



Peace Lutheran Church

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www.peacelutherangreatfalls.org

For ALL The Saints

November 2015

November 1st is All Saints Day. All Saints Day is probably the most misunderstood holy day on the church's calendar because the word, *saint*, is one of the most misunderstood words in the English language.

For most people, the meaning of "saint" is somewhere along the lines of "Super Christian". According to this usage, a saint is someone with a super strong faith which never doubts or someone with a super strong love which does many good works to help people. To be declared a saint in the Roman Catholic Church, there must be proof that the person has done two miracles.

Within the Lutheran Church, when we celebrate All Saints Day with great fanfare, we may unwittingly give a different impression of what a saint is. According to the beginning of the service which is called "Remembering the Saints", it seems that a saint is someone who has died and gone to heaven. We remember them and give thanks for them, but they are gone from us now.

The Biblical usage of the word, *saint*, is much broader and includes more than just Super Christians and departed believers. The word, *saint*, is from the Latin and simply means "holy one." At first glance, this would seem to be a very restrictive word. Who could possibly be a "holy one"? There are people with strong faiths and there are people who do many good works, but none of them would every consider themselves to be or be considered by others to be holy. Even if you never caught them in a sin of some kind, the Bible declares their sinfulness and ours to be true when it says, "For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:22-23)

Sainthood cannot be earned or merited, but only given and received. We do not live holy lives so we cannot earn sainthood. We daily sin much so we do not merit sainthood. Yet, in God's eyes, we are considered saints. How can this be?

The Bible says of Jesus, "God made him [Jesus] who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." (2 Corinthians 5:21) The only One who was holy in and of Himself – Jesus Christ – was made to be sin in its entirety so that all of us who are entirely sinful might become the righteousness – the holiness – of God through our connection to Him.

Through our baptism, we are connected to Christ. His obedience is counted as our obedience. His holiness becomes our holiness. The suffering and punishment He endured on the cross is counted as the punishment for our sins. Therefore, we have no sin counted against us and Christ's holiness counted for us. We are truly saints. All believers in Jesus Christ are saints. St. Paul shows this to be true by greeting the believers in various churches to whom He wrote as saints (Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 2 Corinthians 1:1; Ephesians 1:1; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:2)

So enjoy All Saints Day...for several reasons. Praise God for those saints who have shown great faith and done great things. Thank God for those saints, who died in the faith and are now with the Lord. Be grateful that, by God's grace for the sake of Christ Jesus, you are a saint, as well. Look forward to the day when we will be together with all saints before the throne of God for all eternity.

Your fellow saint,

Pastor Schlund

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TO

Val Martin and Gloria Creek for playing the organ during our worship services.
Brook Gerard and Kaye Franczyk for planning and organizing the youth hayride at Brook's.
Helen Lewis for putting up the LWML display in the hallway.
All those who volunteer to teach Sunday school, Bible class, and midweek classes on Sundays and Wednesdays.
Everyone who came and cleaned the Lord's house on cleaning day.
Idell Croskrey for changing the banners and paraments.
Angelika Fisher and Jennifer Lewis for cleaning the church.
Everyone on the Prayer Chain for their time and prayers.
Everyone who has donated treats for our fellowship time.
Everyone who cleans the kitchen after Bible study on Sundays and Wednesdays.
All of the men who volunteer to usher.
Everyone who counts the offering.
Cheri Magnuson for cleaning the Communion linens.

This list is not inclusive. Please accept our apologies if we have missed giving you credit for serving the Lord in any fashion. We know that the Lord knows your service to Him.

Thank you members of Peace for providing me the opportunity to go to Trinity Camp this past summer! We were very busy through those 5 days we always had Bible class in the morning. After that we would do some fun activities. My favorite part was on the last night we had a talent show and a dance party!
Alicia Fletcher

Mission Festival

Rev. Dan Jacobs will be our guest preacher on November 8th for our Mission Festival. He will preach during the 9:30 AM Worship Service and then speak about the Crow Agency during our Bible study hour. At 12 noon there will be a meal for everyone.

Ladies Bible study schedule

In November the FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS will have Bible study from 1 - 3 pm on Friday, November 6th and November 20th. They will continue their study of I CORINTHIANS but will meet at the home of Ann Nimmick, 2327 15th Ave. So.

Assisted Living Ministry will meet for hymn singing and a devotion at the following locations. Tuesday, November 10th at 11 a.m. ladies and gentlemen will go to Bee Hive Home #2, 2816 15th Ave. So. On Friday, November 13th many will gather at JB's Family Restaurant, 1322 10th Ave. So. at 11:45 a.m. for a no host lunch. Afterward some of the group will go to Highgate House, 3000 11th Ave. So. How these residents love to sing the hymns of Thanksgiving! Come and share in the joy!

LWML

- ♥ **Our next meeting will be Tuesday, November 10 at 6:30 p.m. with Bible study and a meeting.** We will have a guest speaker from My Neighbor In Need. All members of Peace are invited and encouraged to come and hear the speaker! Don't forget your Mite Boxes!
- ♥ **November 14 at 9:30 AM, we are invited to Trinity Lutheran as their LWML is having a speaker from NAMI (National Association for Mental Illness).**
- ♥ **Be watching for the Gift of Love Tree at the end of November!**
- ♥ Remember that the ladies of LWML will be sponsoring the first Advent Soup Supper on December 2. If you would like to help in anyway, please contact Elsie Huss.
- ♥ **Remember to bring your new soap for Soap Sunday on the second Sunday of each month.** Soap collected will go to Lutheran World Relief. Thanks for your continued support.



November Anniversaries

Nov. 1 Vic and Carol Scheuffele
 Nov. 6 Michael and Crystal Lewis
 Nov. 17 Charlie and Angelika Fisher

Baptismal Anniversaries

November 4 Val Martin
 9 Brenna Hasbrouck
 9 Andrew Schlund
 11 Pastor Steve Schlund
 11 Michael Lewis
 13 Dan Grove
 15 Kaylee Lewis
 16 Nathaniel Guderjahn
 21 Al Beute
 22 Katherine Onstad
 22 August Birkholz
 22 Josie Ryster
 24 Betsy Wirth
 26 Alan Brown



INCLUDE THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The following people are experiencing health problems:

John Birkholz
Tami Birkholz, John's sister-in-law who is battling a rare skin tissue disorder
June Foard, June Meier's daughter
Jane Hering
Bill and Dorothy Neuman

Our members who are away serving in the military are **Kurt Mueller and Michael Lewis**.

Deacon for November: Arnie Gidlow

November ushers:

1 – Pat Lewis and Darrell Greenwood
 8 – Tyler Denning and Bruce Clark
 15 – Jeff Blomgren and Lee Henselin
 22 – Matt Schlund and Kevin Aguiar
 29 – Eric Fletcher and Mitch Martin

Finances

JANUARY 1 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2015		
CHURCH INCOME	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET
Regular Offerings	\$ 95,579.75	\$ 99,990.00
Other Income	\$ 5,076.98	\$ 810.00
Total Income	\$100,656.73	\$ 100,800.00
Church Expenses		
Personnel/Benefits	\$ 60,490.00	\$ 60,329.97
Administrative	\$ 5,576.02	\$ 6,457.50
Buildings & Grounds	\$ 16,855.21	\$ 18,112.59
Missions	\$ 8,214.45	\$ 8,624.97
Christian Education	\$ 2,871.50	\$ 3,937.59
Total Expenses	\$ 94,007.18	\$ 97,462.62
Net Church Income	\$ 6,649.55	\$ 3,337.38

Youth events

On Sunday, November 15th the youth will be making their annual Christmas ornaments here at the church. December 5 will be the day we decorate the church for the Advent season.

Voters meeting set

The next Voters meeting for members of Peace will be **Sunday, November 15**. There will be a potluck meal before the meeting. The meeting should begin around 12:30 p.m. We will be voting on the 2016 budget and talking about other important issues. Copies of the budget can be picked up from the usher's stand for your review.

Applying Biblical Teachings

“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share” (1 Tim. 6:17-18).

One might read this passage and see it merely as a postscript to St. Paul’s letter to Timothy. “Oh, and by the way, Timothy, when you preach, remember to command the rich to get off their high horse and be generous with what they have earned.” And this would seem the desirable way to look at this passage, for it certainly then would not apply to us. Either we would not find ourselves on a high horse, or we would see ourselves as not being rich, or neither. With a clear conscience, we could move on, letting these verses apply to others. But this is not the case with this passage as inspired by the Holy Spirit and written by St. Paul.

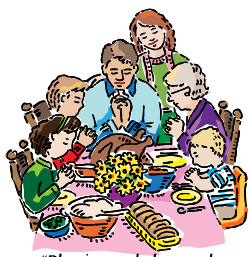
Here in this pastoral letter, these verses stand as a powerful application of the doctrinal exposition preceding it. Timothy was to proclaim the doctrine of Law and Gospel, correcting those who threatened to corrupt this doctrine. He was to proclaim the true function and intent of the Law in the light of the Gospel message. The Law exposes sin and condemns the sinner. Timothy was to proclaim the Gospel which offers salvation in Jesus Christ, giving freedom from the condemnation of the Law. Thus, we find that these verses apply to each of us.

We make ourselves “rich” in this fleeting life when we foolishly place our hope in our wealth, in our money or in our investments. When we do this, we are prone to arrogance, for the true servant nature in Christ is lost. When we do this, we are prone to selfishness, for we have removed God from being first in our lives. And this is quite easy to do, for our sinful nature would have us to do this. As Martin Luther wrote, “. . . our sinful nature must by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil lusts. . . .”

Now, we hear the Gospel and hope in God who “provides us with everything for our enjoyment” so that we may glorify Him and serve those around us. How do we serve? In Christ, we obey the command “to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.” And we do this not because of any condemnation, but because of our freedom in Christ and His love now residing in us.

Martin Luther wrote, “. . . and, again, a new man daily [will] come forth and [will] arise, who shall live before God in righteousness and purity forever.” By the power of the Gospel, we live in this righteousness and purity now, and because of this, we are more and more Christ-like, generous in all things.

Thanksgiving Day Worship Service at Peace



"Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."
Revelation 7:12, NRSV

We will once again have a **Thanksgiving Day Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.** on November 26. It is the Order of Matins without Communion. During the service there will be a non-perishable food offering that will be taken to the Great Falls Rescue Mission. Following the service, we will also have a meal for families of Peace who want to come and join us. There is a sign-up sheet posted and a tentative menu. Please sign your name and the number of people in your family and indicate what you will be bringing to add to the meal. We all have sooo much for which to give thanks!

“Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life

“The entire canon of Scripture throbs with God’s commitment to the fatherless and to the widows, His wrath at the shedding of innocent blood. Just as every Lord’s Day should be Easter, with the proclamation of the Resurrection of Jesus, and Christmas, with the announcement of the Incarnation, so every Lord’s Day should highlight the worth and dignity of human life. I pray that my grandchildren and great-grandchildren will grow up in an age when abortion is not just illegal but unthinkable.” *Dr. Russell D. Moore, pastor and author – A “Life Quote” from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 22 “If you keep thinking of your life—which is utterly unique in the entire universe!—as a true gift, you will draw nearer to the Giver of that gift. So, Happy Thanksgiving!” *James M. Kushiner, the Fellowship of St. James – A “Life Quote” from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 29 “After you have thought about your earthly blessings, take some time and meditate on your spiritual blessings from the Lord. Think of your baptism where the Lord adopted you into His family and gave you forgiveness of your sins, life, and salvation.” *James Schroeder, LCMS Foundation – A “Life Quote” from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

Designated offerings

When you are designating your offerings to go to special accounts, please choose one of these accounts:

- Memorial Fund (Name)
- Special Projects (Parking Lot Paving)
- Quilters
- Youth Fund
- Sunday School Missions
- 'Andrew Schlund' Mexico Mission
- 'Eric Stinnett' Mission
- LWML

Nursing Home Ministry needs your help!



A ministry providing devotions and hymn singing has been provided weekly over a number of years for residents both at Benefis Extended Care Center and Park Place Nursing Home. Currently, there is a need for volunteers to help with this service. The weekly schedule is as follows:

- Benefis Skilled Nursing Center –**
- Tuesday 10:15 to 10:45 a.m.**
- Park Place Nursing Home –**
- Thursday 10:00 to 10:45 a.m.**

If you would like to help in this ministry of love, please contact Alice Schuman at 761-6657.