



November 2024



The Disciple's Connection

Giving Thanks for Daily Bread

¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread, [Matthew 6:11] ³ Give us each our daily bread [Luke 11:3]



In the fall of 1621, the new settlers to our country gathered with some native Indians for a three-day thanksgiving feast to celebrate a good harvest. This is probably why pilgrims and turkeys have become so attached to Thanksgiving Day. This event in 1621 was not a holiday, but simply a gathering to express thankfulness and share in the Lord's bounty. Thanksgiving Day, as a national holiday, dates to 1863 when President Lincoln proclaimed a national holiday on the 4th Thursday of November as an encouragement for Americans to give thanks to God for His provision. Since then, Thanksgiving Day has remained a national holiday.

As Christians we rejoice that our nation observes a National Day of Thanksgiving. However, Christian stewards may very well question whether our modern Thanksgiving Day celebration is a technical change or an adaptive change. What's the difference between a technical and an adaptive change you ask? Actually, there is a big difference! If the celebration of Thanksgiving Day is simply one day to pause from the busyness of life and work, give thanks in whatever way people wish to express thanks, and then get back to the regular swing of things, it becomes little more than a momentary technical change, a pause in our normal routine. We do it for one day and then it's business as usual. If, however, Thanksgiving Day provides us with the opportunity to express our thankfulness to God for all His blessings, and then continue to express our thankfulness on an ongoing basis it is more of an adaptive change, a truly meaningful change to our normal routine. Simply put, a technical change is a once-a-year event, but an adaptive change is a change in behavior that continues throughout the year.

In the Lord's Prayer Jesus taught us to pray "give us this day our daily bread." Luther in his explanation of this petition teaches that "daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body" and that we as God's people "receive our daily bread with thanksgiving."

It is a very good practice to be regular and consistent in our prayers at mealtimes. Truly God is good [all the time; and all the time, God is good!] and His mercy endures forever. Saying prayers of thanksgiving before meals help us remember that giving thanks is a daily activity of God's people. Praying daily also helps us practice giving thanks in an adaptive way. This encourages us to remember that giving thanks is a daily way of life, not just a once-a-year holiday.

Christian stewards are people with grateful hearts and giving hands. All good gifts come from God and He intends for us to receive them with thankfulness and use them in ways that honor Him and bless others. God's good gifts include healthy relationships, special talents, time, the privilege of sharing the good news of

GIVING THANKS FOR DAILY BREAD *continued*

Jesus, financial resources and so much more. Jesus frees us from the selfish use of all these gifts and the Holy Spirit helps us live like the children of God who freely, joyfully and daily use all of life and life's resources for God's purposes.

Happy Thanksgiving Day and may your celebration be another reminder that giving thanks is meant to be a daily response for all that God so richly provides.

In Christ

Pastor Sundborn



Our Great Heritage: Martin Luther

By [Molly Lackey](#)

Martin Luther

A.D. 1483–1546

This humble German pastor and professor sought to restore the teachings of Scripture and share the blessing of a comforted conscience.

In [this series](#), Lutheran historian Molly Lackey will trace the history of the church, from the time of the apostles through the twentieth century. As the Body of Christ, our history transcends time, country and citizenship: "God's Word is our great heritage."



Imagine you have sinned (it's probably not that hard to imagine). Maybe it was a big, public sin, an obvious-to-everybody sin. Or maybe it wasn't. But it's there. Lurking. You know it. More importantly, God knows it. You don't want to keep sinning — but you do. You know that God, in His absolute perfection, cannot bear sin. So you try to deal with it. You fast and pray, you do good deeds (outwardly, anyway), you deny yourself, punish your body and mind, just trying make this sin *stop* and put yourself in good standing with God. But it's not working. This sin comes back again and again and again, and you're starting to lose hope, not in yourself

OUR GREAT HERITAGE: MARTIN LUTHER *continued*

(that's long gone), but in whether or not God is actually good and loving after all, if He's just letting you languish in your sin like this.

Now you know what it was like to be in Martin Luther's shoes for the first 30-or-so years of his life.

From promising lawyer to anguished monk

Martin Luther was born in 1483 to a middle-class family. His father wanted him to go to school to become a lawyer in order to help with their growing family business. The young Luther was a gifted student progressing successfully through this plan for his life — until in July 1505 at age 21, seemingly out of the blue, he dropped out of law school, sold his things, and entered the monastery to become an Augustinian friar. In the background, the young Luther had probably been undergoing a long, slow crisis in his faith — one that continued for quite a while even after becoming a monk. While he was becoming increasingly dissatisfied with his studies and increasingly interested in Scripture, he was caught in a thunderstorm on horseback one evening, and swore that if St. Anne (Mary's mother, according to tradition) saved him, he would become a monk. He kept this promise.

In the monastery, Brother Martin grew in knowledge and in terror over his own sin and God's judgment. He was encouraged to pursue additional education in order to help quiet his fears or at least give him a distraction from his constant sense of guilt, which was so strong he engaged in self-flagellation — whipping himself — and other torments in an attempt to punish himself and curb his sin. He eventually earned a doctorate and went to teach at the newly-opened university in Wittenberg, Germany.

The troubled Luther was rocketed to international notoriety in 1517 when he published his *95 Theses*, 95 statements meant for debate among university scholars and clergy on a number of theological topics. Many of these dealt with the practice of selling plenary indulgences — full remittance of punishments for all sins, functionally a “get-out-of-purgatory” card — to raise funds to build and decorate St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Although it dealt with insider issues, the document “went viral,” circulating across Europe rapidly due to recent innovations in moveable type printing like the Gutenberg press.

Luther's Gospel breakthrough

Luther describes his greatest doctrinal breakthrough taking place in 1519 in what is now referred to as his “Tower Experience.” While reading his Bible in a tower one evening, Luther finally found the answer from Scripture to his intense spiritual and psychological distress: God's righteousness is imputed to Christians by grace through faith in Christ, not through anything we do on our own.

This renewed understanding of the Gospel — an understanding attested to in Scripture and by the early church fathers — formed the basis for Luther's reformation theology. It is why Luther refocused the sacramental system on how God comes to us through physical means to give us grace, why he reformed the wor-

OUR GREAT HERITAGE: MARTIN LUTHER *continued*

ship service to point the believer to Christ's work for him, why he wrote and wrote and wrote, until he was found to be a heretic at the Diet of Worms in 1523 — where he famously confessed that he had to stand by Scriptures and his conscience, even if the world was against him. It's also why he kept writing, from translating the entire Bible into German from the original Greek and Hebrew beginning in 1523 — the first such translation into a common (or vernacular) language — to the Small and Large Catechisms in 1529.

There is a great deal more to be said about Martin Luther and his life and work, but we can't fit it all here. After all, by his death in 1546, he was the most prolific writer of his day and the first best-selling author! But it is very important for us to remember, especially as Lutherans (a name foisted on his followers by his enemies, not chosen by the man himself), what Luther was about. Martin Luther was not a revolutionary — he wasn't trying to start his own church, and he was, in fact, deeply upset by the chaos, division and bloodshed caused by the Protestant Reformation. He was Professor Luther — Pastor Luther — Martin, a man with a conscience that was burdened by false and misleading teachings common in the church of his day. He went prayerfully and thoughtfully to Scripture to try to find answers to his terror of God and soul-deep anxiety, and what he found there was Jesus, loving little Martin and all mankind unto death and rising to bring eternal life to all who trust in Him.

This was no new teaching, no philosophical trend or emotional projection, though it surely did have philosophical and emotional ramifications at the individual and cultural level. It was a restoration of the faith rightly taught and whole-heartedly believed by those people who come before and after Luther in this series and in the vast, mostly-uncharted waters of the church's history. Our inheritance from Martin Luther is the clear confession that Jesus *alone* — not my works, thoughts, feelings, words, money, or anything else — saves me from my sin.

Editor's Note: The next installment of [this series](#), on the great lady of the Reformation Katharina von Bora Luther, will be posted two weeks from today. Check back then or [follow us on social media](#) to catch it!

Image: "Portrait of Martin Luther," Lucas Cranach, 1528.

Lackey, Molly., (2024, June 12). Our Great Heritage: Martin Luther. *The Lutheran Witness-Articles, Series-History*. <https://witness.lcms.org/2024/martin-luther/>





Life Quotes for November

November 3 “In the fullness of time, our Lord was born for our sake. In the fullness of time, He will bring all the faithful into eternal fellowship with Him. In the fullness of time, He will dry every tear and fulfill His will for all mankind, as John the Evangelist witnessed in the Revelation God granted him.” *Deaconess Bethany Stoevers, Director-at-Large, LFL of Kansas – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

November 10 “For no one of those who are alive today knows where he was during the first two years, when he lived either in the womb ... Yet he lived at that time, and he was a body joined to a soul—a body adapted to all natural functions.” *Martin Luther – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

November 17 “If we find ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world.” *C.S. Lewis (Mere Christianity) – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

November 24 “In spades the Lord has taught me, and prayerfully you also, that Psalm 23 is a thanksgiving psalm. He anoints our heads, which is the Old Testament way of saying He chooses us as kings. He makes us a part of His royal household! Man, are we blessed as His kids!” *Pastor Keith Haberstoch, guest speaker on “The Lutheran Hour” – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*



Announcements

6th Annual Trunk-or-Treat . . . Success!!!

St. Paul's Lutheran was blessed with a beautiful day for our 6th Annual Trunk or Treat! Thank you to all our volunteers who helped make this year's event a huge success! Thank you to our congregation members, friends of the church, pre-school staff, and to our preschool families who set up their cars or donated candy! Just over 100 children were treated to candy and games, and everyone enjoyed the fresh popcorn, hot dogs, warm cider and delicious cookies! We had fourteen wonderfully decorated cars, and we all enjoyed the creative costumes the children were very proud of. Thank you again and may we be blessed with great weather for the 7th Annual Trunk or Treat coming soon in 2025!



LWML Noisy Mite Weekend

Thank you to the generous giving at St. Paul's. We collected \$611.85 for mites on LWML Sunday. We pray God's blessings on these funds that they are used to further His Kingdom.

Please remember mites can be deposited in the large wooden mite box at any time or donations may be made at <http://lwmlohio.org>. Continue to pray for the mission work of the LWML.

Women's Bible Study

The Friendship Circle will meet for the final time this year on November 13. Please join them at 6:30 pm for an evening of Christian growth and fellowship.



SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

St. Paul's semi-annual Congregation meeting will be held Sunday, November 17 after the 9:30 am worship service. As a result of the meeting, there will be no Adult Bible Study or Sunday School that Sunday.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service



Join us for our Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service on Wednesday, November 27th at 7:00 pm. Hope to see you there for this service of thanksgiving.

Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettias will again be used to decorate the altar for Christmas. As in the past you will be able take them home after Christmas. The cost for each is \$6.25 for a 6.5 inch pot. There 9 color variations available to choose from this year:

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| ⊗ Carmen Red | ⊗ Marble (pink & white) | ⊗ Cinnamon (pale pink) |
| ⊗ Enduring Pink | ⊗ Jingle Bells (red & white) | ⊗ Flurry White |
| ⊗ Alaska White | ⊗ Ice Crystal (pink & red) | ⊗ Supurba Pink |



The order sheet with pictures of each variation has been posted on the double doors at the back of the church. Please place your check in the offering plate, marked "Poinsettias". Your payment will need to be received prior to placing the order. **The last day to order is Sunday, December 1st.**



From the Preschool

Annual Preschool Popcorn Fundraiser

The preschool popcorn sale has ended and the preschool would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's popcorn fundraiser. Please watch the weekly bulletin for days and times to pick up your order.





October Meeting Minutes

1. Pastor's Report. (Pastor)
 - a. Pastor to teach 2nd grade religion at OSL.
 - b. Helping out with devotions at a nursing home.
2. President's Report. (Dennis Concoby)
 - a. LWML Ohio Central Zone contributed \$291 toward personal listening system.
 - b. Safety Committee installed emergency kits.
 - c. Camera for recording services has been procured.
 - d. New microphone in place for pastor.
 - e. Security cameras up and recording; live streaming to come.
 - f. Performed emergency evacuation drill in September for services and kid's Sunday school.
3. Vice President's Report. (Eric Drake)
 - a. Installation service for new principal 10/27
 - b. OSL Trunk-or-Treat 10/10
 - c. 10/5 is Pastor Henry's installation service as Air Force Chaplin.
4. Treasurer's Report. (Russ Walton)
 - a. No report.
 - b. Business card had a late fee on 9/18. Star will look into having it waived.
5. Education Report. (Jenn Drake)
 - a. Attendance provided.
 - b. Women's Bible study restarted for fall; 2 sessions so far.
6. Preschool Report. (Starshine Graziadei)
 - a. Next meeting 10/21.
 - b. Popcorn sales kick off 10/4.
 - c. Students enrolled 34.
7. Elder's Report. (Dale Kerver)
 - a. Christmas worship times under review.
8. Stewardship Report. (Diane Wayner)
 - a. Started listing items for Zion food bank in bulletin.
9. Financial Secretary's Report. (Terry Wakelee)
 - a. Collections posted and deposited.
 - b. Need a second counter for December.
10. Outreach Report. (Ken Chaffe)
 - a. Working on website updates.
 - b. Trunk or Treat on 10/20; 12 volunteers so far, more will be welcomed up to the date of the event.
 - c. Outreach Committee met in September at which time it was reported that 19 prayer shawls were delivered by Kristi and there are 14 toy cars left from the backpacks. More shawls and cars are in the works.
 - d. A new welcome letter has been created for visitors to be mailed or emailed by the church office.
11. Building & Grounds Report. (Craig McConnell)
 - a. Rewiring light fixtures

OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES continued

- b. Mower corrected
 - c. Tree awaiting removal
 - d. Toilet fixed in Preschool boys' bathroom
 - e. 1 sink in need of repair.
 - f. Light fixture needs repair
 - g. Work on gutter pending
 - h. Keeping an eye on energy consumption which is higher than normal.
12. Contribution Secretary's Report. (Billie Lelle)
- a. Week 38. Special offering from Ed Kujala's insurance policy.

Old Business

- 1. Alarm system phone line issues-no reported issues this month.
- 2. Update regarding acceptance of Constitution and Bylaws changes by LCMS District. Accepted as of 9/20. Pastor to supply PDF of the updated bylaws.
- 3. Parsonage Fence repairs pending.

New Business

- 1. Semi-annual meeting 11/17/2024.

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 @ 6:30pm

LEAF ANNUAL APPEAL

The Lutheran Endowment & Aid Fund (LEAF) comes to you this time of year seeking your support of our mission to provide financial assistance to Our Shepherd Lutheran School, as it has since its establishment in 1987. In years when the school's revenues doesn't meet its expenses, LEAF helps to fill that gap, and it's thru your support that we are able to do this. LEAF is managed by a board which oversees: a) the collection of funds from your generous gifts, b) invests these funds in stocks, bonds, mutual funds, CDs, which produce interest and dividends, and c) distributes these gains every year to the school as they have need. If you have questions or would like to contribute, St. Paul's is represented on the board by Russ Walton and Terry Wakelee. The past several years after COVID, Our Shepherd has had to heavily count on LEAF to meet its budget needs.

This August, Principal Paul Goodwin, teachers, and staff welcomed 115 students to a year of academics, activities, growth, and how to apply this year's theme **Importance of Love** in their lives. Paul will be retiring the end of December, and the school will welcome as its new principal Melisa Carlson beginning November 1. This vital outreach mission into our community, Our Shepherd continues to provide a quality education, various activities, and an opportunity to share the Gospel in a safe, caring, nurturing, and Christ-centered environment.

We ask for your continued support as we continue to offer our support to the school. Prayerfully consider a gift to LEAF this year, and we thank you for your past support; keep Our Shepherd, its staff, students & families in your prayers.

God's richest blessings,
The LEAF Board

November Birthdays

Matt Davis	Nov 1
Meridan Vosicky	Nov 8
Cooper Vosicky	Nov 12
Harold Dennison	Nov 17
Kay Lucas	Nov 20
Jennifer Drake	Nov 27
Mathew Javins	Nov 28



A glowing cross with a dove and leaves.

October

Baptisms, Weddings,
New Members, Funerals

<p><i>Baptisms</i></p> <p>Noah Gregory Titus Oct 13</p>	<p><i>New Members</i></p> <p>None in October</p>
<p><i>Weddings</i></p>	<p><i>Funerals</i></p> <p>Greg Swank Sep 28</p>

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Altar Flowers



A great way to remember any occasion is with Altar Flowers. The Altar Flower Chart is located on the double doors at the back of the Sanctuary. Just sign up next to the appropriate weekend. Clearly print the occasion being remembered, who the flowers are for and who they’re from. Altar flowers are \$40.00. Please place the monies in an envelope labeled “Altar Flowers” with the date of the weekend and put it in the collection plate.



Those Who Serve: November 2024

ELDERS:

6:00 P Saturday Dale Kerver
9:30 A Sunday Craig McConnell

COUNTERS:

Terry Wakelee, Debbie Davis,
Laurie Srebernak

LECTORS:

11-02-24	6:00 P	Saturday	Dale Kerver
11-03-24	9:30 A	Sunday	Jack Lelle
11-09-24	6:00 P	Saturday	Pastor Sundbom
11-10-24	9:30 A	Sunday	Kenn Chaffe
11-16--24	6:00 P	Saturday	Dale Kerver
11-17-24	9:30 A	Sunday	Terry Wakelee
11-23-24	6:00 P	Saturday	Dave Murphy
11-24-24	9:30 A	Sunday	Jennifer Drake
11-27-24	7:00 P	Thanksgiving Eve	TBD



Scripture Readings for November

Nov 2/3 [All Saints’ Day]

Revelation 7:9-17
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

Nov 9/10

1 Kings 17:8-16
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44

Nov 23/24

Isaiah 51:4-6
Jude 20-25
Mark 13:24-37

Nov 16/17

Daniel 12:1-3
Hebrews 10:11-25
Mark 13:1-13

November 27 [Thanksgiving Eve]

Deuteronomy 8:1-10
Philippians 4:6-20
Luke 17:11-19

Nov 30/Dec 1

Jeremiah 33:14-16
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36





November Word Search—Thanksgiving

E	S	E	I	R	R	E	B	N	A	R	C	N	I
E	T	H	O	R	N	O	F	P	L	E	N	T	Y
V	O	Y	L	I	M	A	F	P	L	P	D	L	O
T	G	C	O	R	N	R	A	U	F	U	E	L	V
U	E	O	T	A	Y	B	F	E	E	M	S	A	E
R	T	R	M	E	F	K	A	L	A	P	S	B	R
K	H	S	V	U	N	B	N	F	S	K	E	T	E
E	E	A	B	A	K	I	N	G	T	I	L	O	A
Y	R	O	H	P	R	A	Y	E	R	N	B	O	T
G	U	T	Y	D	O	O	F	E	I	P	O	F	I
P	A	P	P	R	E	C	I	A	T	I	O	N	N
L	E	A	V	E	S	H	O	L	I	D	A	Y	G
S	T	U	F	F	I	N	G	A	B	F	L	E	E
F	A	L	L	E	T	A	R	B	E	L	E	C	A

THANKFUL
OVER EATING
HORN OF PLENTY
CORN
LEAVES
CELEBRATE
PIE
CRANBERRIES
FEAST
APPRECIATION
TURKEY
TOGETHER
HOLIDAY
STUFFING
FAMILY
PUMPKIN
BAKING
PRAYER
FOOD
FOOTBALL
BLESSED
GRAVEY
FALL

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/7571418/>

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St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Preschool

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Staff

Paul D. Sundbom, Pastor
Matt Chaffe, Organist
Peggy McDonnell, Admin Assistant

Worship Services

Saturday 6:00 pm
Sunday 9:30 am

Sunday Bible Study

Adult 8:30am & 10:45 am
Children 10:45 am

St. Paul's Preschool

Amy Marizek, Director
preschool@splcpainesville.org
www.stpaulspainesville.com

Also Supporting



St. Paul's Preschool



Our Shepherd
LUTHERAN SCHOOL
A Great Place To Grow

November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>  <p>COMMUNION SERVICE</p> </div> <div> <p>WORSHIP SCHEDULE</p> <p>Saturdays - 6:00pm Sundays - 9:30am Sunday School - 10:45am Adult Bible Study—8:30am & 10:45am</p> </div>			<div> <p>Bulletin Announcements Due Wednesdays</p> </div> <p>Nov Flower Chrysanthemum</p>	<div> <p>Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:00am-12:00pm</p> </div> <p>Nov Birthstone Topaz & Citrine</p>	1	2
<p>3</p> <div>  <p>All Saints Day</p> </div> <div>  <p>Fall Back Daylight Savings Time Ends</p> </div>	4	<p>5</p> <div>  <p>VOTE ELECTION DAY</p> </div>	<p>6</p> <p>6:30 pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Preschool Chapel</p>	8	<p>9</p> <div>  <p>9:00 am LWML NE Ohio Zone Meeting</p> </div>
<p>10</p> <div>  </div>	<p>11</p> <div>  <p>Veterans Day</p> </div>	12	<p>13</p> <p>6:30 pm Women's Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 pm Elder's Meeting</p>	<p>14</p> <p>National Pickle Day</p>	15	16
<p>17</p> <p>10:45 am Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting</p>	18	19	<p>20</p> <p>6:30 pm Safety Committee Meeting</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Preschool Grandparents Day</p>	<p>22</p> <div>  <p>November Newsletter Articles and Announcements Due</p> </div>	<p>23</p> <div>  </div>
<p>24</p> <div>  </div>	<p>25</p> <p>No Preschool Teacher in Service Conference in Fort Wayne</p>	<p>26</p> <p>No Preschool Teacher in Service Conference in Fort Wayne</p> <p>National Cake Day</p>	<p>27</p> <div>  <p>Thanksgiving Service</p> </div> <p>No Preschool – Thanksgiving Break</p>	<p>28</p> <div>  <p>HAPPY THANKSGIVING</p> </div> <p>No Preschool – Thanksgiving Break</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Black Friday</p>	30