

Messenger

Saved to Share
Called to Care

From the Desk of Pastor Tanney

Now Thank God

One of my favorite songs at Thanksgiving is that hymn "Now thank we all our God". But with the world in such a mess, one begins to wonder is there anything to be thankful for. I sometimes debate whether to keep in our altar prayers the victims of hurricanes, earthquakes and fires but then I am reminded of how long it takes to rebuild what was lost in a day and night.

I finally was able to talk to a close friend in Puerto Rico whose cell coverage is still very sporadic. Still



no electricity, gasoline when available (can take up to 6 hours waiting in lines to fill the tank). Church services have resumed but anyone who has to travel conserves gasoline. Food is available, but you buy what you can consume in a day. It costs

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This week on KFUO AM850, we wish everyone a blessed All Saints' Day. Learn about Reformation Bible Studies with Rev. Dr. Joel Lehenbauer (Faith & Family 11/6 @ 10am), continue studying the Gospel of Matthew on Sharper Iron with Rev. Jonathan Fisk (weekdays @ 8am) and the Acts of the Apostles on Thy Strong Word (weekdays @ 11am), and further explore the Apology of the Augsburg Confession on Concord Matters (11/7 @ 2pm). November 9th is KFUO Rally Day! This is your chance to become a Day Sponsor and uphold the mission of listener-supported KFUO Radio to bring Christ to you, anytime, anywhere. Tune in at AM850 or kfuo.org!

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St. Johns Lutheran Church - St. Louis City

too much to keep air conditioners going, so generators are the item of necessity. After a month he is still cutting and removing trees with a machete.



Many have moved or traveled to the United States waiting for water and electricity to come back to the island. Hospitals are open again to all. Lives are interrupted. What he hates the most is how many just think of themselves and not others. Water is available and many push and shove, buy and hoard all they can for themselves, leaving many still waiting without water.

When we to take inventory of what we have on this earth, it begins to define our happiness. We are thankful for our own efforts, struggles and accomplishments, and forget where all blessings flow. What's left to do? Blame God?

We get so busy building our lives or rebuilding them we often forget or see no real need to give thanks. Thanks for what? I guess those are the moments to be still and know He is God. For those who died as victims of chaos in this world, and knew Jesus already have their rest and give Him thanks. Those of us who still are picking up the pieces begin to see in the little things there is so much to be thankful for we have taken for granted.

My friend from Puerto Rico gave thanks that he could take a shower after 41 days. He forgot how

much joy there was in just standing under water pouring over the body.

We give thanks to those who have prayed and given money, time and resources to help. We give Him thanks we are not alone. I personally will be going up to Des Moines, IA and meet other churches and organizations interested in helping in an effort to use the church in Puerto Rico as a means to help the island and give witness to the love of Jesus.

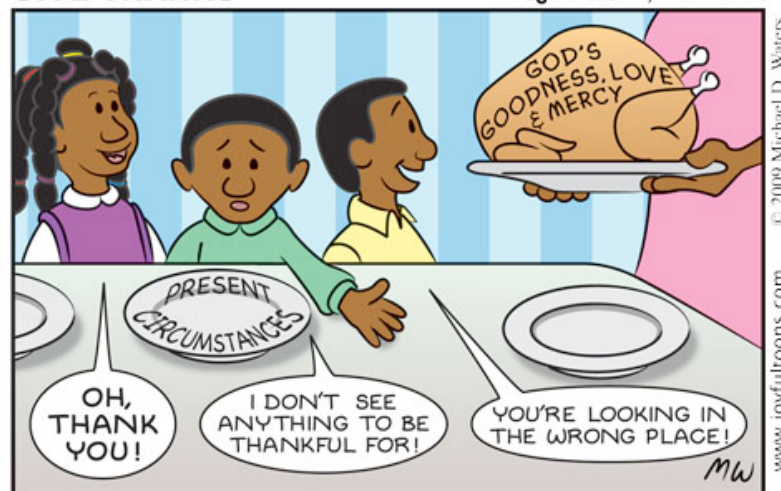
To give witness that what lasts is the reason for giving thanks. His love and forgiveness, His calling us to be his children and making us heirs.

So when God steps in and allows everything we possess and literally blows, burns, shakes or takes it away, we can still give Him thanks, for what we possess can't be taken away, eternal life with a loving Savior.

"Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend." -Melody Beattie

GIVE THANKS

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Praise the LORD. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

— PSALM 106:1 NIV



Evangelism

Thanksgiving Day Is Near

I have a wonderful feeling
As I greet this time of year.
November days are here again,
And Thanksgiving Day is near.

Orange pumpkins make their way
Into our many market places.
We'll bake many pumpkin pies
To be in our guests' good graces.

Turkey farms are gearing up
For the biggest sale of the year.
Many families look forward
To seeing grandparents so dear.

As we gather together
For a special Thanksgiving dinner,
Let's thank God for salvation
He provides for each lost sinner.

Let us thank God for our bounty,
For so much food on the plate.
He is ever worthy to be praised
For His blessings are so great!

by Margaret Cagle



Members are encouraged to bring a grocery bag of food on Thanksgiving, Thursday the 23rd, or on Sunday, November 26th to benefit the food pantry. There will be a table in front of church to place your purchased groceries. On Thanksgiving we are reminded that God has provided us with our daily needs. May we show our thankfulness by sharing our gifts of food with those less fortunate.

The Giving Tree will be in the narthex of the church on November 26th. Please take an ornament off the tree with a suggested gift to buy. After buying the gift, place the tag on the gift and return by Sunday, December 10th.

Winter coats were received from Webster Gardens. However, we are in need of all winter clothes.

Psalm 107:1, "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever."

Stewardship

Our Father in heaven has claimed us as His own. By the shedding of His Son's blood, by the His death for our sins and His resurrection for our justification, God the Father has received us back into His family. By water combined with His Word, promise, and name, the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in us. We belong to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is in us, and we are in Him. And being in Him, all things are ours. In Him, we are richly and abundantly blessed.

Our true treasure and wealth is that we belong to the most holy Trinity and everything that is His belongs also to us: righteousness, peace, eternal life. Even our temporal treasures are gifts from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy.

We receive our treasures from Him, and thus, as (good stewards of His varied grace,) (1 Peter 4:10) we manage them in such a way that they may be returned to Him. We bring them to Him, hallowed through prayers of thanksgiving and God's holy Word, as an offering. Thus, all our possessions, as gifts from God, are also offerings to Him, from which we eat to nourish our bodies, share with our family, neighbors, and fellow Christians, with the poor and even our enemies, as holy things given by the holy God. His temporal gifts are blessings to and for us, and bring blessing upon us even as they are pressed into His service for His kingdom and the souls that receive them.

Thus we place all that we have into God's hands, and He never fails to remember us and pours out the fullness of His promises upon us. We give thanks for all that He has done, is doing, and will continue to do. We give thanks by not taking for ourselves, but giving to all even as our heavenly Father has given to us.

As we prepare for the celebrations of Thanksgiving, may we all give thanks continually for all that we are and all that we have because of God's providential care. And may we be all the more diligent in bringing everything that we have received from God to Him, so that He may bless it and employ it for the good of all — even for us. "For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance" (Matthew 13:12).

Created by the LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Ladies and Gentlemen
YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION'S
**DINNER
AUCTION**
Under the Big Top

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18th  DOORS OPEN
at 5:00 P.M.

jugglers, stilt walkers, fire breathers, and more
live music and dancing to follow

DOUBLETREE WESTPORT
1973 CRAIGSHIRE ROAD
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

Tickets \$98 per person
RSVP AT WWW.LHSASTL.ORG/AUCTION2017

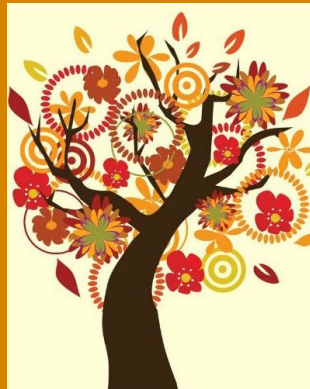
Can't make it to the auction?
JOIN US FOR THE AFTER-PARTY AT 9:00 P.M.

From the Church Office

I will be on vacation

Monday, November 20 – Friday, December 1.

Joan Potvin has graciously agreed to volunteer sometime in the office. The office will be closed Wednesday, November 22 – Friday, November 24



thankful
grateful
blessed

-Cheryl



November 3 *Ray Gluesenkamp*
November 5 *Krystal Govero*
November 7 *Steve Bain*
November 9 *Michael Foster*

Meetings 2017

Voters

December 3

Executive Council

November 19

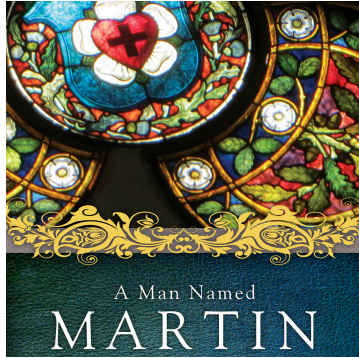
Our Vision

St. Johns, partnering with Open Sky Education will do Christ-centered community outreach that engages our community with worship

Our Mission

St. Johns Lutheran Church is a diverse family of saved sinners, walking together in forgiveness. Motivated by Christ's love, we will share the Gospel and care for the needs of all people.

November 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:30am Preschool Chapel 10:00am Pre-Seminary Training 3:30pm Compass 4:00pm Compass Chapel 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm ESL 7:00pm Pre-Seminary Training	2 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass	3 8:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Compas	4 8:00am Social Ministry 8:30am Food Pantry 9:00am Elders
5 9:00am Worship 10:30am Bible Class	6 3:30pm Compass <i>Pastor away for Puerto Rico</i>	7 3:30pm Compass <i>Rico Disaster Response</i>	8 9:30am Preschool Chapel 10:30am Avalon Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 4:00pm Compass Chapel 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm ESL 7:00pm Pre-Seminary Training	9 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study	10 Eagle Closed 8:00am Bible Study	11 8:30am Food Pantry
12 9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Bible Class 3:00pm Circuit meeting at Timothy	13 3:30pm Compass 6:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm WOW	14 3:30pm Compass <i>Pastor away for Professional</i>	15 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm ESL <i>Church Workers</i>	16 3:30pm Compass <i>Conference</i>	17 8:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Compas	18 8:30am Food Pantry
19 9:00am Worship 10:30am Bible Class 11:30am Executive Council 2:30pm-5:00pm Boy Scouts	20 3:30pm Compass 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Evangelism	21 2:00pm Nepalese Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 7:00pm Adult Information Class	22 Eagle Closed Church Office Closed 10:00am Pre-Seminary Training 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm ESL 7:00pm Pre-Seminary Training	23 Thanksgiving Church Office Closed 9:00am Worship	24 Eagle Closed Church office Closed	25 8:30am Food Pantry
26 9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Bible Class	27 3:30pm Compass 6:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Ushers	28 2:00pm Nepalese Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 7:00pm Adult Information Class	29 9:30am Preschool Chapel 10:00am Pre-Seminary Training 3:30pm Compass 4:00pm Compass Chapel 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm ESL 7:00pm Pre-Seminary Training	30 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study	Cheryl (Church Office) is on vacation from November 20-December 1	



Martin Luther's Spirit-inspired grasp of justification through faith was the cornerstone of the Reformation.

His faith-tested and tried by the fires of religious oppression-remains a standard of Christ-centered endurance for believers today. Learn more about the German reformer in the first of this three-part series from Lutheran Hour Ministries.

**Sunday's
10:30am Bible Class**

Calendar

Sunday, November 19

Executive Council 11:30am

Thursday, November 23

Thanksgiving Worship 9:00am

Thanksgiving Food Drive (See page 3)

Wednesday, November 22-Friday, November 24

Church Office Closed

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