

Nazareth Lutheran November Newsletter

Hello, Fall! May your days be filled with the magic of harvest and home

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From the Pastor



This fall in confirmation class we are speaking to people about their faith. One of the questions is "what is your favorite Bible verse?" As we were at fellowship I asked several people sitting around the table what their favorite Bible verse and or if they remembered their confirmation verse. Several answers were continue on page 2



 **From the Pastor** continued, 

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." 

Another favorite was 1 Corinthians 13: 4-8a "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never ends."

In years past I have asked several members what their favorite Bible verse and one member quoted hers to me and told me that she wanted this at her funeral read in the King James version. Psalm 23 "1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. 3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever."  

Psalms are many people's favorites such as Psalm 100 A Psalm of thanksgiving. 1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. 2 Serve the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. 3 Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his;[a] we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him; bless his name. 5 For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever and his faithfulness to all generations. And, Psalm 46 A Song. 1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present[a] help in trouble. 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, 3 though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Selah 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. 5 God is in the midst of the city;[b] it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. 6 The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice; the earth melts.

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From the Pastor continued,



7 The Lord of hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge.[c] Selah
8 Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth. 9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. 10 "Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth." 11 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.[d] Selah. These two psalms are long and when I asked these members if they had their favorite psalm memorized they quoted them to me. They said that their favorite psalm has gotten them through some difficult times as well as some very joyous times.



Each confirmation class I have them discover a Bible verse that they can call their own confirmation verse. A verse that will carry them through their faith journey. During one of these confirmation classes I was quoting several Bible verses such as John 3:16 and my favorite Matthew 28:18-20 "18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." After I quoted them one of the students, wide eyed, asked me if I knew the whole Bible? I paused for a moment wanting to say yes but instead I told the student no but I had memorized my favorites. Then I told the story of Paul who would memorize scripture and as he would travel from church to church would share the scriptures orally with Jesus' followers. And I repeated to the confirmation students that it is important to carry scripture with us for we never know when we might need to share the scriptures with others. One of my seminary professors shared with my class that he had come upon a car accident and the driver was dying and asking for comfort. The professor quoted John 3:16, shared the confession and forgiveness, then shared the Lord's prayer, and blessed the man with



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From the Pastor continued,

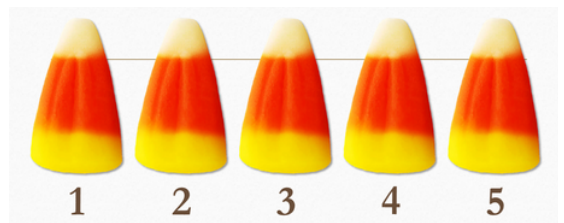


the benediction we hear every Sunday. The professor shared that the man died but he knew he died with Jesus with him and by him. I have never forgotten this story and know that scripture can give comfort for the dying and the living. Many times I have said Matthew 28: 18-20 and then made the sign of the cross of a person's forehead with the words Amen.

What is your favorite Bible verse and do you have it memorized? You never know when and with whom you will need to share God's word. Another of my favorites is Philippians 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice." So, let us go forth and rejoice in the Lord.



Five Kernels of Corn



During the winter of 1620 and 1621 the pilgrims' supplies were so scarce that Governor William Bradford had to ration food. For more than a month only five kernels of corn per day were issued to each person in the colony.



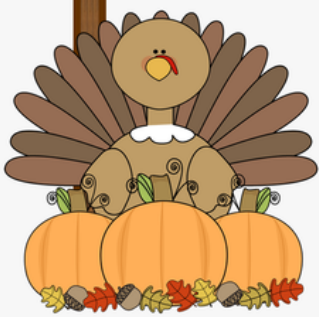
Later, people placed five kernels of corn at their table each Thanksgiving Day to remind them of how much they had for which to be grateful.



You may want to follow this custom at your Thanksgiving table. Ask each person to think of at least five things of the past year for which to thank God. Then have each person share one of things for which he or she is thankful.



We are Thankful for YOU!





Lefsa and Kringla



Nazareth Lutheran Church is making Lefsa, Kringla and Krumkaka to sell as a church fundraiser. Prices for Kringla and Krumkaka will be \$6.00 for half-dozen, \$10 per baker's dozen. Lefsa will be sold for \$10 for 6 lefsa and \$15 for a dozen lefsa. It will be available at the Cambridge Extravaganza Vendor Fair which will be at the City Center on Nov 22nd or it can be delivered. Call the church at 515-383-4328 or email nazareth_lutheranchurch@yahoo.com to order.



Daylight Savings Time


Remember daylight saving time ends Sunday, November 2. Be sure to set your clocks back on hour.




All Saints Sunday

All Saints' Day, celebrated on November 1, honors all saints of the Christian Church, both known and unknown.

It is a day set aside to honor all who have lived righteous and holy lives in accordance with Christian teachings. All Saints' Day is part of a broader tradition that includes All Hallows' Eve (Halloween) on October 31st and All Souls' Day on November 2nd.



The origin of All Saints' Day can be traced back to the early Christian Church when it was established as a day to remember and celebrate the martyrs and other saints who had died for their faith. Over time, the scope of the holiday expanded to include martyrs and all faithful Christians who had lived pious and virtuous lives. It is a day to recognize the saints' collective witness and express gratitude for their example.



If you have someone you would like to be remembered, please email the church office at nazareth_lutheranchurch@yahoo.com.

Mission Projects

Mitten Tree The clothing Pantry will have a mitten tree again this year that the church will be participating in. There will be more information coming out with dates and specific items needed for the tree, so watch for that in your bulletins.







Council Minutes




NAZARETH LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
SUNDAY, OCT 19, 2025


Nazareth Lutheran Church Council was called to order at 11:29 AM by President Mark Lewis following fellowship. Present for the meeting were Mark Lewis, Lisa Smith, Arlyss Peterson, Dave Lewis, John Egeland, Pastor Marcia, Joyce Allen, and Church Administrator Eileen Lewis. Also sitting in was Joyce's Granddaughter, Zoey. Minutes from the September 21 meeting were approved as read with the following corrections: Pastor Marcia's rehab nurse is on Main Street, not Race Street, and the constitutional meeting Arlyss attended was via Zoom, and was called by the Bishop though she was not in attendance.




Finance Report: Income and payments were fairly equal this month, which still keeps us happily in the green. Offerings for the month totaled \$4,509. Pastor Marcia donated \$5,000 to offset her insurance payments. With the opening balance of \$23,483.70, \$9,600.21 was added, \$9,263.01 was disbursed, leaving a balance of \$23,820.90.



Savings has a balance of \$1,629.02, Capital Improvement shows \$1,207.90, Mission Investments sits at \$20,079.90, with Missions at \$1,159.98. SCRIP opened with a balance of \$3,242.05, added \$900, paid out \$1,750, and thus closed with \$2,392.05.



Pastor's Report: Confirmation is going very well. Could I have several volunteers to go to a nursing home with Mava? Just let me know and I'll make the arrangements. Also, I asked Mava to speak to several members about faith. I told Mava she could do so before church. I have suggested several questions for Mava to ask: Favorite Bible Story? Favorite Bible verse? How do you strengthen your faith? How do you keep your faith in hard times? Where is there joy in your faith? What was it like to grow up in the church? When was the first time you remember believing in Jesus? How has your faith grown? Thank you for helping.



Committee Reports:

Property: Nothing to report

Christian Ed: Happy to have two little ones in Church today – Joyce's Granddaughter Zoey, and Kara's baby who will be baptized next week.



Council Minutes Continued

Stewardship: Rick Olstrum came to help make Lefsa and became a holy roller

Inreach / Outreach: Prayer shawls and lap quilts are requested for the Synod Assembly meeting. Bishop wants to give one to each member in attendance.

Music and Worship: Music needed for Advent onward

Old Business: Several council members met on October 7 and 14 to revamp Nazareth's constitution. Several sections have been added at the direction of the synod, and others have been dropped or reworded. Council will meet with Jodi, our Synod Rep, on the 23rd to discuss changes before its finalization. Next, Trinity Methodist is having a craft sale on October 25. We will have a table to sell lefsa and kringla, and would appreciate volunteers. Lastly, discussion moved to banking. Lisa will move \$15K from our general account to Mission Investment so it can draw more interest. This account also lets us write checks. Also, Eileen received a grant of \$5,750 from Immanuel Vision Fund for our snack program. She will open an account just for this purpose, which will be done in Story City to avoid fees the Cambridge bank has. She will also have a debit card to draw from this account.

New Business: Our drive-through dinner will be this evening, October 19, from 5:00–7:00. Volunteers are requested to gather 3:30 to bag up desserts and rolls. Desserts will be on a table outside where the customers will voice their choice, and dinners will be brought out as needed. Discussion then moved to Poinsettias. Goode Greenhouses is offering churches special prices. A one-plant branch in a 4.5" pot with 3–5 blooms is \$5.17; a one-plant branch in a 6.5" pot with 5–9 blooms is \$10.44; a 3-plant branch in an 8" pot that yields 12–15 blooms is \$20.39. Eileen is leaning towards the larger pot since most people don't take theirs home, anyway, and a couple larger plants would be easier to take care of than several smaller ones. Please let her know your preferences.





Council Minutes Continued



Lastly, Eileen presented the council with a Hanging of the Greens service as a possibility for the first Sunday of Advent. It consists of stories of how holiday customs came about, songs, scripture reading, and of course, hanging of the greens and decorating the church. No motions or decisions were made, with further discussions to follow.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:27 by President Mark Lewis, and closed with The Lord's Prayer. Respectfully submitted by Joyce Allen, Council Secretary.



November Lectionary

All Saints Sunday Nov 2

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Psalms 149

Revelation 21: 1-6a

Luke 6:20-31

Sanctuary

Rise Up O Saints of God #669

Holy, Holy, Holy #413

Let Us Break Bread Together #471

When the Saints Go Marching In (insert)



Prayer of the Day Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Sun. Nov. 9 — Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Job 19:23-27a

Psalms 17:1-9

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Luke 20:27-38

Sanctuary

Lift Every Voice and Sing #841

Children of the Heavenly Father #781

Let Us Break Bread Together #471

On Eagles Wings #787





Prayer of the Day O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Sun. Nov. 16 — Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Malachi 4:1-2a	Sanctuary
Psalm 98	O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing #886
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	My Lord What A Morning #438
Luke 21:5-19	Let Us Break Bread Together #471
	Go My Children, With My Blessing #543

Prayer of the Day O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Sun. Nov. 23 — Christ the King Sunday

Jeremiah 23:1-6	Sanctuary
Psalm 46	Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil 2 X's #512
Colossians 1:11-20	Bind Us Together
Luke 23:33-43	Let Us Break Bread Together #471
	Let All Things Now Living #881

Prayer of the Day O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Sunday Nov 30 – First Sunday of Advent We will be having a Hanging of the Greens Service. When the service is written and finalized we will email it to you. We hope that you will join us either in person or on-line.



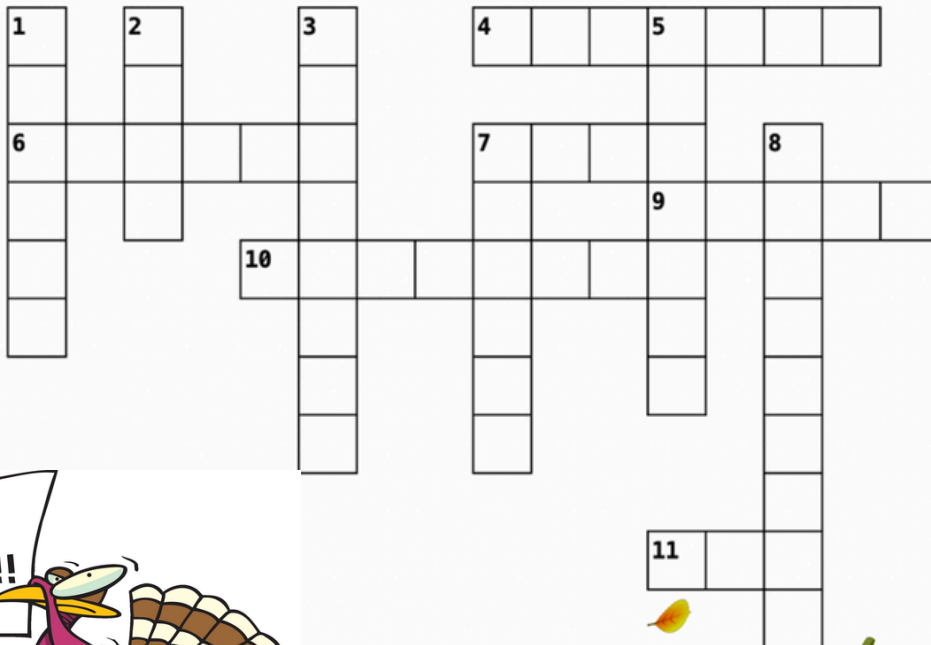


Puzzle



- How many pilgrims came on the Mayflower?
A. 89 B. 102
C. 185 D. 217
- In what year did the first American Thanksgiving celebration take place?
A. 1900 B. 1492 C. 1621 D. 1776
- How long did the first Thanksgiving Feast last?
A. One Day B. One Week
C. Three Days D. Four Days
- What does the term "cornucopia" mean?
A. Corn husks B. Horn of Plenty
C. A greek D. A tradition; corn dish
- Approximately how many feathers does a mature turkey have?
A. 3500 B. 350 C. 700 D. 7000
- Which US State produces the most turkeys annually?
A. Alabama
B. North Carolina
C. Missouri
D. Arkansas
- How fast can wild turkeys run?
A. 15 mph B. 55 mph
C. 5 mph D. 25 mph
- Which country consumes the most turkey per year - per capita?
A. Israel B. United States
C. Mexico D. Germany
- How high must a cranberry bounce before it is harvested?
A. 6 inches B. 8 inches
C. 3 inches D. 4 inches
- Who was the first President to make Thanksgiving a national holiday?
A. Washington B. Lincoln
C. Jefferson D. Roosevelt

THANKSGIVING CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Down

- A vegetable that can be mashed or baked.
- A yellow plant with edible grain. Another name for it is maize.
- The place where the pilgrims landed.
- A person who goes on a religious journey.
- People you are related too.
- The ship that brought the pilgrims to North America.

Across

- A large orange squash with edible flesh and lots of seeds.
- A bird that is eaten on Thanksgiving.
- The season that includes November.
- A sauce made from the juices of meat used for some Thanksgiving meals.
- The 11th month of the year.
- A baked dish made with dough. Filled with ingredients like apples.

