

NOVEMBER 2023

NAZARETH LUTHERAN CHURCH



From the Pastor

BY PASTOR MARCIA KISNER

A voice says, “Cry out.” And I said, “What shall I cry?” “All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever. Isaiah 40:6-8

Fall is one of my favorite seasons. The colors of the leaves are beautiful. The leaves fall and carpet the ground. The mums are bright yellows and oranges. The air is brisk and cool. It is a wonderful time. I always spend time thinking of the past when I was a child and playing in the leaves.

I was sitting on my deck (thank you again Mark, John, Vince and Dave for building this great structure)

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From the Pastor continued

and watching the birch tree and oak tree leaves fall like rain. My prayers were in thanksgiving for the beauty of God's creation. My prayers also were for all peoples of the world. There is so much violence in death happening, especially in Israel. God's love rain on them like the leaves that fall from our trees.

What can we do about all this hatred and evil in our world? Sadly, there always has been evil in the world but there also is joy and hope.

Just a few weeks ago I had instruction of baptism and 1st communion for one our young people. For fun she brought her older sister who had been baptized and had her first communion over a year ago. We spoke in quiet terms about being named a child of God and the mystery of the Christ being present at her 1st communion.

As I instructed her how to hold her hands to receive the bread and accept the wine (grape juice) she reached out to hold her sister's hand. She looked into her sister's eyes and said, "now we both get to receive Jesus." God has blessed me to be a part of these children of God and be in relationship with them.

After the seriousness of the moments, we then got silly and ordered 2 new puppets for our children's puppet shows. I have 3 ducks in a row at the house and the girls pressed them so they would quack. Laughter ensued, especially from the pastor!

As we see our world and the sadness surrounding so many let us remember as we approach the table that Jesus Christ is truly present for all of us. We are in relationship with all God's people so let us remember the hope as we watch the leaves fall, the flowers die, the weather cool, and know the word of God endures forever. Amen.

Norwegian Treats

Homemade flour Lefse, Kremekaka and Kringla made by the Nazareth Lutheran Church bakers is now available.

Flour lefse is \$15/dozen, Kremekaka and Kringla are \$10/dozen. To order, call Nazareth Lutheran church at 515-383-4328, or call Eileen at 515-491-8927.



Holiday Craft and Vendor Show

The Cambridge Holiday Craft and Vendor show is coming up on November 11 from 9 - 2. It is sponsored by the Cambridge Library. It will be in the City Center and in Dorcas Hall.

There will be crafts, Vendors, non-profit groups, there will be food and fun! Proceeds will benefit the Cambridge library.

Lest We Forget – Veteran’s Day

Joshua Dyer (aged 14) was tasked at school to write a poem for Remembrance Day.

One Thousand Men Are Walking

One thousand men are walking,
Walking side by side.
Singing songs from home,
The spirit as their guide.

They walk toward the light milord,
They walk towards the sun.
They smoke, and laugh, and smile together,
No foes to outrun.

These men live on forever,
In the hearts of those they saved.
A nation truly grateful,
For the path of peace they paved.

They march as friends and comrades,
But they do not march for war.
Step closer to salvation,
A tranquil steady corps.

The meadow’s lit with golden beams.
A beacon for the brave.
The emerald grass untrampled,
A reward for what they gave.

They dream of those they left behind,
And know they dream of them.
Forever in those poppy fields,
There walks one thousand men.

--Joshua Dyer

Veterans Day is a U.S. legal holiday dedicated to American veterans of all wars, and Veterans Day 2023 will occur on Saturday, November 11.

In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice, or temporary



cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I, then known as “the Great War.”

Commemorated in many countries as Armistice Day the following year, November 11th became a federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, Armistice Day became known as Veterans Day.

American effort during World War II saw the greatest mobilization of the U.S. military in the nation’s history (more than 16 million people); some 5.7 million more served in the Korean War.

In 1954, after lobbying efforts by veterans’ service organizations, the 83rd U.S. Congress amended the 1938 act that had made Armistice Day a holiday, striking the word “Armistice” in favor of “Veterans.”

Nazareth Lutheran Church Council Meeting

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 11:38 by President Mark Lewis following fellowship. Present for the meeting were Mark Lewis, Dave Lewis, Lisa Smith, Vince Tomlinson, John Egeland, Nathan Hovland, Pastor Marcia, guest Arlys Petersen, and church administrator Eileen Lewis. Minutes from the September meeting were approved as read, with no corrections.

Treasurer's Report:

Deposits and disbursements were fairly equal this month. \$2,159.89 was the opening balance, to which \$4,681.00 was added from offering, and disbursements were \$4,823.74. The closing balance at \$2,017.15. Mission Investment Balance is \$19,880.25. Savings has \$422.35, Capital Improvement has \$1,201.73, SCRIP opened at \$648.09, to which \$900.00 was added, \$890 was disbursed, leaving a balance of \$658.09.

Pastor's Report:

Due to illness in the cast of the play and the inability to practice altogether the play has been postponed until April. It was a very difficult decision, but we wanted to give our best performance. The cast and crew of the play thought it was the best idea.

Avery will be baptized and receive her first Communion on October 29th. Avery, and her sister Aubrey, came over to practice and prepare for this special day. It was a great day and there was a lot of learning as well as fun. The girls helped pick out a couple new puppets as well.

The After School Snack program has progressed nicely. During September and October, the number of children participating has been steadily increasing, from 20 - 31. There were concerns voiced about the kids that lived in the country and were not able to get a snack. Arlys will talk to the Methodist church folks and the bus drivers to see what actions can be taken to provide snacks to those children.

Finally, Pastor Marcia's new prosthesis should arrive in a couple weeks, the attachment for her car has arrived and Nathan will be working to install the piece.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Property:

There has been dirt put around the foundation on the east and north side of the church to eliminate any water that could leak into the building. Currently there is plastic on the ground to kill all of the grass and weeds. Next spring, we will plant a wildflower garden.

John also worked on tuckpointing the mortar of the foundation, the storage rooms in the basement have been painted with water seal paint, and the items in the basement have been organized and put back into the storage rooms. The only thing left to do is to sort the items that we want to get rid of and see what we want to sell versus what to save for the Silent Austin next year.

Last month there was discussion about the neighbors to the East looking at our drainage pipe. It was reported by Arlys that this is actually a different person. The guy that sued the church had sold the property to another person.

Christian Ed:

The new puppets have arrived and are now part of the show! Avery's baptism is scheduled for 10/29.

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Nazareth Lutheran Church Council Meeting

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Stewardship:

We are doing ok but could always use more donations.

In reach/Outreach: nothing to report.

Music and Worship: nothing to report.

Old Business:

The Immanuel Vision Foundation Grant was completed and sent in. The results will be emailed out on the 6th of November, keeping our fingers crossed.

The play was canceled and since the meat and the rolls had been ordered from Fareway, it was decided that we would have a “Drive Through Dinner” We would have the pork loin, smoked by Ray Ringgenberg and Smokehouse 72, cheesy potatoes, coleslaw, pasta salad, roll and dessert for \$10. Eileen would make the pasta salad and Joyce the coleslaw. Desserts would be donated by the congregation. The dinner would be held on October 21st with pick up available from 5-7 pm.

There was discussion about the Cambridge Vendor Fair, and changes by the city council in allowing the Fair to be in the City Center. Since the Library is a City department, they can use the City Center, but only the Library area, with no fee. All profit from registration fees for the tables would need to be paid to the library. We will be selling Kringla, Lefsa, and Kremekaka. Eileen will post this information on the Church’s Facebook page.

New Business:

Lisa mentioned that there is \$209.00 in the mission account earmarked for the Cross Your Heart Ministries. Lisa has investigated, and there is not a way to contact this ministry. John motioned that the funds should be sent to the general fund and Dave seconded it. It passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:32 by President Mark Lewis, and closed with The Lord’s Prayer. Respectfully submitted by Eileen Lewis, Admin Assist

August	Offering	Attendance	September	Offering	Attendance	October	Offering	Attendance
8/6	\$ 1,330.00	21	9/3	\$ 2,686.00	23	10/1	\$ 1,875.00	22
8/13	\$ 2,008.00	21	9/10	\$ 478.00	17	10/8	\$ 950.00	25
8/20	\$ 725.00	21	9/17	\$ 407.00	23	10/15	\$ 820.00	20
8/28	\$ 680.00	18	9/24	\$ 1,010.00	23	10/22	\$ 1,592.72	
Total	\$ 4,743.00		Total	\$ 4,581.00		10/29		
						Total	\$5,237.72	

Drinking From My Saucer

by John Paul Moore

I've never made a fortune and it's probably too late now.
But I don't worry about that much, I'm happy anyhow.
And as I go along life's way, I'm reaping better than I sowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.
I don't have a lot of riches, and sometimes the going's tough.
But I've got loved ones around me, and that makes me rich enough.
I thank God for his blessings, and the mercies He's bestowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.
I remember times when things went wrong, my faith wore somewhat thin.
But all at once the dark clouds broke, and the sun peeped through again.
So God, help me not to gripe about the tough rows that I've hoed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.
If God gives me strength and courage, when the way grows steep and rough.
I'll not ask for other blessings, I'm already blessed enough.
And may I never be too busy, to help others bear their loads.
Then I'll keep drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.



Pumpkin Pie Recipe

- 1 (15 ounce) can pumpkin puree
- 1 (14 ounce) can Sweetened Condensed Milk
- 2 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon ground ginger
- ½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 (9 inch) unbaked pie crust

1. Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F (220 degrees C).
2. Whisk pumpkin puree, condensed milk, eggs, cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg, and salt together in a medium bowl until smooth.
3. Pour into Pie Crust
4. Bake in the preheated oven for 15 minutes.
5. Reduce oven temperature to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) and continue baking until a knife inserted 1 inch from the crust comes out clean, 35 to 40 minutes.
6. Let cool before serving.

Homemade Pumpkin Puree

- Select a couple of small sized pumpkins. Cut the pumpkin in half. Using a spoon or a scoop, scrape out the seeds and pulp from the center. You don't have to be too thorough with this.
- Place the pumpkin pieces on a baking sheet and roast in a 350°F oven until the pumpkin is fork-tender, 45 minutes. They should be nice and light golden brown when done.
- Peel off the skin from the pumpkin pieces. Then throw in a few chunks of the roasted pumpkin into a food processor. (You can also use a blender, mixer or potato masher.) Pulse the pumpkin until smooth. If it looks too dry, add in a few tablespoons of water during the pulsing to give it the needed moisture. Continue until all of the pumpkin is pureed.
- You can either use the puree immediately in whatever pumpkin recipe you'd like or store it in the freezer for later use.
- To store in the freezer, spoon about 1 cupful of pumpkin into each plastic storage bag. Store them in the freezer until you need them.