# PILGRIM'S PROGRESS



PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH 3650 West 106th Street Carmel, IN 46032 www.pilgrimindy.org

### **SUNDAY WORSHIP**

8 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday Worship 7 p.m.

### **OFFICE HOURS**

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday

> 8 a.m.-noon Friday

Church Office ......... (317) 846-2221 Church FAX ....... (317) 846-3590 Preschool Office ...... (317) 846-6132



@pilgrimindy



### **NOVEMBER IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH**

Stewardship Sunday is November 19! On Sundays between now and then, at both services, members of the Board of Directors will give short Temple Talks about their personal stewardship journey. Then, on November 19, you will have an opportunity to offer your pledge card during worship.

Following the late service on November 19, from noon until 1:30 p.m., we will have a stewardship dinner in Fellowship Hall. We will have a catered meal, followed by 2 speakers who will discuss hunger in Hamilton County, food deserts, and how we may assist our neighbors who do not have access to healthy food.

We hope you will attend with your families. There will be childcare available, so kids can eat with their families and then have kid time during the speakers. Please sign up in the narthex and indicate the number for lunch.



By now you should have received an email or a letter by mail with instructions for updating your household information and family photo for our internally created directory of Pilgrim members and friends. If you have not received an email or letter, you can read the letter and update your information online at pilgrimindy.org/plcdirectory. All photos and household information must be submitted no later than Monday, November 6, 2017. Contact the church office with questions: (317) 846-2221 or pilgrim@pilgrimindy.org.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

We are a caring Community called together in ministry by the Holy Spirit through the Gospel and the Sacraments to: believe in Jesus Christ as Savior, worship the Triune God, and serve God by proclaiming the Gospel, joyfully celebrating our Godgiven gifts, and loving and serving our neighbors with Jesus as our example.

## PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

**Interim Pastor** 

Rudy Mueller

**Education Director** 

Gloria Worth

**Preschool Director** 

Amy Tucker

**Youth Directors** 

Jenny Pitts

Gail Powell

### **Cantor to the Congregation**

Sarah Gran Williams

**Director of Music for** 

**Children & Youth** 

Gail Powell

Handbell Director

Kevin Donley

**Assistant Treasurer** 

Donna Drew

Office Manager

Debbie Collins

Set-up & Custodial Assistant

Matt Worth

Maintenance

Mark Wylie

### **Pilgrim's Progress Editor**

Lee Ann Roeder leeann.roeder@me.com

## FROM THE PASTOR

ALL SAINTS
STEWARDSHIP
DAY OF THANKSGIVING
THE REIGN OF CHRIST

The month of November is bracketed by the Feast of All Saints and the celebration of the reign of Jesus Christ, king of the universe. In between we do

some talking about how to live as saints in this troubled world.

Saints are: Holy people? Folks who have gone to heaven? Martyrs?

How about: All the baptized. We've been

- crucified and buried with Christ in the waters of Holy Baptism,
- raised to new abundant and endless life with him, and
- clothed in his righteousness.

So now we have this new life, what do we do with it? Ah, stewardship. We use what God gives us with honesty, integrity and compassion (you know, the way Jesus lived).

From where does good stewardship come – you guessed it: Thanksgiving. It is indeed right and good and healthy for us that we at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise.

For Jesus

us, destroy us.

- For abundant and eternal life
- For the communion of saints
- For the plethora of blessings we have received from God But finally, sisters and brothers, no matter what we are, where we've been, what we have or have not done Christ is Lord of all. He has won us all through his death and resurrection. We simply belong to him because he has snatched us away from sin and death. No longer can they claim us, own

Christ is Lord of all. The good the bad and the ugly. The thankful and the ungrateful. The generous and the stubborn. All of us.

Does it matter what we do with this? All I can say is "I challenge you to keep the joy inside of you." I certainly can't contain it.

Peace, Rudy

### **ELDER ASSIGNMENTS**

#### **ALL-CLA**

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#### **CLE-FOR**

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### **FOU-HIA**

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### **HIN-KRAF**

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#### McC-POW

Kathy Bloom (317) 879-1614 sbloomindy@sbcglobal.net

### PRO-SHE

Bob Schumacher (317) 828-0217 robertschumacher@yahoo.com

### SHIL-URB

Jim Durst (317) 844-3792 jrdurst@gmail.com

#### **VAN-ZIM**

Dave Blase (317) 253-5003 yblase@sbcglobal.net

## FROM THE ELDERS



I took this photo at Camp Arcadia, MI, July '17 at the Chapel on the Beach. We have been going to Camp for almost 50 years as a family and have found it to be a place where we refresh, renew and revive our faith. The calmness and peace allows us to hear God more clearly than any other place we've been. The "Son's" rays follow us wherever we go! (From my favorite devotional booklet by Laura Vae Gatz: *Beach Devotions*)

### COOKOUT

"Give and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:38

One of the great traditions at camp is the cookout. Once a week dinner would be served outside, usually on the same day that we had a "half-day out of camp" and went on a canoe trip. As a kid, I looked forward to the cookout with great relish! Back in the day, the cook, Gert, and all her workers, would make hamburger buns from scratch. Oh my! They were good! There would be homemade potato salad, all the hamburger fixin's, a big five-gallon tin full of potato chips, and huge tins full of homemade cookies: chocolate chip and double chocolate rebels! Oh, I can still taste the flavor of those cookies; the crunch of homemade cookies, and the aroma of all those cookies sitting in a tin together. Truly a dream for a child who loved cookies like the cookie monster!

(CONTINUED on page 4...)

### (...FROM THE ELDERS continued)

We never had to worry if there would be enough to feed everyone. The staff knew how many people were attending camp each week, and they knew how to plan and always planned for more than enough to feed everyone—even all those very hungry canoe-trippin' adults and kids. There never was a worry in my mind about having enough to eat. The worry was more about if I might eat too much! Just as the staff at camp took care of the guests, we can trust the Lord to take care of us. God's provision for our lives is SO much more abundant.

In Matthew 6 the Bible says, "Don't worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear...the birds of the air do not sow or reap or store away in barns, but My heavenly Father takes care of them...." I sometimes find it can be hard to understand how to take these words and translate them into how I should act. Over the years I've come to realize that Jesus meant that if I concentrate on walking in God's Will, giving of my time and money, that God will take care of me. It's so opposite of what the world teaches which is "take care of yourself because no one else will."

This last year I've changed from tithing my take-home pay to tithing my gross pay. At first, I thought, "That's a lot of money. How will I make ends meet?" But the more I thought about it, I realized that it ALL belongs to God, and He has blessed me with enough income to be able to make a difference, albeit a small one, in the world. I have increased my tithe and God continues to provide for all my needs. Time and time again, during those periods when I give more than usual, God is faithful and blesses me with more than I started out with...a living example of the parable of the talent (Matthew 25:14-30)! The philosophy of the world says, "Give more when you have more." God says, "Give more and I will provide you more."

Dear Lord, Thank You for being such a loving and giving God. Thank You for taking care of us even when we stray from Your side. Use us to further Your Kingdom and to operate out of Your philosophy, not the world's. Increase our faith so we can comprehend how You will bless us as we bless others. Amen.

Thanksgiving Blessings!

Gwen Knipstein

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT PILGRIM...

### DONATE UNWANTED/EXTRA HALLOWEEN CANDY

Youth Group member Elizabeth Rexing is collecting unwanted/extra Halloween candy to donate to the Halloween Candy Buyback program. We will collect the candy, take it to a local dentist's office, and it will be sent to troops stationed overseas. There will be a collection box in the narthex on **Sunday, November 5**. Contact Elizabeth Rexing or Jenny Pitts with any questions.



# CALLING ALL LAY ASSISTANTS, READERS, COMMUNION ASSISTANTS, USHERS, ACOLYTES & ALTAR GUILD WORKERS!

We are excited to host a worship leaders' workshop on **Sunday, November 5**, beginning at noon after the second service. This will be beneficial for not only those who are considering or would like to serve in any of these positions, but also for those who currently serve. Please indicate your interest by signing up on the sheet on the credenza under the narthex TV.

# NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY BEGINS NOVEMBER 5: LUTHERAN AND OTHER VIEWS OF JESUS' PARABLES

Perhaps you've noticed that the Gospel readings from Matthew for the past couple of months have focused on several of Jesus' parables. Since 2017 marks the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, and since Fred Niedner's just-completed adult bible class examined topics that set Lutheran theology apart from that of many other denominations, it seems fitting that the Adult Class should continue to explore differences between Lutheran and other interpretations of Scripture. What better way to do this than to focus on several of Jesus' parables, which by their very nature invite numerous and varied interpretations? This class, which will be led by Lynn Willis, will run for three Sundays: **November 5, 12 and 19** in the Adult Study room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Please make plans to attend.

### **SACRED THREADS**

On **November 7**, Sacred Threads will meet at church to cut patterns for dresses we are making for "Little Dresses for Africa." We invite anyone in the congregation who has an interest in sewing to join us for the construction. We also are happy to have donations of fabric pieces one yard in length or greater.

When completed, the dresses will be sent to Beaver Dam, WI, and then on to Africa.

Call Evelyn Kramer with questions: (317) 465-9848.



### SPECIAL EVENT FOR GUESTS AND NEW MEMBERS

You are invited and encouraged to attend a New Member Orientation session on from **9:30-10:30 a.m.** on **Sunday**, **November 19**, between services. These sessions, led by Pastor Rudy and Pilgrim leadership, will be an opportunity to learn more about our congregation, ask questions you may have about Pilgrim or Lutheran doctrine and teaching, and, if you desire, to initiate membership in the congregation. *Attending does not obligate you to become a member*. Contact the church office at (317) 846-2221 or <u>pilgrim@pilgrimindy.org</u> if you have questions or would like to attend the session.

### THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

Join us at **7 p.m.** on **Wednesday, November 22**, for Thanksgiving Eve Worship and Holy Communion.

### STARRY NIGHT DISPLAY

The Starry Night display will be up and available for your picking all through November. As in the past, take as many of the stars as you think you can fill. Remember, the items listed on the stars are typically general suggestions for gifts. Have fun, use your imagination. Some stars have suggested prices, but with the variety of gift options, it is recommended that expenses should generally not be in excess of \$20 for an item, and in most cases, be less than that. In reality, some items you might choose to buy may indeed cost more than \$20, but we urge you to keep those to a minimum.

### Reminders/Requests:

- Please do not attach the star to the gift. Return the stars to the church and place them in the large gift box in the narthex. The stars will be reused.
- Please do not wrap the gifts or attach greeting cards to them.
- If you purchase gift cards for restaurants, groceries, movies, etc., please write the amount on the cards and place them in an envelope and put the envelope in the large gift box.
- If you would prefer to donate money, please write a check payable to PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH and note "Starry Night" on the memo line. Place the check in the offering plate. The check must be donated by **Sunday, November 26**.
- The gifts will be delivered to LCFS during the week of December 4-8. All gifts must be at Pilgrim no later than **Sunday**, **December 3**. There will be no Starry Night stars in the narthex on Sunday, December 3.

The gifts you provide are given to LCFS for their "Christmas Store." During a week in December, various families that are recommended by social workers from throughout Marion County can access the Christmas Store. There is no charge for items at the Christmas Store. Each family is given a specific number of gift cards, depending on family size, and the various family members are allowed to choose a limited number of gifts to take. If you have questions, comments, suggestions or concerns, contact Dave Hunden at (317) 846-4373 or dchunden@outlook.com.

### HANGING OF THE GREENS

**December 3** will be our annual **Hanging of the Greens** following the 10:45 a.m. service. After greeting Pastor, please return to the front pews and we will give you instructions on getting started. Many of you are pros at this, but we also want to get newer members involved. All ages are encouraged; it is wonderful seeing a family working together to decorate a tree or hang the garland. Following the decorating we will have a salad and pizza luncheon. We do need to ask that you sign up on the sheet under the TV so we have a handle on how many pizzas to order.

### GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

### Pilgrim Service Opportunity: Help keep others warm this winter

We are collecting cold weather items to prepare "keep warm kits" for our local Gennesaret Free Clinics. Almost all of those served by the clinic sites either live on the street full-time or only go into a shelter overnight. Our goal is to collect enough items to create at least 100 kits! Sizes are needed for men and women, and items needed include:

- New white socks
- Warm winter hats
- Warm gloves
- Scarves
- Blankets

Donated items can be deposited in the specially designated collection bin in the church lobby located under the donuts table. All donations must be received by **Sunday, December 3**. Then join us on **Sunday, December 10**, to help assemble these keep warm kits. Questions? Contact Dan Murphy or Mark Tisdale.

Gennesaret Free Clinics came into being in 1988 when Dr. James A. Trippi, a local physician, was volunteering at a church soup kitchen. As he watched the homeless people shuffle through the line, he asked if they had medical care and the response was, "no." Seeing a need, Dr. Trippi brought some of his colleagues together to treat homeless persons who slept on the pews of a local church. Today, Gennesaret Free Clinics has medical clinics in one shelter, a church, a mobile medical van, and clinic sites in two food patries — all staffed by volunteers. Other programs of Gennesaret Free Clinics include a Dental and Wellness Clinic, a Women's Health Initiative, Health Recovery Programs, a Vision Care Program, and an Annual Flu Vaccine Clinic.



**November 14** will be a "Friendsgiving," where each attendee is encouraged to bring a friend. We will serve a Thanksgiving-type meal. There will be a \$5 charge, and on the sign-up sheet you will also notice a spot to sign-up to bring your favorite pie to share. What is a Thanksgiving meal without pie? Please do not feel this is mandatory, just a fun addition to our afternoon of "Friendsgiving." Our speaker will be Dick Dahoney who will give a presentation entitled, "You're a Grand Old Flag," to honor Veterans Day. If you are a veteran, we encourage you to bring a photo and a "story" of your time of serving. Please call Dick at (317) 844-5107 or (317) 727-2468 by Friday, November 10, if you want to participate. Please leave a message if necessary.

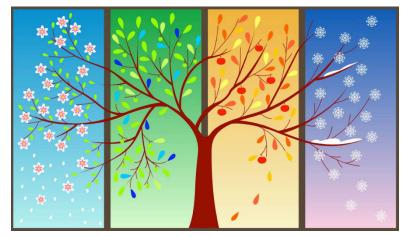
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### CHILDREN'S CORNER

The coming and going of the seasons are reminders that a change is always with us. Those changes come in different shapes and forms with each new season we encounter. In spring we feel reborn as the earth recreates itself once again, in summer we spend our time out of doors making use of long daylight hours, then fall arrives and we capture and try to hold onto the last of the sun's warmth as we tidy our yards or jump in a pile of leaves, and when winter comes and we draw into our homes to face and enjoy the challenges of winter.

As we cycle with the cycles of nature we are reminded that change is indeed a part of the fabric of our lives. Those of us who do not like change may find this constant ebb and flow a bit unsettling. Those of us who enjoy change perhaps feel energized as we embrace the oncoming season. No matter how we approach change we can find assurance in recognizing and knowing that the God we love and serve never changes; neither does our God slumber or sleep (Psalm 121:4b).

The seasons bring to mind physical evidence that God is alive in the continual recreating of the earth. This is affirmation that God is steadfast in the rhythm of change! "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease." Genesis 8:22



Celebrate the season, celebrate the change, and share with your family the clearly visible manifestation of God's creation. This visible and tangible connection to God is especially helpful to children that wonder what God is like but indeed it is helpful to all of us that share in the mystery of our loving and redeeming God.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Gloria Worth

### **NOVEMBER CALENDAR REMINDERS**

### PILGRIM LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL & PARENTS' TIME OUT





October was a fun and busy month at Pilgrim Lutheran Preschool! We were able to have lots of outside playtime on our playground with many fun activities happening inside as well. After our visit to the fire station next door in September, we practiced the fire safety lessons we learned and had a fire drill in October. We learned about how to "Get Out and Stay Out!," and went as quickly and quietly as we could to our "safe meeting place" outside. The 4s classes also received a visit from Police Officer Lunte during our unit on community helpers. The children had fun and learned a lot, but mostly, "The best person to keep me safe is ME" by making smart choices.

We had school photos in October, which are always very busy days for the teachers! We also had students from Butler University's College of Communications conduct free Speech and Hearing screenings for children in the 3s, 4s, and 5s classes. The screenings help to identify children at risk for possible communication delays or hearing losses. It was a wonderful opportunity for our parents.

Many classes had apple activities in October...art projects, apple tasting, voting, sorting, and even making applesauce...the preschool smelled wonderful! The 3s, 4s, and 5s classes ended the month with fall fun and Halloween parties. There sure were a lot of princesses and super heroes at school! The children and parent volunteers all had a frightfully good time!

Feel free to follow Pilgrim Lutheran Preschool on Facebook to see some of the fun things we have been doing! Please keep our children and their families, and our preschool staff in your prayers as we continue through the year. Thank you!

In His service,

Amy Tucker



## **NOVEMBER MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

	SUNDAYS		WEDNESDAYS
8 a.m.		10:45 a.m.	7 p.m.
	<b>NOVEMBER 5, 2017</b>		
Kathy Bloom	ELDER	Gwen Knipstein	<b>NOVEMBER 1, 2017</b>
Nathan High	ACOLYTE	Noah Berg	ELDER
Gigowski Family	GREETERS	Berg Family	Bob Schumacher
Denny Licht	LAY ASSISTANT	Frank Bates	LAY ASSISTANT
Steve Bloom	A/V COVERAGE	Mark Tisdale	Maureen Jordan
	NOVEMBER 12, 2017		NOVEMBER 8, 2017
Jim Williams	ELDER	Tim Guedel	ELDER
Kathy Hatfield	ACOLYTE	Aaron Donley/Tess Hawkins-Wilding	Jim Williams
Hatfield Family	GREETERS	Donley/Hawkins-Wilding families	LAY ASSISTANT
Mike Przbylski	LAY ASSISTANT	Jack Kelleher/Josh Longmire	John Shilling
N/A	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Jim Williams/Marla Murphy	· ·
Dave Runkel	A/V COVERAGE	Mark Tisdale	<b>NOVEMBER 15, 2017</b>
N/A	YOUTH USHERS	Elizabeth Rexing/Ella Konow	ELDER
N/A	YOUTH GREETERS	Jack Kelleher/Josh Longmire	Bob Schumacher
	NOVEMBER 19, 2017		<b>LAY ASSISTANT</b> Susie Pike
Kathy Bloom	ELDER	Kellly Brown	
Nate Gordon	ACOLYTE	Noah Berg	THANKSGIVING EVE
Gigowski Family	GREETERS	Berg Family	<b>NOVEMBER 22, 2017</b>
Karin Veatch	LAY ASSISTANT	Tammy Donley	ELDER
Steve Bloom	A/V COVERAGE	Mark Tisdale	Kathy Bloom
	NOVEMBER 26, 2017		LAY ASSISTANT TBD
Jim Durst	ELDER	Bob Schumacher	
Kathy Hatfield	ACOLYTE	Nolan Elser	<b>NOVEMBER 29, 2017</b>
Hatfield family	GREETERS	Elser family	ELDER
Marla Murphy	LAY ASSISTANT	John Williams	Bob Schumacher
Jim Durst	A/V COVERAGE	Mark Tisdale	LAY ASSISTANT
			Frank Bates
Kathy Hatfield	ALTAR GUILD	Kathy Hatfield	
Mary Harshbarger	CHANCEL VOLUNTEER	Mary Jane Newby	
Marv Brethauer	USHERS	Donna Follstad, Jason Follstad	
Steve Witte	USHERS	Bob Nowakowski	

## **NOVEMBER 2017 CALENDAR**

26 8:00a-Worship and Holy Communion 9:00a-Youth Bells 10:45a-Worship and Holy Communion	19 8:00a-Worship and Holy Communion 9:00a-Youth Bells 9:30a-Sunday School 10:45a-Worship and Holy Communion 11:45a-Stewardship Dinner/ Program	5 8:00a-Worship and Holy Communion 9:00a-Youth Bells 9:30a-Fine Arts Committee 9:30a-Sunday School 10:45a-Worship and Holy Communion 12:00p-Worship Training 12 8:00a-Worship and Holy Communion 9:00a-Youth Bells 9:30a-Sunday School 10:45a-Worship and Holy Communion	Sunday
9:00a-Preschool 3:30p-Piano Lesson 4:00p-Piano - Yon 6:00p-Jazzercise	9:00a-Preschool 11:30a-Preschool Thanksgiving Feast 4:00p-Piano - Yon 6:00p-Jazzercise 7:00p-Evangelism & Communications	9:00a-Preschool 3:30p-Piano Lesson 4:00p-Piano - Yon 6:00p-Jazzercise  13 9:00a-Preschool 3:30p-Piano Lesson 4:00p-Jazzercise 6:00p-Jazzercise	Monday
28 9:00a-Preschool 9:30a-Large Print 5:00p-Piano Lesson - Yon	9:00a-Preschool 9:30a-Large Print 5:00p-Plano Lesson - Yon 7:00p-Board of Directors Meeting	9:00a-Preschool 9:30a-Large Print 10:00a-Sacred Threads 11:30a-Large Print Lunch Meeting 5:00p-Piano Lesson - Yon 6:00p-Jazzercise 7:00p-Board of Elders 14 9:00a-Preschool 9:30a-Large Print 12:00p-Super Senior Friendsgiving 5:00p-Piano Lesson - Yon	Tuesday
99 9:00a-Preschool 11:30a-Piano Lesson 12:30p-CCPL Mobile Library 4:00p-Piano Lesson - Yon 6:00p-Jazzercise 7:00p-Evening Prayer W//Holy Communion	12:30p-CCPL Mobile Library 12:30p-CCPL Mobile Library 4:00p-Piano Lesson - Yon 6:00p-Jazzercise 7:00p-Thanksgiving Eve Worship W/Holy Communion	9:00a-Preschool 11:30a-Piano Lesson 12:30p-CCPL Mobile Library 4:00p-Piano Lesson - Yon 6:00p-Jazzercise 7:00p-Evening Prayer W/Holy Communion 7:30p-Combo Group 15 9:00a-Preschool 11:30a-Piano Lesson 12:30p-CCPL Mobile Library 4:00p-Piano Lesson - Yon 6:00p-Jazzercise 7:00p-Evening Prayer W/Holy Communion 7:30p-Congregational Life Meeting	Wednesday  1 9:00a-Preschool 10:00a-CCPL Program 11:30a-Piano Lesson 12:30p-CCPL Mobile Library 4:00p-Piano Lesson - Yon 6:00p-Jazzercise 7:00p-Evening Prayer W/Holy Communion
9:00a-Preschool 9:15a-MOMs Group 9:30a-Large Print Group 12:00p-Piano Lesson 4:00p-Piano Lesson - Yon 6:00p-Handbell Rehearsal 6:00p-Jazzercise 7:00p-Choir Rehearsal	23 Thanksgiving Day 8:00a-Office Closed 6:00p-Jazzercise	9 9:00a-Preschool 9:15a-MOMs Group 9:30a-Large Print Group 9:30a-Large Print Group 12:00p-Piano Lesson - Yon 6:00p-Piano Lesson - Yon 6:00p-Jazzercise 7:00p-Choir Rehearsal 7:00p-Choir Rehearsal 9:15a-MOMs Group 9:30a-Large Print Group 12:00p-Piano Lesson - Yon 6:00p-Piano Lesson - Yon 6:00p-Jazzercise 7:00p-Choir Rehearsal 6:00p-Jazzercise 7:00p-Choir Rehearsal	Thursday  2 9:00a-Preschool 9:15a-MOMs Group 9:30a-Large Print Group 12:00p-Piano Lesson 4:00p-Piano Lesson - Yon 6:00p-Handbell Rehearsal 6:00p-Jazzercise 7:00p-Choir Rehearsal
	24 8:00a-Office Closed 10:00a-Piano - Yon	10 9.00a-Preschool 10:00a-Piano - Yon 4:00p-Piano Lesson 6:30p-Kids in Christ 77 9:00a-Preschool 10:00a-Preschool 10:00a-Piano - Yon 4:00p-Piano Lesson 6:30p-Kids in Christ	Friday 3 9:00a-Preschool 10:00a-Piano - Yon 4:00p-Piano Lesson
	25 8:30a-Jazzercise 9:30a-Plano Lesson - Yon 12:00p-United Church of God	Veterans' Day 8:30a-Jazzercise 9:30a-Piano Lesson - Yon 12:00p-United Church of God  18 8:30a-Jazzercise 9:30a-Piano Lesson - Yon 12:00p-United Church of God	Saturday  4 8:30a-Jazzercise 9:30a-Piano Lesson - Yon 12:00p-United Church of God

## **BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

Charlie Jordan	1	
Kyle Fedorcha	2	
Juliet Berg	3	
Elizabeth Rexing	7	
Anna Koebcke	8	
Karen Day		
Pat Goertemiller	10	
Steve Owen		
Eric Hunden	11	
Jim Shockey	11	
Adam Longmire		
Dick Peterson	15	
Olivia Sailer		
Don Douglass	17	
	19	Fred & Herta Baade (57 years)
Dick Snyder	21	
Juliette Clemens	22	
Lisa Sims	23	
Emma Williams	24	
Heather Zetzl	24	
Matthew Peterson	25	
	26	Dave & Marcia Runkel Sr. (51 years)
Joan Bailey		
Sundy Hughes	20	
Jacob Miller	28	
M/III: a no Ditto		
William Pitts		
Rocky Dorn	30	

# THANKYOU, VETERANS!

Each Veterans Day, we honor men and women who've served and sacrificed in one of America's armed services. On November 11, 1918, America and her allies signed a truce with German leaders, ending World War I. In 1919, President Wilson decided the United States should remember with gratitude the end of that war and honor military members by marking Armistice Day, or "truce" day. In 1954, Congress changed the name to Veterans Day, honoring veterans of every era.

Veterans Day highlights our country's quest for peace, justice and freedom throughout the world. Followers of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, pray for unity among all nations and for the day when "nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore" (Isaiah 2:4, NIV).

## I-K Lutheran

## Where God is doing new things

Greet Prisca and Aquila, who work with me in Christ Jesus, and who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles. [Romans 16:3]

Before reading any further, I encourage you to open a Bible to Romans 16 and slowly, mindfully read the first sixteen verses. Go ahead; I'll wait.

This passage is not included in the three-year lectionary rotation of readings for Sunday worship. It's not appointed for any holidays or commemorations. This is a bit of an obscure passage that might evoke the mind-numbing lists of people in places like Genesis 5 and 11, genealogies that begin with the exciting introduction, "These are the generations of..." But these sixteen verses are different; I find them to be inspiring and emotionally moving.

In the span of just a few verses the apostle Paul sends greetings to almost thirty people by name, plus a bunch of communities and families. In the naming, Paul signals how much each of them means to him and why: Prisca and Aquila risked their necks for him. Epaenetus was the first convert in Asia. Mary and Persis are hard workers. Andronicus and Junia were in prison with him. Ampliatus is Paul's beloved in Christ. Rufus's mother has also been a mother to Paul.

Person after person, community after community, Paul expresses deep gratitude and profound love for the long list of people who have impacted his life and have been partners with him in following and witnessing to Jesus. The tenderness and yearning with which he remembers each one is gathered up in his request that they all do for one another what he would do if he could be with them: Greet one another with a holy kiss.

Is your Bible still open? Read through this passage again, slowly, mindfully. Let the names of people long ago and far away bring to mind the names and faces of people and communities who have been or are companions on your long baptismal journey to this point. Who has risked their neck for you? Who sat in some prison with you? Who has been a mother or father or sister or brother to you? Who has worked hard in the Lord and been a witness of God's deep and abiding love for you and for the world? What communities have nurtured, or are nurturing, your faith?

All Saints Day (November 1) and All Saints Sunday (November 5 this year) often focus on "all the saints who from their labors rest." This is important and good, of course, as we give thanks for the lives and witness of those who have died and commend them to God's eternal care. This November, I hope you and your community of faith will also find ways to slowly, mindfully, and tenderly remember and give thanks for the Priscas and Aquilas, the Marys and Junias, of your life and find ways to greet each of them and each other with a holy kiss of gratitude and love.

The God of peace be with all of you. [Romans 15:33]

+Bishop Bill Gafkjen

### November 2017



### "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday

"God's work. Our Hands." Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living daring confidence in God's grace.

You work every day to make your community a better place. Let us continue doing this work together in 2018!

It was a blessing to read stories and see pictures of all the good work happening in and around the Indiana-Kentucky Synod! Below are a few of the stories and some photos. To see more photos and stories, please view the latest issue of the Synod *Weekly News*.

**St. Paul's, Frankfort, IN** worshiped in Redmon Park, a park near many Latino residents in Frankfort and one that does not receive much TLC by the park department. After the service we weeded, picked up trash, and planted more perennials. We had 3 volunteers from the community help. At noon a free hot dog lunch was served, and during the afternoon many kids from the community participated in art projects led by St. Paul's members while others finished the planting and mulching in the park!

**The ELCA churches in Evansville, IN** partnered with the Fresh Air Community Church, a non-denominational congregation, to do "God's Work. Our Hands." –*A full report is available in the Weekly News*.



**St. Thomas, Bloomington, IN** participated in "God's Work. Our Hands." We created 10 "Welcome Kits" for foster families. The kits consisted of tote bags decorated by our youth, a board game, a blanket, and a "getting to know you" game created by our youth. The intention of the kits is to help foster families with new foster children get to know one another and begin the bonding process. We received a small grant as a Thrivent Financial Action Team to help offset costs of supplies. The kits were then delivered to The Villages, which is an organization in Bloomington that works with foster and adoptive families.



**Pleasant View, Indianapolis, IN** baked cookies and made cards for our local first responders and then delivered them together to the fire stations. This is our second year doing this as an inter-generational activity. It was a great time working together to thank some important members of our community.

**Our Saviour, Princeton, IN** collected and made 42 LWR School Kit Backpacks as a service project. Our "Traveling Martin Luther" joined us to witness the event.

**Faith, Logansport, IN** washed windows at McKinney Place Assisted Living where we also worship once a month with the residents.

