



St. Paul's Lutheran

THE EPISTLE

November 2015

Hello blessed people of God,

A bundle of bright, orange pumpkins sitting on the church breezeway in crates reminds me of Thanksgiving Day – in particular – traditions of eating pumpkin pie and whipped cream, turkey, dressing, and giblet gravy. Holidays can bring up all kinds of memories and hopes. One year, I spent Thanksgiving alongside San Antonio police officers and auxiliary members, preparing and serving food for at risk children at a children's shelter. I was in charge of stirring a big pot of pinto beans and keeping them hot on the stove. Each of us was given one of those funny looking plastic shower caps to wear in the kitchen, and I felt like a chef for the day. We had stayed up the night before making colorful paper turkey decorations for the festivity. After the turkey meal was served, we said grace and ate together in the house of the children – in little chairs at little tables – and I was thankful to God.

I give thanks to God for simply being together with you and others sharing a meal. As Lutherans at St. Paul's, we have many opportunities from God to share a meal – Holy Communion, potlucks, snack time with the After School Children, Golden Group luncheons, and special event meals. It gives us a chance to thank God for our blessings in Christ and share our faith with patience, hospitality, forgiveness, and joy in the Lord!

As the chanting goes in the Proper Preface during our traditional worship service:

*"It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places **give thanks** and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ."*

Happy Thanksgiving and
the peace of Christ be with you all,

Nancy

Pastor Nancy





Birthdays

2 – Charlotte Wooten
 4 - Holly Hamilton Davis
 5 – Debbie Bakemeier
 5 – Carly Baldwin
 5 – Debbie Gillespie
 8 – Doris Rein
 8 – Jada Hylton
 10 – Jake Fojt
 10 – Martin Luther
 11 - Richard Cain
 12 - Michael Mathews Jr.
 12 – Jared Heselmeyer
 12 – Jason Olivares
 13 – Karen Elizondo
 15 – Alexa Hylton
 15 - Athena Wooten
 16 - John Davis
 16 – Regina Rein
 18 – Jarrod Boehme
 18 - Gregg Simpson
 20 – Kaitlin Migl
 21 – Myrtle Viereck
 23 - Harold Pate
 24 – Lorrie Andrews
 27 – Elaine Vircant
 29 – Dalton Rein
 30 - Shelby Davis

Baptismal Anniversaries

1 - Ayden Davis
 1 - Lana Lauderdale
 1 - Jenna Seymour
 8 – Kyle Migl
 17 - Allie Stephens
 21 - Briley Blackshear
 21 - Trevor Blackshear
 24 - Cheryl Boehme
 25 - Phyllis Chandler
 25 - Grace Reavis
 24 - Willie Roach
 26– Daniel Barras
 26 - Alexandria Licklider
 26– Chloe Reeder
 26 - Brian Kluppel

26 - Birdie Torberson
 27 - Alexa Hylton
 28 - Patrick Kluppel

Serving Our Country

Aaron Adams, Aaron Carlin,
 Michael Giese, Paul Gomez,
 Scott Gubbs, Corbin Haro,
 Mike Hobbs, Amy Hoff and family,
 Brandon Locha, Stephen
 McWilliams, Aaron Molina,
 Christopher Paradowski,
 Kaylyn Perry, Chris Salo and family,
 Cheryl Sisco and family,
 Kyle Spence, Garrett Threadgill,
 Austin Wilkinson, Sean and Hannah
 Zarsky

In Our Prayers

Family of Beverly Blue- support
 Shannon Blue- health concerns
 Charlotte & Leon Busby-support
 Vernon Caninenberg- health concerns
 Cindy Eschberger- shut-in
 Ben Eppley- health concerns
 Boo Boo Fojt- health concerns
 Betty Ganske- health concerns
 Barbara Garrett- health concerns
 Virginia Hackfeld- health concerns
 Dorothy Johnston- healing
 Emily McCoy- healing
 Elvie McCullough- health concerns
 Lorraine Patterson- health concerns
 Colleen & Ken Peting- health concerns
 June Tieman- health concerns
 Sherry White- healing
 Kathe Wodahl- health concerns
 Sharon Zeiss- health concerns

THANK YOU

- To Sandra and James McGee, Steve Burns for beautifying the Bell Tower
- To Chuck Ohm for mowing and weed eating a neighbors yard. God's Work. Our Hands!

- To Chuck Ohm for all the handy-man work he has done around the church the last two weeks
- To David Andrews for all the time and effort he has put into the carillon system
- To Deana and Boo Boo Fojt for driving their truck weekly to pick up our HFB orders
- To the communion bread providers, Tellers, Sound System Technicians, Committee Members, Choir Members, Instrumentalists, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Eucharist Ministers, Card Writers, photographers and any volunteers not mentioned
- To all those that volunteer as Sunday morning worship leaders. You are appreciated!
- To Hoya Ash, Sandra & James McGee, Don Eschberger, Chuck Ohm, and any others who work keeping our church grounds so beautiful.

New Address

Elvie McCullough
 C/O Linda Harden
 16533 Milwood Place
 Tyler, TX 75703
 903-534-9737

Daylight Saving Time Ends Fall Back November 1st

- Turn your clock back one hour tonight before going to bed.
- It's also time to change batteries in your smoke detectors.



INREACH/OUTREACH NEWS

Committee Meeting, Monday, November 16th at 1pm

God's Work. Our Hands. Part II

Sunday, December 13th

**Cookies for our First Responders
and Christmas Decorations for our shut-ins**

This is an opportunity to once again celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — ready to serve and love our neighbor in ways that share the love of God with all of God's people.

We had such a great time doing these projects back in September that we thought we would do them again for Christmas.

A pizza lunch we will be provided immediately after church. After lunch will be get to work on our projects. The Inreach/Outreach committee will provide all of the supplies needed for the projects. Please feel free to bake your cookies at home

Everything will take place at church. Cookies will be baked in the kitchen and decorations will be crafted in the Fellowship Hall. You can work on one project or both.



Community Inreach/Outreach

here at St. Paul's:

BILINGUAL CLASS Sundays at 2 p.m.

CUB SCOUTS Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

Church Offices Closed:
November 25th - 27th

After School Program Closed:
November 23rd - 27th

**ELCA Good Gifts**

www.elca.org/goodgifts

ELCA Good Gifts are available online.

Mosquito Netting

To most of us in the United States, mosquitoes are nothing more than a nuisance. But in many countries, especially in Africa, **just one bite from an infected mosquito could transmit malaria and lead to death.** A mosquito net treated with long-lasting insecticide, coupled with instruction and education on how it is used, helps ensure that families are protected from this life-threatening disease each night as they sleep.

Did you know?

- Malaria is a preventable treatable disease spread through the bite of an infected mosquito.
- The disease claims the life of a child every 60 seconds.
- Malaria was virtually eliminated from the United States in 1951, but it remains a major health concern in more than 100 countries worldwide.

For just \$10.00 you can buy one net—Donations may be placed in the offering plate with the word “net” written as the memo. Our aim is to cover the continents as our contribution to the ELCA outreach mission and ministries of our church. Donations are open through December 27th. You may also go online and donate.



INREACH/OUTREACH CONT.

Coat Drive

Sponsored by LOVE Network

Donate new or gently worn coats, sweaters or jackets (especially children) & blankets through November 18th. There is a drop box in the Fellowship Hall.

Coats and blankets will be distributed:
Wednesday, December 2nd
4:00p.m.-6:00 p.m.
Coat of Many Colors Church,
304 North Pruett Street

**GOLDEN GROUP NEWS**

(50+ are welcome to attend) Please

contact Lorrie at 281-382-9770 for more info.

Monthly Luncheon @ Monument Inn

Wednesday, November 18th at 11:30 a.m.

Women of the ELCA

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**World Community Day**

Celebrated on Friday, November 13th

At Faith Presbyterian Church

Registration and refreshments @ 9:30 am

Program @ 10:00 am

Program: Our Journey Together as One

Lunch will follow

All women are invited to attend.



**Prayer Shawl & Bereavement
Blanket Blessing Sun. November
22nd during worship.**

**YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS**

Thank you to everyone who helped with the German Dinner! We appreciate the congregation and their constant support of our youth. We raised \$1366 to help fund summer camp programs.

The next Youth & Family Committee meeting will be November 8th at 11:45. Anyone interested in planning for Camp Hope or Lutherhill Day Camp is encouraged to attend.

**EDUCATION NEWS****BIBLE STUDY GROUPS****Elizabeth Circle**

Every second Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m.

St. Paul's Women of the ELCA Bible Study Group

Meet in the Music Library.

THE TRUTH PROJECT New Bible Study Group

Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. until Advent

begins. This small group curriculum which will examine a systematic and comprehensive biblical world view in the lives of believers. Each lesson looks at life from a Biblical perspective, studying the very nature and character of God and how He has revealed Himself to us. Ian Gillespie will facilitate discussion on this timely and interesting topic.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Second Saturday of every month at 7 a.m.

Come enjoy breakfast, Bible study & fellowship.

Talk with Ian Gillespie for more info.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - ALL AGES

and CONFIRMATION CLASS for 7th - 8th graders

9:00 a.m. Please join us, there's something for everyone. See bulletin board in entryway for your teacher and classroom.

WORSHIP & MUSIC NEWS

Committee Meeting Sunday, November 15th at 12pm

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY November 1st

We remember our St. Paul's saints and loved ones who have finished their course and now rest from their labors.

*Lois Manier, Leon Busby Jr., Sonny Mask,
Beverly Blue, Michael Grant, Paul Ffrench,
Pastor William Putman*

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY



November 22nd Christ the King Sunday is the end of the liturgical year and offers God's revelation of the end. Through Jesus' throne, the cross, forgiveness becomes the power that Jesus Christ wields in the world.

Decorating the Sanctuary for Advent



Sunday, November 22nd after worship. Please stay after worship and join in the decorating.

Poinsettias

25 red poinsettias are available for purchase in honor or memory of loved ones. They are \$16 each. You may put your payment in the offering plate with the word "poinsettia" and your offering envelope number written in the memo. Make check to St. Paul's Lutheran Church. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. You may take your poinsettias home after the Christmas Eve worship service.



Advent Midweek Worship Series

Wednesday Nights at 7:00PM
December 2nd, 9th, and 16th
first week: Mary Accepts
second week: Mary and Joseph Believe
third week: Mary Expects

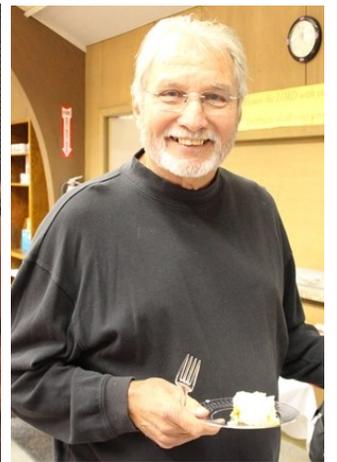
Tamales for Advent



Before the Midweek Advent Service tamales with rice and beans will be served. Starting at 6:00 p.m. we will gather to wind down from our busy day, enjoy fellowship with our friends and enjoy delicious, homemade tamales. There will be a free will offering to offset the cost of the tamales.



**Newly Baptized
Richard Velez**
October 11, 2015
Sponsor: Rev. Sabine Lamar





80th and Over Birthday Celebration
Jake Fojt, Marguerite Brueck, Dean Grant, Myrtle Viereck, OJ Lamb, Colleen Peting, Ken Peting, Emily McCoy

Cheryl Boehme made Koch Kase and brought it the German Dinner. Several of you asked Cheryl for the recipe. She graciously agreed to share the recipe. See below and enjoy!

KOCH KASE (Cooked Cheese)

Melt: 1 stick of butter

Add: 3 tablespoons of flour and mix well

Add: 1 cup of whole milk

**Add: 12 oz. of Kraft Deluxe Sliced Swiss cheese
(or any brand of Swiss cheese that is individually wrapped for sandwiches).**

Add: 1 teaspoon or more of Caraway seeds if desired.

Melt the butter and then add the flour and stir until mixed well and there are no lumps.

Then add the milk and stir over low to medium heat until this mixture is blended well.

Then add the cheese.

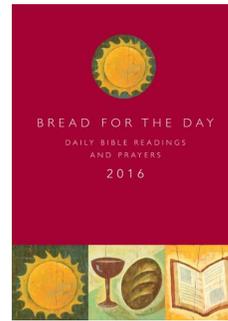
Then add Caraway seeds if desired.

Cook for 5 to 10 minutes
(I cook mine for approximately 8 minutes)

The length of the cooking time will determine the firmness of the finished cheese product.

Pour into dish for serving. Spread on crackers or bread.

Cover and refrigerate any that is left over.



Bread for the Day
is a daily-use devotional
resource filled with rich
treasures:

- A brief scripture reading (NRSV texts) for each day following the daily lectionary
- The devotions begin January 1, 2016
- A prayer and hymn for each day
- Table graces/meal prayers for the holidays and seasons
- Household blessings for special times throughout the year
- Monthly pages for recording prayer requests
- Notes on festivals and commemorations
- Simplified forms for morning and evening prayer
- Waking prayers and bedtime prayers, including prayers with children

The cost of the book is \$10. If you are interested in purchasing a book for yourself or as a gift for someone, there is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Please make checks payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church with 'devotion book' written in the memo. The deadline for ordering is November 29th.

Pet Blessing donations

Everyone gave generously at our Pet Blessing. All donations were given to the Meals on Wheels "Pet Pantry." Thank you everyone!

- 4 bags dog food dry
- 14 cans cat food
- 8 cans dog food
- 18 dog towels/blankets
- 8 doggie clothes



Gratitude for the Work of Loving the World

BY PARKER J. PALMER (@PARKERJPALMER), ON BEING COLUMNIST
onbeing.org

"I am thankful for many things. First of all, I am thankful for the world, because without it we would be floating in outer space. Second of all, I am thankful for mom and dad and sister, because they help me. Last of all, I am grateful for nature because if we didn't have nature it wouldn't be pretty. I am thankful for all of these things."



That's what one of my bright, kind, adventuresome granddaughters wrote a few years ago (at age 6) in response to a school assignment. On Thanksgiving Day that year — with three generations of our family at the table — we read her words aloud as our blessing. As we did, I thought, "Naiya speaks for me!" Like her, I'm grateful for simple gifts:

- For the ground on which I stand — whether it's the kind that grows greenery or the kind in which my soul can take root.
- For the people who've supported me — from those who know me well and love me nonetheless to strangers who offered help in a moment of need.
- For the natural world, which really does make things pretty — a beauty to which I often turn for solace, healing, inspiration, and peace.

The only way to keep a gift alive is to pass it along. So on Thanksgiving Day this year — in a world where so many have been deprived of so much — I'll give thanks by finding more ways to share the abundance I've been given.

I'll also re-read this Mary Oliver poem. If I could embrace the idea that "My work is loving the world" — and spend my days living more fully into that job description — I'd be giving thanks not just with my words but with my life.

Messenger

by Mary Oliver

My work is loving the world.

Here the sunflowers, there the hummingbird—
equal seekers of sweetness.

Here the quickening yeast; there the blue plums.
Here the clam deep in the speckled sand.

Are my boots old? Is my coat torn?
Am I no longer young, and still not half-perfect? Let me
keep my mind on what matters,
which is my work,

which is mostly standing still and learning to be
astonished.

The phoebe, the delphinium.
The sheep in the pasture, and the pasture.
Which is mostly rejoicing, since all the ingredients are here,

which is gratitude, to be given a mind and a heart
and these body-clothes,
a mouth with which to give shouts of joy
to the moth and the wren, to the sleepy dug-up clam,
telling them all, over and over, how it is
that we live forever.

Remembering Our Veterans



Almighty and ever-living God,
we give you thanks for the men
and women who have served and
defended our country and the values of freedom
and justice we hold so dear. Help us be mindful of
the sacrifices they made and the hardship
endured by their families and friends, so that we
never take for granted the privileges they have
secured for us. Hear us, we pray, through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

From Evangelical Lutheran Worship Prayer Book for the
Armed Services (Augsburg Fortress, 2013), 66.

Memorials & Honorariums October 2015

IN HONOR OF

Our Confirmands:
Chuck Ohm, Tori Rein, Mary Schlobohm

GIVEN BY

Rip & Susan Clanton

DESIGNATION

After School Program



The Lydia Connection

a Christian Leadership Learning Community
for Women in Ministry

November 19

8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Covenant Lutheran in Houston

\$160 per person register online at waytolead.org

This event is for all women in ministry – you do not have to be a rostered leader to attend. Participants are asked to fill out a WISE (Women's Inventory for Success Empowerment) Profile as a way to prepare for this time together. The inventory measures leadership strength and success factors specifically for women.

You will recognize your natural strengths and unique gifts, identify what is holding you back, discover potential areas for growth, and understand what you can do to move forward in a powerful and confident way in your leadership roles.

Outcomes

- Strengthening Lifelong Learning
- Deepening Self Awareness
- Increasing Effective Communication
- Building Strong Relationships
- Being a Risk Taker

Join us for this day of personal development and growth led by Valeria McMurray, Principal of NorthStar Consulting Group.



St. Paul's After School Program Raffle!!!

\$10 per ticket
drawing held Dec. 16th

XBOX ONE + Kinect
Deluxe Edition Madden 16 Game
10" Android Tablet and case

All proceeds benefit the
After School Program.

Tickets on sale NOW!

See Sharon Mathews, John Schlobohm,
Jada Hylton, Angie Ash, Tena Burgess, Kim Holle

FOOD PANTRY SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

Open 9a.m. - 11 a.m.

Thurs. November 5

Thurs. November 12

Thurs. November 19

Tues. November 24

(closed Thanksgiving day)



**St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2015**

Present:

Lorrie Andrews, Tena Burgess, Rip Clanton, Debbie Gillespie, Renee Napier, Kim Holle, Pastor Nancy Simpson, Beverly Tomsic

Opening devotion and prayer: Lorrie Andrews

Minutes from the September meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer's Report — Kim Holle – Expenditures exceeded income for the month of September, 2015.

New Business:

Kim Holle told the Council about insurance options and that a decision has to be made by October 30th.

Red Book Review – there are no milestones for November and December

Reformation Sunday – Adult confirmation – praise service or traditional service was discussed. It was decided to leave it as a praise service, as scheduled.

Suggestions were made for the nominating committee. Rip Clanton and Beverly Tomsic will be on the committee and one more member is needed.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by

Tena Burgess, secretary

PROPERTY NEWS

Committee Meeting

Sunday, November 1st 12pm

Church Council 2015

Rip Clanton: President (Property)

Debbie Gillespie: Vice President

Kim Holle: Treasurer

Tena Burgess: Secretary

Members at Large

Lorrie Andrews (Inreach/Outreach)

Beverly Tomsic (Worship & Music)

Renee Napier (Education)

Donna Reavis (Youth & Family)

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE
for the 2015 Church Council**

Rip Clanton

Becky Linsenbardt

Beverly Tomsic

The Church Council of St. Paul's is made up of up to 12 elected members and the Pastor. Officers and "At-large" Council members are elected and given the responsibility for the oversight and governance of the mission and ministry of St. Paul's.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church- ELCA
712 Schilling Avenue
Baytown, TX 77520
Tel (281)422-9333 Fax (281)422-3648
Web Site: www.stpaulsbaytown.org



SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Nursery available

STAFF:

Rev. Nancy Simpson, Pastor
Rick Falconi, Director of Music Ministries
Sharon Mathews, Director of After School Program
Jada Hylton, Director of Office Ministries
Nursery Attendant: Zonia Zamudio



**God's work.
Our hands.**



Congratulations to our adult confirmands: Charles Ohm, Tori Rein, Mary Schlobohm - Confirmed October 25, 2015