

Faith-Lilac Way Lutheran Church

November Banner

(763) 537 4523 | Faithlilacway.org
5530 42nd Ave N, Robbinsdale, MN 55422



“Thanks be to God for His
indescribable gift!”

2 Corinthians 9:15

A brown paper tag with a black border and a hole on the left side, tied with a white string. The tag is surrounded by autumn-themed decorations including red and orange leaves, pumpkins, and burlap fabric.

*Happy
Thanksgiving*

Pastoral Article

Dear friends in Christ,

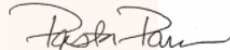
November is a time for giving thanks. We can give thanks every day, of course, but November, in part, because of Thanksgiving Day, we are especially mindful of everything for which we can give God thanks and praise. Here are just three of the things for which I give God thanks and praise.

I give thanks for God's good creation. One of the benefits of living in our part of the country is witnessing and being a part of the changing of the seasons. Fall is a glorious time with beautiful colorful falling leaves, crisp air and fresh apples. I love this season and wish it could last longer.

I give thanks for the ministry of Faith-Lilac Way. Today I'm thinking about and thanking God for our interns. They have blessed and in return been blessed by this congregation. This week I am attending the ordination of Becca Holland who has great gifts to share. At that ordination will be another of our former interns, Kristin Dybdal who is awaiting a call. And, we are now blessed with Vicar Kyle Anderson who brings a love of creation and is eager to learn and eager to share. I give thanks to God for these three – and the 10 interns who went before them and are now serving God in ministry across the country from Pennsylvania (Adam Morton and James Anderson) to California (Katelyn Rakotoarivelo). Each one is proclaiming God's Good News – and you had a part of preparing each one.

I give thanks for you and your support of the mission we share. There are many good things to support in our community and around the world. But the mission of Faith-Lilac Way is our particular mission – that is ours to support. Together, we worship God; we raise up leaders – not only our interns but also our children, youth and adults – to proclaim God's Good News in word and deed; and we reach out to our neighbors. And so I thank you for supporting this mission with your prayers, your financial contributions and with your time. It takes each of these things – prayer, funds and time - in order for us to do God's mission in our corner of God's world. Thank you, in advance, for supporting this ministry generously so that we can do the work together.

As Paul writes to the Corinthians, so I write to you, "Thanks be to God for God's indescribable gift!" Paul reminds the congregation that Jesus is the best gift. Jesus came to walk among us, and died and rose to be our savior, our redeemer, our friend and our hope for all the days to come. And then, Paul encourages the Corinthians to support the church generously so that this gift of Jesus can be shared and others can also proclaim, "Thanks be to God for God's indescribable gift!" 2 Cor. 9:15

With thanks and blessings, 



Vicar Article



As I write this article Pastor Pam and I are preparing to attend the Luther Seminary fall internship retreat. This is an event for interns and supervisors to gather together to get to know each other better and to refresh and renew ourselves, however due to COVID-19 the retreat has been converted to a Zoom event. Pastor Pam and I will be leading worship on the first day of the retreat. In selecting scripture to use during the worship service I have been thinking about Matthew 11:28 where Jesus says “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” Ministry like many other vocations in our modern world can be stressful and the pace can be quite frenetic. Relieving stress and anxiety is essential to ministry because it is only after we turn our burdens over to Jesus that we then have the ability to minister to others.

The retreat is focused on issues of self-care and creation care. How can one care for oneself while also simultaneously caring for creation? I am using this retreat as a time to consider how practices of self-care can also benefit the community at large and also help to protect and preserve creation. The self-care practice that is the best fit for me is bicycling. I am in a good frame of mind when I am able to bike to and from church. Riding a bike is good for both my body and mind. Bicycling benefits the community because when more people are riding bikes, then cars are more attentive to bike riders and government officials are more responsive to funding bicycle infrastructure. The benefit of bicycling for the environment is also quite substantial every time a car trip is replaced by a bike ride.

As winter sets in I know that I will likely be riding less in coming weeks but there are other self-care practices that can benefit ourselves, our community, and creation. Gardening, following a vegetarian diet, volunteering your time for a good cause, periodically unplugging from technology, walking regularly around the neighborhood, and spending time in nature with family and friends are just some ways that we can renew ourselves, our communities, and our creation. As we seek to find rest and renewal in our daily lives I encourage all of you to find a self-care practice which simultaneously builds community and preserves creation.

Prayers

Healing God, our whole world is still hurting from the pandemic. Sustain and support medical teams and frontline workers. Grant rest to the weary, and health and healing to all who are ill or suffering. Bring justice to the oppressed and hope to all who despair. Those in our Faith-Lilac Way community who are in need of care include: Donna Benson, Carol Brown, Jacqueline Butkowski, Bob Fernelius, Larry Geer, Brad Hesslund, Carolyn Lageson, Joyce Merkel, Margaret Pendzimus, Herb Scheelk, Linda St. John, Lucas Wiste, and Vic Woolgar. Surround these and all those whom you name with your love and care. In Jesus' name. Amen.

- Vicar Kyle Anderson



Connection Between Reformation Day and All Saints' Day

Reformation Day (October 31) and All Saints' Day (November 1) have now been linked together for over five hundred years. On October 31, 1517 Martin Luther sent his Ninety-Five Theses to the Archbishop of Mainz and according to Philip Melancthon it was also on this day that Luther posted his work on the doors of the All Saints' Church in Wittenberg. Even though they fall on back-to-back days, Reformation Day is celebrated on the last Sunday in October and All Saints' Day is commemorated on the first Sunday in November so that each of these days can be observed as part of our regular Sunday gatherings.

Not only are these two days tied together on the calendar but they are also connected theologically as well. The Lutheran theological concept that most resonates with me is the distinctly Lutheran idea that we are simultaneously sinners and saints. There are some religious traditions that set apart saints as outstanding holy people who have lived extraordinary and exemplary lives, however in the Lutheran tradition saints are ordinary people just like us. Professor Kathryn Kleinhans noted in a 2005 Living Lutheran article that "Luther calls Christians 'simultaneously saint and sinner' because he redefines 'saint' as a forgiven sinner." She bases her conclusion on Luther's quote that "The saints are sinners, too, but they are forgiven and absolved."

This idea that saints are forgiven sinners is very inspiring to me in my Christian journey. I know that I am a sinner in need of grace so it is very comforting to me that God makes forgiveness freely available to me and to other sinners who are aspiring to be saints. I think of all of the ordinary people who have touched my life, particularly the family members, teachers, and friends of mine who have passed on from this earthly life. We should be proud to be part of a tradition that recognizes that ordinary people are truly saints to be appreciated, admired, and remembered.

This is a great time of year as we celebrate the theological heritage of the Lutheran tradition while we also remember the ordinary sinner/saints who have touched our lives and who have built the church.

- Vicar Kyle Anderson

For All the Saints

We remember those who have died from our congregation and our community since the last All Saints Sunday in 2020.



Steven Homme	Cody Peterson
Diane Carlson	Bev Evans
Josh Luoma	Gloria Voeltz
Jane Bork	Ramona Anderson
George Bork	Craig Blackman



Mission of the Month



Building a Lutheran University in Nigeria

For our November Mission of the month, the Minneapolis Area Synod (MAS) has asked us to join with them and other congregations in MAS to support our international partner, the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria (LCCN), as they work to build a Lutheran university in Demsa, Nigeria. This university will fill a big gap in the availability of university education for young people. (Building colleges - Concordia, Gustavus, Luther, St. Olaf - was important for our early church too. However, while today our young people have choices, the young people in Nigeria don't have state universities or community colleges from which to choose.) In addition, the Lutheran University in Nigeria will be built near the LCCN hospital and partner with the hospital so that it can become a teaching hospital.



The request for funds is urgent because of government rules in Nigeria. In order to lay the first brick in 2022, the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria must have a minimum of \$500,000 in their reserves for this project by the end of 2021. Currently the project is approved and they do not want to jeopardize it's status by delaying the funding.

To learn more about this project, visit mpls-synod.org or follow #LUNigeria on social media. To contribute to this project, simply mark your envelope with: November Mission of the Month: Lutheran University of Nigeria.. On behalf of future students, "Thank you for your support!"

November Birthdays

Dennis Engquist:	1st	Evan Kuder:	13th
Rol Flom:	1st	Thea Pease:	19th
Colleen Foster:	1st	Heather Davis:	24th
Brent Clark:	3rd	Zachary Evans:	25th
Scott Edstrom:	3rd	Diane Hesslund:	26th
Clint Grev:	4th	Jackie Mueller:	28th
David Peloquin:	4th	Elaine Schmidt:	28th
David Weitzke:	6th	Trevor Shaw:	28th
Jessica Swanson:	7th	Brendan Shaw:	28th
Lionel Charboneau:	9th	Joey Bahneman:	29th
Josephine Lindgren:	12th		
Brianna Overman:	12th		

Faith-Lilac Way 78th Anniversary

**Wednesday, November 24
Thanksgiving Eve**

Worship at 7 PM*
Pie - Fest to follow!

Come for the worship - stay for the pie! The worship will also be available online* (but not the pie). Pie Fest hosted by W/ELCA who invites you to come and bring a pie to share.

Education Classes and Opportunities

Sunday School: Sundays after worship in upstairs classroom

Confirmation: Wed. night - See Vicar Kyle

High School Youth: See Pastor Pam

Hybrid Adult Classes: Sundays after worship at 10:30

Meet in the Library or connect via zoom

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/98882846617?pwd=eVV0TWIveTluN1pZWdN4L3ZkMnNHQT09>

Meeting ID: 988 8284 6617

Passcode: 335870

or call: +1 312 626 6799



Adult Sunday Classes

October 31: Reformation & Luther's understanding of prayer and psalms

November 7: Reception for Confirmands. No adult class.

November 14: Learn more about the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria and the hopes and plans for building a university (See mission of the month).

November 21: Creation Care with Vicar Kyle Anderson.

November 28: Advent study begins.

Wildfire Caregiver Support Group

The Wildfire Caregiver Support group will meet at 10:00 AM on the first and third Tuesday of each month in the library at House of Hope Lutheran Church located at 4800 Boone Avenue North in New Hope. This caregiver support group provides a way to enhance the coping skills of caregivers through mutual support and informational sharing.

Covid Update

Following CDC guidelines, Faith-Lilac Way's church council asks unvaccinated people to wear a mask and be socially distant while in the church building. We will continue to offer in-sanctuary worship, parking lot radio worship, online worship, and mail bulletins, prayers, and the sermon out to those who request them.

Book Club Reads: *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

November 18 at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall

Like to read? Looking for thoughtful non-judgemental conversation with great people? If yes, the book club is for you. Luckily, you have another chance to join the book club in a discussion about the delightful historical fiction, *A Gentleman in Moscow*. Join us on November 18 at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Faith Practice for November: Pray the Psalms

The Psalms have been called the prayer-book of the Psalms. But how do we pray the psalms? How do these ancient words speak to our needs and to those we love?

Dr. Rolf Jacobson offers a few ideas on how the psalms can enrich our prayer lives. He produced a video (which will be shown at Sunday class on Reformation Sunday - Oct 31). Jacobson encourages us to first know the different types of prayer psalms and to memorize one line from these psalms so that it will be with us when we need it. He also encourages us - like Martin Luther - to sing the Psalms. There are many Psalms that are hidden in the words of our hymns which you probably know already.

Beginning on Reformation Sunday, Oct 31 and throughout November, we will be “practicing” praying and sometimes singing Psalms.

♦ October 31: Psalm prayer line of trust

Psalm 46: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

When we pray or sing psalms of trust, we are remembering that we can trust in God. (We will sing Martin Luther’s hymn, Mighty Fortress is Our God, a powerful musical rendition of this psalm).

♦ November 7: Psalm prayer line for help or lament

Psalm 102: Hear my prayer, Lord; let my cry for help come to you. ^{NIV}

When we pray and sing psalms asking for help, we remember that God hears us when we cry and God has the power, and the love and the faithfulness to change the reality from which we are suffering, although not always in the way that we would choose.

♦ November 14: Psalm prayer line of praise

Psalm 146: “Praise the Lord”

When we praise God, we are joyfully giving our whole selves to God.

♦ November 21: Psalm prayer line asking for forgiveness

Psalm 51: Have mercy on me, O God....Blot out my sin

When we recognize the ways in which we fall short, we dare to ask God for forgiveness, knowing that God is loving and more than willing to forgive.

♦ November 28: Psalm prayer line of thankfulness

Psalm 30: O God you have turned my mourning into dancing

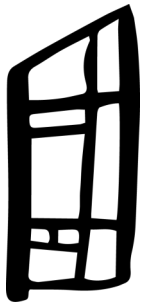
When we give God thanks, we are remembering that God has acted and will continue to act in loving and faithful ways for us and our neighbors too.

Acknowledgments

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
“Thank you for your gift of \$250 to ELCA World Hunger. You have helped provide clean water, health care, agriculture, education, and peace to over 60 countries.”

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
“Thank you for your gift of \$400. Your support affirms our shared vision that all people have the opportunity to live and work in the community with full and abundant lives.





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ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org.
U S Postage Paid
Twin Cities MN
Permit NO. 1589

November Worship

TIME CHANGE SUNDAY

November 7

*But don't worry if you
come early - we'll
be here!*

November 7: All Saints Sunday and Affirmation of Baptism

On this day, we remember the saints, who have gone before us - naming those who have died within the past year. We also give thanks to our newest saints, remembering those who are baptized, and celebrating with Kaitlyn Bahneman and Lydia Foster as they affirm the baptismal vows that their parents and godparents made for them.

November 14 "Thanks be to God for God's Indescribable Gift!"

We give thanks to God for all of God's gifts to us and we also offer up our gifts to God by returning our estimate of giving cards for 2022. On this day, we will give thanks for what God has done in our midst and the possibilities for the future.

November 21: Christ the King Sunday

We will be remembering our ministry partners around the world and remembering that Christ is King of All the Earth.

November 24, 7pm: Thanksgiving Eve Worship

November 28: First Sunday of Advent

