



Pastor Allen's Message



Notes from the Pastor,

As we say good bye to October, with its beautiful fall colors and its delightful fall weather we begin the journey towards colder weather, the possibility of snow and much shorter days and longer nights. But before we begin to think about all that let's first recap a few things that happened in October.

All our Sundays in October were quite busy as we had a baptism the first Sunday for little Nora Victoria Opperman. Then the third Sunday was Laity Sunday in which the service was conducted entirely with the laity of the church. Good Job! The fourth Sunday was filled with music as the Son Chimes played and the children sang. It is always a treat to hear and see the children sing and dance with the movements of the songs they sing. On the fifth Sunday, and yes there were five Sundays in October, we helped celebrate our two young adults that completed the confirmation classes this past year. This year was especially exciting because the two students had not been previously baptized as infants. So with their reading of their faith statements, renouncing their sins and professing their faith before the congregation of this church, Willa Wolf and Lane Wood were baptized and became our newest members of St. Paul United Methodist Church. Congratulations Willa and Lane.

As we look to November the first Sunday is All Saints Day. During Sunday morning service we will honor all who have passed since the last All Saints Day. We invite all family and friends to come and join this celebration of remembrance as family members are asked to light a candle for their loved one. The second Sunday is Veterans Day Sunday. We would like to honor our veterans by showing a slide show of pictures of our veterans during the service. If you would like a picture of yourself or of a loved one, present or past, please drop off or email a picture to the church office by Wednesday, November 8 and we will put it in the slide show.

With all this activity, it reminds me of a short writing that I read from my daily devotional called a "Reading for Reflection". This particular writing is from Henri J. Nouwen from his book "Making all Things New." And Nouwen writes:

Without solitude it is virtually impossible to live a spiritual life. Solitude begins with a time and place for God, and him alone. If we really believe not only that God exists but also that he is actively present in our lives---healing, teaching, and guiding---we need to set aside a time and space to give him our undivided attention. Jesus says, "Go to your private room and, when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in that secret place." (Mathew 6:6)

This small writing reminds us of the need for solitude. Not only, so that we can have a more impactful life with God, but also so that we can make more sense out of the chaos that surrounds us in our daily lives. So, take some time and find a good Christian book or movie, read a passage from the Bible or begin each day reading and contemplating the message from a good devotional. Our library at the church is full of such books and videos. Most importantly, begin taking more time to be alone with God.

Pastor Allen



Lay Leader Notes

By Cindy Morse



Greetings to my St. Paul church family---

November it seems is a month we transition from the beautiful fall, harvest moon, Indian Summer like weather or we can have snow in the latter part of the month and low temperatures.

November is also a month we give honor and recognition to our veterans who have fought, and many gave their lives to make and keep our country free.

We then as the end of November take a day or long weekend to share our thankfulness to be with family and to share our blessings with others and reflect on the beginnings of our country when English people came here for religious freedoms.

Following are words by Helen Steiner Rice

More than hearts can imagine, or minds comprehend, God's bountiful gifts are ours without end.

We reach for a sunbeam, but the sun still abides, we draw one short breath but there's air on all sides.

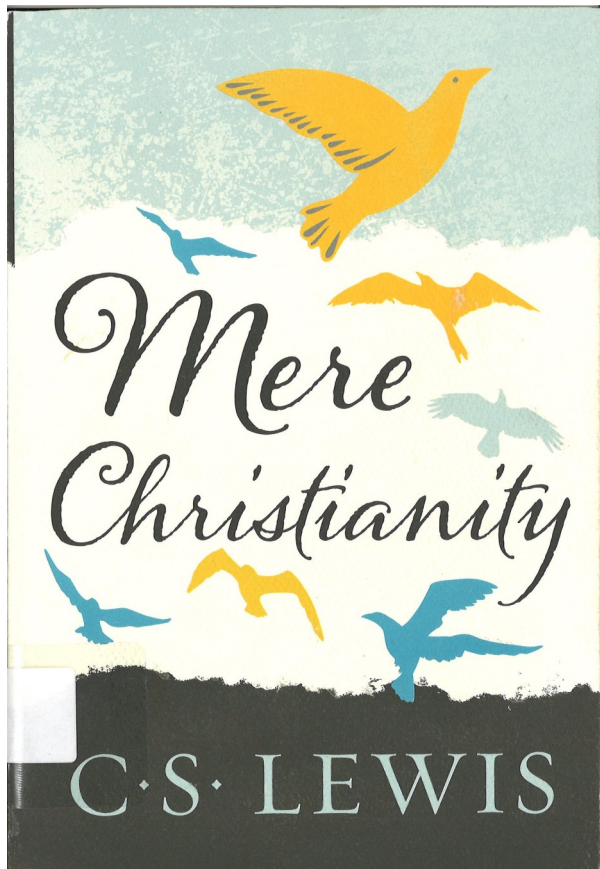
Whatever we ask for falls short of God's giving for his greatness exceeds every facet of living.

For God has a "storehouse" just filled to the brim with all that man needs if we'll only ask Him.

Psalm 91:2-4.

Library News

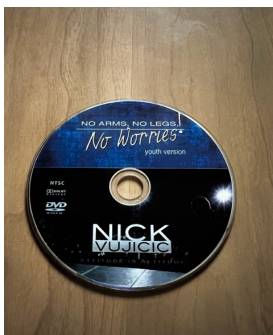
Book of the Month & DVD



One of the most popular introductions to Christian faith ever written, The book brings together C. S. Lewis's legendary broadcast talks of the war years, talks in which he set out simply to "explain and depend the belief that has been common to nearly all Christians at all times." Rejecting the boundaries that divide Christianity's many denominations, Lewis provides an unequalled opportunity for believers and nonbelievers alike to hear a powerful, rational case for the Christian faith.

~FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN—YOUNG AND OLD ~
Have you taken time to visit our church library?

We have many good Christian books, CD's and DVD's available to borrow and enjoy!



DVD of the Month
No Arms, No Legs
No Worries!

Nick is a unique young man with a urgent message. His humorous antics, honest approach, and heart-warming affirmations are helping to bring hope to millions of youth, children and adults in Australia and around the globe.

Trustees

Trustee Update on New Projects

Since our last update in August the renovation of the two bathrooms in the basement has been completed. There are a couple minor issues that still need to be corrected but they are now useable. That means that the bathrooms upstairs are not. They have been gutted and that renovation is in progress.



Again, thank you for your patience while this project continues.

The Trustee Committee



OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES



In this season of Thanksgiving, thank you for your gifts to the Outreach projects:

- ⇒ To the Birthday Box
- ⇒ To Noisy Sunday
- ⇒ To the Kits for Ingathering
- ⇒ To the Shoebox projects

In December we will be having the Giving Tree with local children's gift ideas.



Also, we will be collecting Advent donations for mission projects.

May God bless you as you can bless others.



Finance Update

Oct. 1	\$0,000.00
Oct. 8	\$2,,639.50
Oct. 15	\$4,092.50
Oct. 22	\$2,367.00



Picnic in November On Sunday, November 12th

Hot dogs, brats, chips, baked beans, bars, and beverage.
Mark your calendar for this time of fellowship. A free will offering will be given.



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



Later this month we will be celebrating our National Holiday, Thanksgiving. This is the time of the year that we think about family gatherings and lots of good food, but it is also a time when we pause to remember the many Blessings that God has given to all of us. Each year at this time we challenge all of you to write down 5 things you are thankful for each day, starting November 1, 2023, and continuing until Thanksgiving Day. Talk to your family or a couple of your friends and see if you can get them involved. Perhaps you could share it with your extended family on Thanksgiving Day. The first thing on our list is the freedom we must worship God with our family, friends, and neighbors. We are especially thankful for every one of you. Thankful for your friendship and all you do to support our United Women in Faith and our Church. Because of you our Mission Work is possible.

November 12 we will be sharing a “Picnic in November” after church. Make plans to attend with your family and friends.

December 9 will be our Annual Christmas Brunch for the ladies of our church. What a great way to usher in the Christmas Season. We will be giving a Special Mission Membership to someone that morning.

This month I would like to share a devotion written by David Maxson entitled “The Difference Between Being Thankful and Giving Thanks.”

“For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.” (2 Corinthians 4:15. Did you know that there are only two verses in the whole Bible which commands us to be grateful or thankful? (Colossians 3:15, and Hebrews 12:28.

But you may be thinking, what about 1 Thessalonians 5:18, which says we should give thanks always for all things? That’s right, we are commanded to give thanks, but there is a difference between being thankful and giving thanks. Being thankful is something you are, thanksgiving is something you give.

That may seem to be a slight difference between thankfulness and thanksgiving, but when you stop and think about it there is a big difference. If you were to have asked those nine lepers that did not return to give thanks to Jesus if they were thankful for being cleansed of leprosy, what do you think they would have said? That they weren’t thankful? Of course, they were THANKFUL they no longer had leprosy. The problem is that they didn’t return to give THANKS!

God is concerned about the giving of thanks, not just being thankful. He doesn’t want our thanks because He needs it, but because we need it. It is good for us to say out loud what we feel in our hearts. Test this in your life today. Spend at least half an hour today giving thanks for specific blessings with your lips, and then see if you’re not more thankful for those things in your heart.

“Father, we are thankful and want to express thanks for all the specific ways you have blessed us.”

Our Bible Verses for this month is Psalm 100. A Psalm for giving thanks.

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship; the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the Lord is God. It is He that has made us, and we are His, we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name.

For the Lord is good, and His love endures forever, his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Wishing you and your loved ones a wonderful, thankful Thanksgiving.

Pat and Charlene

Education News

Coming SOON: The ABC's of the **Christmas Story**

Happy November!

The Sunday School children's choir **will Not sing in November**, BUT Mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 10th!!** Our Children's Christmas Program will be on that Sunday, during the 10:00 church service.

Thank you to all the parents/grandparents for getting your children to our practices, which will be during Sunday School time October 29 – December 10th!



From the Secretary



- ♦ All Saints Worship and Holy Communion November 5th and Daylight Saving Time Ends
- ♦ In remembrance/honor of our Veterans, our church will recognize your Veteran(s) on Sunday, November 12th. If you have a photo to share, please submit them to either Pastor Allen at revac1955@gmail.com or to our church secretary at lp cum-church@gmail.com by Wednesday, November 8th. Photos of your Veteran(s) will show during our service on Sunday, November 12th.

The Brandon United Methodist Women Invite you to join us for annual Christmas Tea. Monday December 4, from 1-3 p.m.

Please RSVP by November 28th to Denise: 219-404-8472

Freewill offering

- ♦ The congregation, along with ALL committee chairpersons & members is encouraged to attend the Ad Council meeting on Tuesday, November 14 @ 6:30 p.m.



2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Chimes 4:15 p.m. Education 5:30 p.m. Confirmation 5:30 p.m. Jubilation 7:00	2	3	4
5 All Saints Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	6 Bible Study 1:30 p.m. Shawl Ministry 7:00 p.m.	7 <i>Worship Mtg</i> <i>9:00 a.m.</i> <i>SPRC</i> <i>5:30 p.m.</i>	8 Chimes 4:15 p.m. Confirmation 5:30 p.m. Jubilation 7 p.m.	9	10	11
12 Veteran's Recognition Worship 10:00 a.m. <i>Hot Dog lunch after service</i>	13 Bible Study 1:30 p.m. Shawl Ministry 7:00 p.m.	14 <i>Trustees</i> <i>5:30 p.m.</i> <i>Ad Council</i> <i>6:30 p.m.</i>	15 Joy Circle 9 a.m. Chimes 4:15 p.m. Confirmation 5:30 p.m. Jubilation 7:00	16	17	18
19 Worship 10:00 a.m.	20 Bible Study 1:30 p.m. Shawl Ministry 7:00 p.m.	21	22 Chimes 4:15 p.m. Confirmation 5:30 p.m. Jubilation 7:00 p.m.	23 THANKSGIVING 	24	25
26 Worship 10:00 a.m. United Methodist Student Day	27 Bible Study 1:30 p.m. Shawl Ministry 7:00 p.m.	28 <i>Meekness Circle 7 p.m.</i>	29 Chimes 4:15 p.m. Confirmation 5:30 p.m. Jubilation 7:00 p.m.	30		
						

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