

# Christ Lutheran Church

November 2017

People of Christ Sharing the Love of Christ



## WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2-3 **Around the Church**
- 4-5 **Creative Communication & Community Connections**
- 6 **Sharing the Love of Christ**
- 7 **Celebrations!**
- 8 **Serving this Month**

Thanksgiving Eve  
Worship Service  
November 22  
At 7:00 p.m.



## Pastor John



**PASTOR JOHN STENNFELD**

Dear Friends,

On the 23rd day of this month our nation will once again recognize a day of Thanksgiving. We at Christ will also recognize this day the evening prior with our 7 p.m. worship service. Regardless of whether you do something special on the day itself or the evening prior, it is important for us, both as Americans but especially as Christians, to set aside this time to give focused thanks and praise to our loving God for all that He has done, and continues to do, for us. As we read in the book of Lamentations, the compassions of the Lord never fail and "they are new every morning; great is His faithfulness."

We have much for which to give God thanks. We are a blessed people and a blessed nation. Not only has God bestowed upon us immeasurable blessings in this world, but by the grace which comes to us through Christ He has also bestowed upon us the blessings of eternity. May we thus take the time to give God the thanks due His name.

God Bless,

*Pastor John*





## Letter from the President

As I write this, we are near wrapping up our Third Annual SoCo Pumpkin Patch. Thanks to all who unloaded the truck, sold pumpkins, shared info on social media, or even just bought a pumpkin. We had lots of volunteers who helped make this work. In my time tending the patch, I met several mothers with their kids who were so very appreciative of what we did. While we may never see them in worship, it was still an opportunity to demonstrate our mission of loving service and to be salt and light to the world. Thanks to the Eunice Guild for organizing our Sausage and German meal and to all the sausage makers, food preparers and servers. Thanks also to Thrivent for helping to defray costs. Proceeds will be sent to the Hurricane Harvey relief fund. Over the weekend of November 4th and 5th, our fellowship hall will be a stop on the Travis Heights Art Trail. On display will be some of the quilts regularly made by our congregation and sent all over the world. The 500th anniversary of the Reformation was October 31st. The Reformation was, first and foremost, all about the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It was not about anything new, but about returning to the unchanged and unchanging truth. So it still is today. The *LCMS.org* and *Lutheranreformation.org* websites have some great resource if you desire to learn more. Sola Scriptura. Sola Gratia. Sola Fide. Solus Christus. By Scripture alone, by grace alone, by faith alone. Through Christ Alone. Be blessed as you remain a blessing to others.

— Alan Werchan

### Guest Speaker

Rev. Dr. James Stoltenberg will be a guest speaker on November 19 and will speak about a ministry providing direct relief to the poor throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. He will also share personal witness about *Food For the Poor's* mission to care for the destitute as a means of living out the Gospel mandate to love one another. Rev. Dr. Stoltenberg has been a pastor for over 41 years. He has a great passion for the poor and has led over 20 Servant Events taking teenagers into the Appalachian Mountains.

## Poinsettia Orders Welcome Now

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia (for \$9.00 each) to beautify the sanctuary for our Christmas services, please completely fill out one of the specially marked flower envelopes (located in the Narthex) and place it in the offering plate. Orders can also be placed by calling or emailing the church office. **Deadline is Sunday, November 19.**



*Checks made payable to Christ Lutheran Church.*

## Bethany Lutheran Church Marketplace

The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Marketplace will be held on Nov. 11, 2017, at 3701 W. Slaughter Lane, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This wonderful market is sponsored by the Bethany Women in Mission to raise funds for the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. The 2016 Marketplace featured over 100 crafters selling everything "from seasonings to stepping-stones", and this year's market promises to also be a grand opportunity for your Christmas shopping while supporting a faith-based cause.

## Feed My Lambs

The sack lunch program handed out 36 lunches in September and 21 lunches in October. We continue to make fresh sandwiches on the last Thursday of each month. Please contact the church office with any questions. We are currently in need of socks for the care packages that we provide upon request.

## Eunice Guild's November Gathering

All women are invited to view a special display of Nativity Scenes and to stay for a short "Thanksgiving to Christmas" program sponsored by the Eunice Guild on Tuesday, Nov. 21st, at 12:00 noon, in Rms 7/8. Please come and bring along your favorite Nativity/Creche scenes to add to the display, and enjoy this time of loving fellowship and thanksgiving surrounded by the comfort and hope we know in our Savior's birth.





Cooking with Eunice

Apple Snack Cake

- 1 3/4 cups apples, peeled & chopped (about 1 large apple)
1 cup sugar
1 egg, beaten
1/2 cup oil
1 1/2 cups flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1/4 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1/4 tsp. nutmeg
1/4 tsp. allspice
1/2 cup raisins
1/2 cup chopped nuts (optional)

This column is lovingly sponsored by the Eunice Guild. Each recipe includes corresponding Bible verses to use for meditation during those "down" times found in most all good recipes. God bless you as you cook "with Eunice".

Preheat oven to 375°. In a large mixing bowl, stir apples & sugar together. Set aside until juicy - 10-20 minutes depending on type of apple used (do not skip this step as the sugar draws the juice from the apple which makes the cake moist). In a separate bowl, sift together all dry ingredients except for the raisins & nuts. Once the apple/sugar mixture is ready, add the egg & oil stirring with a spoon until well mixed. Add the dry ingredients & stir only until moistened. Fold in the raisins & nuts. Pour batter into a greased 8X8 baking pan. Bake for 35-40 mins.

\*Meditation for while you cook:

We were grocery shopping a few weeks ago. At the checkout, I was pushed in ahead of our full basket, and since I sit in my wheelchair, I see everything at a child's eye-level. In front of me was a young woman hurriedly taking groceries from her basket and placing them on the conveyor belt. Her face looked as if she had so much on her mind (putting away groceries at home, making supper, washing a load of clothes?). In the top basket of her cart was a small plastic pumpkin, adorned with little gemstones. It was so cute. As she reached for it, our eyes met, and I said, "What a sweet pumpkin." She smiled and said, "Oh, I know. I love this time of year. I want to decorate everywhere." I said softly, and with a bit of envy, "Me, too." She paid for her groceries, and as she turned to leave, she glanced back at me and smiled again. I half-heartedly smiled back and watched her hurry off. I silently prayed, "Father, thank you for the special life I live, but, forgive me for so wanting to be like that woman again, with lots of housewife chores and autumn decorating to do. Help me to pray, 'Your will be done'." Two weeks later, I was sitting with my Bill in a busy hallway waiting to be escorted to the room where our oncologist would tell us what the latest MRI showed. Had the tumors in Bill's one remaining kidney grown? Was there evidence the cancer had begun to spread? My head was bowed as a silent prayer ran repeatedly through my mind, "Please Lord, give us more time." I looked up and saw a young woman sitting across from us next to a door labeled "Infusion Lab." She was young and pretty, and wore a cute flowered turban to hide her hair loss. She looked up and for a moment, our eyes met - her's ringed with large dark circles. I smiled and tried not to stare at the patch just above her left breast protecting the catheter through which the chemo would flow. A corner of her mouth tried to lift in a smile as she lowered her gaze. She was alone and looked hopelessly resigned. My prayer became, "Dear Father, please help her - and, forgive me. Thank you for every moment we spend together, and please, give us the strength of faith we need to trust and follow You. Your will be done."

In this month of "Thanks-giving", I hear the Holy Spirit whispering to me: "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. The One who calls you is faithful." (1 Th. 5:16-18, 24)

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Php. 4:6,7)

And, I confidently say with St. Paul in prayers of thanksgiving, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." (Php. 4:13) All that I will ever need, I already have in Jesus, my Savior. (And by the way, the MRI indicated the cancer had not grown.)

With Joy in Christ, Duannah





## 2017 Travis Heights Art Trail

On Saturday & Sunday, November 4 & 5, we will be an artist location on the Travis Heights Art Trail for the second time. The Art Trail affords us the chance 1) to spend time in the homes and studios of local artists for opportunities to see and purchase their artwork, and 2) to increase the presence of Christ within our neighborhood.

You are encouraged to stop by our site, which will display both handmade quilts that are made by the ladies of our congregation for distribution in global relief efforts, and various pieces of art that were created by the children of our community at our summer art camps. Complimentary refreshments will also be served. Our location will also feature an exhibit presented by the non-profit Art From The Streets that meets at Trinity Center.

We would like all of our members to consider volunteering during the Art Trail and to greet our guests. Please contact Donn Trautner, or Jordan, for more information on how to get involved in the 2017 Art Trail at Christ. Funding provided by a grant from Thrivent Financial.

## Women's Self-Defense Workshop

On Saturday, November 18, from 9 am - 12 noon, Rev. J. Brown, the Director of Church Relations for Concordia University - Texas - and member of the World Christian Martial Arts Hall of Fame will return to Christ to lead a Women's Self-Defense Workshop for ages 13 and older.

Rev. J. Brown was at Christ in August for his "Breaking Barriers" presentation about karate and theology, and this time, will lead a workshop called "Defeating the Enemy" as part of his [www.SinBusting.com](http://www.SinBusting.com) ministry.

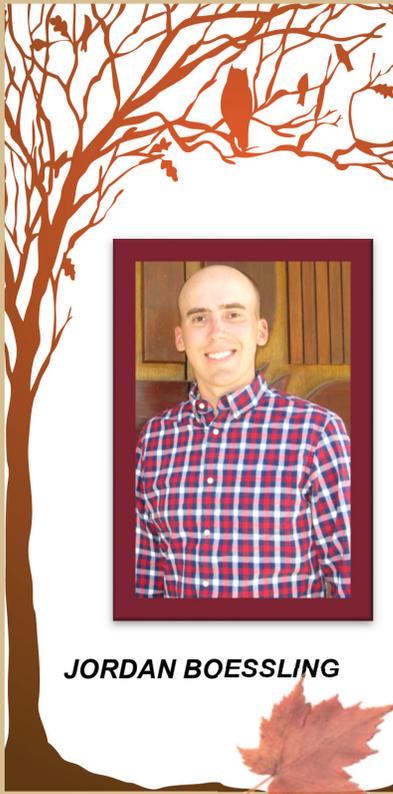
The cost for the workshop is \$10 per person, and is limited to the first 50 people to RSVP. Make all checks payable to "Christ Lutheran Church". 100% of the funds will go to the Texas Advocacy Project, whose mission is to prevent domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking throughout Texas by providing free legal services, access to the justice system, and education.

Please contact Jordan at the church office for details regarding registration (liability waiver) for the "Defeating the Enemy" workshop, and to confirm your participation in this workshop.

## Pumpkin Patch Thank You

We were able to partner with Pumpkin Patch Fundraisers, in cooperation with the Navajo Nation, to provide a loving service for our neighbors. Praise The Lord for being able to enjoy caring fellowship in the process of working together to contribute things, cook food, care for the pumpkins, and cover sales shifts 7 to 9 hours daily.

Thank you for praying for and telling others about our pumpkin patch at Christ, thanks for decorating our pumpkin yard to feel like a farm, thanks for helping to fill it with pumpkins, and thanks for selling pumpkins and being so welcoming as we spent time with our neighbors, and supported Water to Thrive.



JORDAN BOESSLING

**Minister of Creative  
Communication  
&  
Community  
Connections**

*Please contact Jordan for more information on any of the activities on pages 4-5.*

**Just a reminder that we often take photos, and at times, video, of ministry events to put up around Church on the screen on Sundays and to post to the web that publicizes the worship, service, fellowship, and education life of Christ Lutheran.**





## Upbring's Angel Tree Project

We are pleased to announce that we are going to be able to partner with Upbring, the new LSS, again on the Angel Tree Project. This is a tradition at Christ where we are given the chance to buy Angel Tree gifts for the children served by Upbring living in foster homes. Starting in November, if you are interested in sponsoring a child and buying him or her a gift or two from their wish list, please take an ornament from the Christmas tree in the narthex - groups can even form to collectively buy a more expensive gift for a child.

Please be sure to write on the Angel Tree Ornament sheet 1) your name and contact information 2) the names and ages of the children you signed up to sponsor. Please bring all gifts in plastic bags (w/ ornaments attached) to Church and set under the Christmas tree. Deadline for gifts to be determined soon. Thanks for your support!

## Decorate Our Sanctuary

Our annual fellowship time around setting up Nativity scenes, stranding garland, securing the "Amen Come, Lord Jesus" wreath in place, and stringing lights around the Church Christmas tree will take place on Saturday morning December 2, at 9:00 am. Please come to the Sanctuary and help us decorate for the Christmas season.

## November R & R

Join us on November 2nd for an afternoon at the movies. We will gather about 11:00 a.m. after Bible Study. Bring a sack lunch and then stay for the movie. Movie snacks will be provided by Jean Linderman.

## Danke schön

*Danke Sehr!* Thank you very much to all of the people that helped with the German meal and sausage making. As always it was a great success.

## Thank You from LLI

Please find the enclosed check as a token of Lifetime Learning Institute's appreciation for Christ Lutheran hosting one of our classes this fall. I'm so surprised the other class didn't make, especially when we had so many people asking for classes in S. Austin at the 40th Anniversary party. We will definitely try again.

In the meantime, please share with the pastor and your congregation how thankful we are that you've opened your doors to us. *Our program is only a good idea without the generosity of our sites in allowing us to make it a reality.*

Sincerely,  
Gail Chaniz  
LLI Site Coordinator

## Kingdom Quest and Lutheranism 101

Starting November 12, our Kingdom Quest Kids will take a journey thru Group's "The Bible in One Year." On Sunday mornings at 9:30 am we will get to experience a relationship with Jesus through the eyes of ordinary Bible people. We'll learn that we are a lot like the people who God passed on the promise of His Son through, and about how they prepare us for our Savior's return.

Each Sunday is an opportunity to Read God's Word, Pray in the Name of Jesus, Walk with Jesus in Community, and to Be Sent to Serve Others and Share the Love of Christ. Our middle school and high school teens are currently reading and talking through chapters in Lutheranism 101 about how God works through the Means of Grace - Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

## "The Real Tree of Christmas"

Our Christmas Program at Christ is Sunday, December 17 during 10:45 am worship. If your family plans to be a part of it, please make it a priority to be here on Sundays at 9:30 am, starting Sunday, November 12.

During our discipleship classes thru the end of 2017, we are going to be singing songs and practicing speaking lines, and making things to keep and to share around the theme of "The Real Tree of Christmas." Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 16 from 9:30-11:30 am for a rehearsal in the Sanctuary. Please contact Jordan to commit your family to participating in this year's program.





# Sharing the Love of Christ

## Getting Ready for the Pumpkin Patch

### *In October we prayed for...*

**Joki Gonzalez** – brain tumor, **John Dunn** – healing for a broken ankle, **Jared and Lisa Castille** – joined in holy matrimony, **Harriet Stennfeld** – and family, at the loss of her brother, **Steve Shefstad** – son of Arliss Shefstad, cancer, **Arliss Shefstad** – comfort and strength as she helps her son through his cancer treatments, **James Kautz** – brother of Ron Kautz, continued hospitalization in ICU for heart problems, **Jo Kautz** – and her family, at the loss of her brother, **Jean Cazzola** – back surgery, **Shirley Hoes** – beginning treatments for breast cancer, **Juan Garcia** - brother-in-law of Jane Carrion, prayers of thanks for God's love and care.



## Buying and Selling the Pumpkins



### Eunice Guild



### Reformation Remembrance

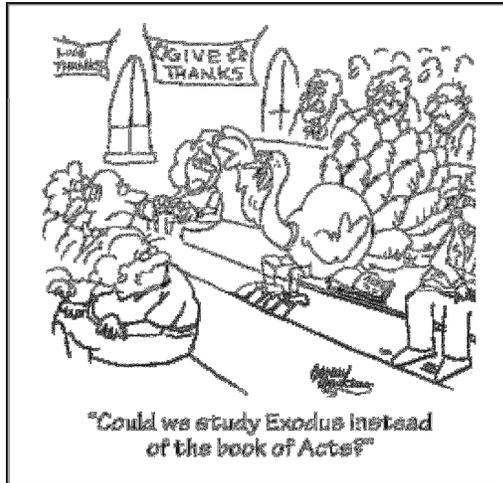


### R & R



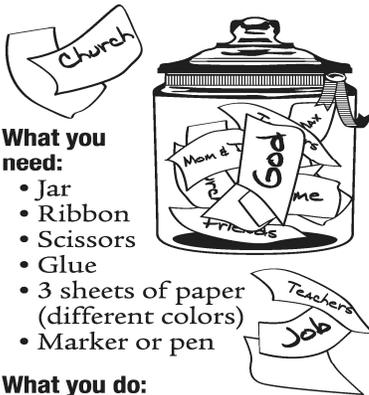


Happy Thanksgiving!



# BLESSINGS JAR

Thanksgiving reminds us of our many gifts from God. Count your blessings all month long with this craft.

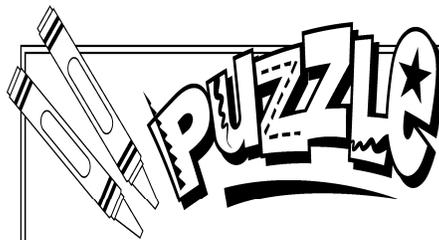


**What you need:**

- Jar
- Ribbon
- Scissors
- Glue
- 3 sheets of paper (different colors)
- Marker or pen

**What you do:**

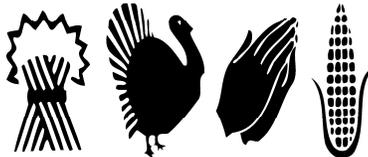
1. Measure and cut enough ribbon to wrap around the jar's neck, below the lid. Glue in place and let dry.
2. Fold each piece of paper in half three times, resulting in eight rectangles per sheet. Cut along the fold lines, and you'll have 24 rectangles.
3. Each day in November until Thanksgiving, write down one blessing from God. Then place that blessing in the jar.
4. On Thanksgiving, open the jar and read all your blessings to your family and friends.



# GIVE THANKS TO GOD

God gives us many blessings every day. How can we thank him?

Directions: To complete the Bible verse below, follow the code and fill in the blanks.



A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, E=5, F=6, G=7, H=8, I=9, J=10,  
 K=11, L=12, M=13, N=14, O=15, P=16, Q=17, R=18,  
 S=19, T=20, U=21, V=22, W=23, X=24, Y=25, Z=26.

"\_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ name in \_\_\_\_\_  
 and \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_"

Answer: "I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30, NIV



Dorothy Traugott	11/01
Avatar Boardman	11/03
Bryan Richter	11/04
Yolanda Faulkner	11/06
Veronica Martinez	11/06
Joe Campos	11/07
Roy Cano	11/08
Andy Hentschke	11/09
Linda Ihlo	11/09
Mildred Westfall	11/12
Ron Kautz	11/16
Liz Chapman	11/18
Felix Alexander	11/20
Alice Werchan	11/20
David Cano	11/23
Brenda Steinhauser	11/23
Ronnie Richter	11/25
Marco Louis Campagna	11/26
Forrest Johnston	11/28
Preston Johnston	11/29

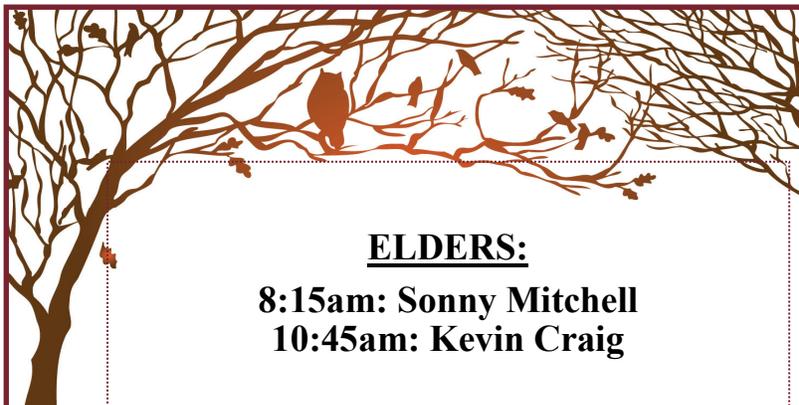


Gary & Vicki Lippe  
11/25/1994





NOVEMBER 2017



November 5

**Flowers:** Given by the Decker's,  
in memory of Else Hansigk, Ellen's mother

**Tellers:** C. Kanetzky / V. Kanetzky

**8:15am:** Lector: Charles Kanetzky

Acolyte: Justin Medina

**10:45am:** Lector: Gary Lippe

Acolyte: Emily Richter

**Communion Guild**

**8:15am:** Felix & Louise Alexander

**Fellowship:** Ronnie Richter

November 19

**Flowers:** In honor of Beth Shaw,  
given by her children

**Tellers:** A. Werchan / P. Mitchell

**8:15am:** Lector: Clayton Pillack

Acolyte: Justin Medina

**10:45am:** Lector:

Acolyte: Adam Werchan

**Communion Guild**

**8:15am:** Alex & Christine Stivers

**Fellowship:**

November 12

**Flowers:** Bennight family,  
in memory of Jesse's father

**Tellers:** A. Werchan / P. Mitchell

**8:15am:** Lector: Lucille Herrera

Acolyte: Katy Herber

**10:45am:** Lector: MaryLou Moore

Acolyte: Katherine Werchan

**Communion Guild**

**10:45am:** Debbie & Eric Harrison

**Fellowship:** Decker family

November 26

**Flowers:** Dorothy Traugott

**Tellers:** P. Hamil / J. Wiley

**8:15am:** Lector: Mark Herber

Acolyte: Katy Herber

**10:45am:** Lector: Norma Nanyes

Acolyte: Emily Richter

**Communion Guild**

**10:45am:** Jared Juszczak

**Fellowship:** vacant

If you cannot serve as scheduled, it is YOUR responsibility to find a replacement. If you know a schedule change before 9:00 am on Thursday of the week you're scheduled, please contact the church office (512-442-5844) to inform the secretary of the change. If a problem arises Sunday morning, please call the office and leave a message.

**\* Flowers will be donated**

