



Lutheran Church of the Resurrection Newsletter - November 2007

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wed. Nov. 21, 7:15 pm

It's time to pause and count your blessings. Come to this service simply to thank God for your blessings, for our blessings as a church, and for our blessings as a nation. After all, that's why it is a national holiday. Everyone should reflect on the goodness of God sometimes.

This service is a little different, with some special features appropriate to the theme of thanksgiving. It's also a little shorter, so we can gather afterwards in fellowship hall for pie. Details (on the pies) will be in the bulletin.

Nov. Brunch: Veterans Day

Hut two three four. Hut two three four. Everyone be ready to march into the LCR mess hall after morning worship on Sunday, November 11. We will be honoring our LCR veterans and family members who have served or are serving in the military on the day set aside to give them our thanks and appreciation.

We will be serving breakfast again. I was told when interviewing a wide variety of veterans, a few years back, that breakfast was the best meal of the day in all mess halls. The
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Invitation to Membership

We're planning to again receive new members into our congregation on the first Sunday of December. If you've been worshipping with us and aren't a member, I hope you will prayerfully consider joining this fellowship of faith. It's a tangible expression of what already you are: a child of the heavenly Father and member of the family of God. It's also an expression of your personal commitment to Christ.

Our fellowship includes people of all ages and of many different church backgrounds, including some who were never church members before. So you're bound to fit in. If you would like more information about joining, please speak to Pastor Jeff. Call 681-4750, and leave a message, or email him: pastor_jeff@lutheran-church-san-antoni.org

If you're not sure what being "Lutheran" means, ask Pastor for a copy of his October 28 sermon, or read it on the church website.

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Thanksgiving Food Baskets

Every year just before Thanksgiving, we give a holiday food basket to more than fifty needy families. The recipients are those who come on Tuesday to "Daily Bread" for food, and also a list of shut-ins.

The basket includes everything you'd need for thanksgiving dinner. In addition to fresh breads and vegetables, we also include canned and packaged foods (which we purchase in quantify). *Everything except a turkey.* Instead of a bird, we include a ten dollar H.E.B. gift card which can only be used to purchase food.
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Christ the King Sunday

November 25, 11:00 am

It's the last church festival before Christmas. Jesus Christ is much more than a prophet and teacher – although he is both. Christ has rescued us from the powers of darkness and transferred us into His kingdom.

Christ the King is before all things and in Him all things hold together. But this cosmic King was crowned on the cross, where He reconciled all things to himself.

Think of this day as a “little Easter”, a time of joyful celebration. You won't want to miss it.

Church Council Nominations

On the first Sunday in December, we will hold elections to replace Council members who are at the end of their term. Before then, we need to nominate church members to run for the open positions. Your Nomination Committee Chairperson is Bonnie Howells, and committee members are Jim Baker and Louise Jones. These persons are already talking to members who may be interested in the positions.

If you might be interested in working on the Church Council, or you would like to suggest someone, please talk to any of the committee members. If you need more information, please talk to Bonnie Howells or Ken Doxtad.

LOST: Church Nativity Set

The Nativity Set for the church is missing. This set was handmade for our church by Jenny Winter, who cannot make another one. Do you happen to know where the Nativity Set is stored? Please contact Pastor Jeff if you know where our Nativity Set can be found.

Nov. Brunch

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menu will be scrambled and/or hardboiled eggs, sausage patties, bacon, ham slices, biscuits, sausage gravy, toast with butter and jelly, pastries, and orange juice. Carol's awesome gourmet SOS with toast will be on each table so everyone can nibble until they go to fill their plates.

This will be our last sanctioned Fellowship function of 2007, so let's have a big turnout to let our veterans know we love them and appreciate how they kept us free.

Our Prayer Chain

When someone requests prayers for themselves or for a family member, friend or co-worker, several of our members then pray regularly for that person. We call it our “prayer chain” since the request for prayer is passed from person to person.

Over time we lose track of who put a particular name on the prayer list, and so it gets longer and longer. Maybe you asked that a co-worker be prayed for because they were having surgery. Later, the surgery was successful, but you neglected to ask us to remove their name. Since first names are listed, you may not even realize that the “Irene” on the list is your co-worker.

We are now going to update the list by removing those names we don't recognize. If you want one of these individuals to stay on the list, please call **Valda Towles, 509-8201** or e-mail her at **vatowles@netzero.net** and we will restore the name to the prayer list. The names we will be removing, unless we hear from someone are: Lucille N., Janie, Dawn M., Irene, Larry, George, Linda C., Junior Rudolf, Steve, Debbie, Maria C. & family, Marie, Claire, Debra M., Ed & Bobby G., Barbara, David, and Jennifer. Cindy, Annette, Claudia, George G., Theresa H., Bonnie J., Roy C., Stan, Connie B.

If you would like to be a part of this prayer ministry by regularly praying for those for whom prayers are requested, please either phone or e-mail Valda, 509-8201 or vatowles@netzero.net

Thanksgiving Food Baskets

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If you would like to make a contribution to these Thanksgiving baskets, you can write a check to the “Lutheran Church of the Resurrection” and on the memo line write “**Turkey Fund**”.

If you know of someone who needs one of these baskets, please speak to either **Jeannette Smith** or **Louise Jones**.

Pastor's Page

By Pastor Jeff Lange

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our Faith!"

This was my text for three Sundays in October, but I really didn't completely cover everything. So here is a summary that includes what I said - and what I could have said, if I had more time.

My general point was that there are habits (or disciplines) that you can practice so your faith will grow and bloom.

A habit is something you've learned to do on a regular basis. You discipline yourself to do it regularly, on schedule, every day (or every week). Over time, it just comes naturally.

Here are some suggestions - some habits that will increase your faith.

"Act in faith" and **"Ask in faith"** Jesus invites us to live out the full possibilities of our faith - to get into action with the faith we already have.

Trust His promises and rely on your faith. Because, then your faith will increase. Growth in faith comes from experience. But "ask" and "act" in accord with His will. That requires discernment.

Read the Bible every day so you can begin to learn His will for you - so you can ask and act as He would have you do. Prayerfully study His

Word in the Bible, and listen for Him speaking personally to you.

Daily prayer should be a habit, a discipline, because when you don't feel like praying is just the time when you should be praying.

Pray always so that you do not lose heart. Luke 18:1

Jesus elevates persistence in prayer as an essential element of faith. So, pray with confidence - be insistent and persistent.

Weekly worship is our habit of weekly renewal. It's not optional but essential for growth in faith. It serves as a "weekly compass" to reorient our lives toward Christ and His way. It focuses us again on prayer and God's word.

We join with others to thank God for His blessings, and to ask for forgiveness so we can make a new beginning in our walk with the Lord.

Christian friendships and fellowship can increase our faith because faith is "caught rather than taught". We can see the faith of others and imitate them. So our relationship with other people of faith - family, friends, church members - can build up our faith.

Throughout the centuries, Christians have gathered in larger groups for worship and fellowship - and also in small groups for prayer, spiritual growth and mutual support. So get connected with other believers.

Thanksgiving and generosity are essential elements of a living, growing

faith. Faith recognizes God's blessings and responds with thanksgiving. Gratitude helps us enjoy what we have and gives us confidence and hope.

To be thankful inspires generosity. We have been abundantly blessed, and so can pass on the blessing to others. Faith that appreciates the Lord's generosity and responds with generosity.

We reflect the heart of Christ in our generosity.

Faith expresses itself in service to others - in our families, to our friends and in our church. As we strive to increase our faith, we also have to think about the quality of our faith. We may need a redirected faith - a faith orientated toward faithful service to God and others. Jesus came among us as one who serves, and calls His followers to be servants. We serve Christ by serving one another. Obey His word and serve one another in love.

Inviting - sharing our faith is the job of every follower of Jesus. We are called to be His witnesses in our daily lives.

We witness by how we speak, how we act - how we treat others. And when we talk about faith to others, we find that our own faith is clarified and strengthened.

So take a leap of faith - and invite someone to come with you to church.

Are we possessed by our possessions - or by God?

By Bob Schoonover

There is a well known story about the monkey who was going along a path. As he takes a turn in the road, he sees an iron cage on the ground. Inside the cage is an apple. Excited to happen upon this afternoon treat, the monkey just barely squeezes his hand through the iron bars. After grabbing the apple, however, the monkey is no longer able to remove his hand from the cage. Never thinking to release the apple from his fist, the monkey believes himself to be trapped and caught. His excitement turns to sorrow.

What are those things you find most difficult to release? Apples come in many different colors and sizes. What is it that is keeping you in captivity? So often our need to be liked can paralyze us. Trying to please everyone reduces discipleship to shallow niceties.

Certainly our material things and our desire for money to buy more things have a hold on us today - perhaps more than at any other time in history. This is evident in the world of the web. One year PC World Magazine's nomination for Best Site on the web was Ebay -- millions of items bought and sold in a single day.

Evidence is also found on U.S. money on which appears the phrase "In God We Trust". The reality is we trust in the money.

To free us from our bondage, Jesus died for us. Once and for all, the endless cycle of sin was broken. Each and every day we remember that through our baptism, we have been called and given radical challenges. We have died to bondage to self and we are freed for love to our neighbors.

God is gently, and sometimes not so gently, working in our midst, unclenching our fists and releasing all the apples that keep us trapped.

Farewell to the Reverend Dr. Luke

The long "green season", the Sundays after Pentecost, draws to a close in November. We've been "walking with Jesus" by listening to a continuous reading of the Gospel according to St. Luke, and covered chapters 4 through 18, most of Jesus ministry before he arrived in Jerusalem.

In November we'll read three passages from Holy Week to complete our study of Luke's gospel. Then in December we'll begin our year-long study of the Gospel according to Matthew.

Baby Update

By Jennifer Arulanandam

Riley, daughter of Brittany and Travis Hayden, is 9 months old and is already having her parents chase after her. She enjoys walking around in her walker and will crawl everywhere. She has two teeth and is chewing everything that she can get her hands onto. The Hayden family is looking forward to Thanksgiving and family visiting over the holidays.

Why do we sing some hymns in Spanish?

We don't sing German hymns in German, so why do we sing some hymns in Spanish? It is actually a decision based on the music – and the English translation.

English is a Germanic language and the English translations of German hymns seem to fit the music well. (And the tempo or speed of the hymn is usually relatively slow, which also helps.)

Spanish, on the other hand, is a Romance language. Often the English translation of Spanish hymns (which are poetry) is a little awkward. And the tempo of the Spanish hymns is usually fast, making a difficult task even more difficult.

How do we decide? The choir tries singing the hymn in both languages. If it "doesn't work" in English, we sing it in Spanish. We limit ourselves to very repetitive hymns – and also provide an English translation.

So far, we have only two pieces that are sung entirely in Spanish. In both cases, we really like the way the music sounds – and we hope you do too.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!



Ladies Night Out

Monday, November 26
6:30 pm

This month will see us at Sea Island, 5959 NW Loop 410, (near Ingram Park Mall) on Nov. 26.

You do NOT have to be a church member to join us. Please bring friends. See you at 6:30 pm each time! For questions, recommendations, suggestions, etc. please call Joyce at 623-2288.



Newsletter Editor :

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Articles, announcements and news for the newsletter are always welcome.

**Gracious Father, we
pray for your holy
church.**

**Fill it with all truth
and peace.**

**Where it is right,
strengthen it;**

**Where it is in error,
direct it;**

**Where anything is
amiss, reform it;**

**Where it is in want;
provide for it;**

**Where it is corrupt,
purify it;**

**Where it is divided,
reunite it;**

**For the sake of Jesus
Christ, Your Son our
Savior. Amen**

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Alison Hemenway
Keith Jenkins
- 2 - Donna Autobee
Justin Linaberry
- 3 - Josh Miller
Maggie Autobee
- 5 - Denise Wukasch
- 9 - Helen Rauch
- 10 - Corrie Corbiere
Katie Corbiere
- 11 - Bernie Schurade
Jenny Winter
Jim Baker
- 12 - Collin Faile
- 13 - Bill Nobiling
- 16 - Grace Arulanandam
- 17 - Joshua Jenkins
- 18 - Miriam Winter
- 25 - Lacy Hayden
- 29 - Joe Schurade

Date	Deacon	Lector	Communion Assistants	Basket Carriers
Nov. 4	Bob Schoonover	Jim Baker	Tonia Faile Mark Laneman	Kayla & Grace
Nov. 11	Erik Nystrom	Joyce Swartz	Bob Schoonover Carly Montgomery	Robert & Laila
Nov. 18	Tonia Faile	Mark Laneman	Erik & Ellen Nystrom	Kattia & Beverly
Nov. 21	Bob Schoonover	Ophelia Lastra		
Nov. 25	Sean McMaughan	Dorris Curtis	Tonia Faile Dean Winter	Susy & Elena
Dec. 2	Carly Montgomery	Jane Martinez	Sean & Marie McMaughan	Heather & Kayla

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

No anniversaries in November. Someone should get married this month.

Please tell Sue (far left) if you know of any additions or corrections to these lists.

Date	Ushers	Greeters	Altar Guild	Sunday Church Cleaners	Saturday Church Cleaners
Nov. 4	Tony & Bess Teschendorf	Ken & Janice Doxtad	Jeanette Smith Janie Saenz	1st Sunday Margie Perales	1st Sat. Nov 3 Bob Burkhardt
Nov. 11	Stephanie Pepo & Tom Robinson	Jeanette Smith & Helen Rauch	Margie Perales Jane Martinez	2nd Sunday Volunteer Needed	2nd Sat. Nov 10 Bernie & Dee S.
Nov. 18	Corbiere Family	Janie Saenz & Valda Towles	Tony & Bess Teschendorf	3rd Sunday Lorena Guerrero	3rd Sat. Nov 17 The Schwabs
Nov. 25	Bernie & Joe Schurade	Bill & Jan Nobiling	Diane & Juanita Talamantes	4th Sunday Juanita Talamantes	4th Sat. Nov 24 Bill & Laurie Grace
Dec. 2	Roy Ronnfeldt & Ted Berquam	TBA	Jeanette Smith Janie Saenz	1st Sunday Pat Jenkins	1st Sat. Dec 1 Bob Schoonover