



Saint John Lutheran Church

966 North Highway 14
LINCOLN, KANSAS 67455

NEWSLETTER

November 2013

Greetings, dear friends in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! (Psalm 118:1). This Psalm is a general statement of thanksgiving for all the kindnesses God daily and unceasingly showers on all men, both good and evil. This Psalm praises God especially for the greatest benefit He bestowed on the world, namely, for Christ and His kingdom of grace-first promised and now revealed. (Luther's Works 14:47).

Psalm 118 begins and ends with these all familiar words as God's blessings begin at our Baptism and continues on into all eternity for those who keep the faith. What greater blessing and reason for giving thanks can we have than to inherit eternal life by faith apart from anything we do?

The fact that we are saved by grace alone and faith alone is at the heart of the Reformation which we celebrated this past Sunday. October 31, 1517 marks the day Luther nailed his 95 Theses on the Wittenburg Castle Church door in Germany and in just a few short years (1917) we will celebrate the 500th year of that historic day. Today we celebrate "All Saints" Sunday where we remember those who have departed in the faith this past year. But in truth we are saints as well as we have been given the promised inheritance of eternal life in heaven as God's people in Christ Jesus. We can then celebrate and give thanks for God's gift of pure gospel through which we are saved each and every day and pass that most wondrous gift onto others.

So, as you prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving later this month remember to also give thanks for God's gracious gift of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ for from this gift flows all others. I pray God will forever keep all of you in your Baptismal grace and faith and that your Thanksgiving celebrations with family and friends will be filled with much joy.

May God bless you all in your Christian faith! Yours in Christ, Pastor Schneider

NEWS

YOUTH GROUP: Our Youth Group once again served breakfast and dinner at the Lincoln Craft show on Saturday, November 2nd. The youth are also selling Christmas Wreaths so if you are interested in purchasing one please contact Pastor or one of the kids. The wreath sales will wrap up next Sunday so get your orders in! We also have firewood for sale! **Looking ahead:** the youth will also host a soup dinner with Thrivent help, Sunday December 8th after worship to fund their upcoming mission trip next spring so keep the date in mind.

EARLY RISERS: The Early Risers continue to meet twice monthly on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. We held a workday on Saturday, October 18th. If you know of anyone who is has a need please contact Pastor Schneider or Ron Buttenhoff.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our adult Sunday School Classes meet at 9:30am. Before worship. We continue to work through the Holy Land DVD series so I hope many of you will join us for a wonderful and educational look at the place our Lord walked in his earthly ministry. We also want to continue to encourage parents to bring their children to Sunday school as well.

CONGREGATIONAL BREAKFAST/WEEKDAY TRIP: This coming Sunday, November 10th our Weekday kids will hold a congregational breakfast beginning at 9:15am. With a program on Sampson, everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. After worship the children will board the bus at 12:45 and go skating in Salina. We will then eat at McDonalds and return home around 5:30. The church will pay for the skating but parents and children are encouraged to bring money for snacks and McDonalds.

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE: We will hold our Thanksgiving Day worship service on Thursday, November 28th, 10:30am. Notice the time is our usual worship time to avoid any confusion.

ADVENT: Advent begins on Sunday, December 1 this year, which means Christmas will soon be upon us. If you know of any children who might be interested in participating in the program and parents who might be interested in helping Sonja please let Pastor or Sonja know.

Finally, we invite everyone to join us on Sundays for Sunday School at 9:30 and worship at 10:30. May God bless and keep you always.