable Harvey V. Higley, Administrator of Veterans'</u> <u>Affairs (VA)</u>, designating him as Chairman of the Veterans Day National Committee.

In 1958, the White House advised VA's General Counsel that the 1954 designation of the VA Administrator as Chairman of the Veterans Day National Committee applied to all subsequent VA Administrators. Since March 1989 when VA was elevated to a cabinet level department, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has served as the committee's chairman.

The Uniform Holiday Bill (Public Law 90-363 (82 Stat. 250)) was signed on June 28, 1968, and was intended to ensure three-day weekends for Federal employees by celebrating four national holidays on Mondays: Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Columbus Day. It was thought that these extended weekends would encourage travel, recreational and cultural activities and stimulate greater industrial and commercial production. Many states did not agree with this decision and continued to celebrate the holidays on their original dates.

The first Veterans Day under the new law was observed with much confusion on October 25, 1971. It was quite apparent that the commemoration of this day was a matter of historic and patriotic significance to a great number of our citizens, and so on September 20th, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed Public Law 94-97 (89 Stat. 479), which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of November 11, beginning in 1978. This action supported the desires of the overwhelming majority of state legislatures, all major veterans service organizations and the American people.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.





# November 2022





**MID-TERM ELECTIONS** 

