

~CHILI COOK-OFF RESULTS~

THANK YOU to everyone that participated in the Cook-off! We had a wonderful turnout of “taste testers” and 10 chilis to enjoy.

Around \$3,000 was raised which will help defray the cost of our new parking lot.



The winning chili chef was
BRANDI BERG!



Annual Church Bazaar

Friday, November 2

7:00 pm : Country Store & Dessert Walk

7:30 pm : Auction fun begins!

**If you have anything you would like to donate please notify the ladies.*

Sunday School News

November 4: Sunday School

November 11: Sunday School, Kids sing in church, NOISY OFFERING (bring your change!)

November 18: Christmas Play practice during Sunday School

November 25: No Sunday School/Thanksgiving Break

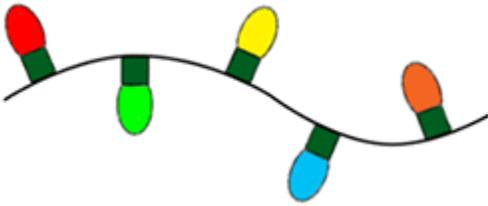
Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 6

at 7 p.m.

FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry collection is the
2nd Sunday of the month.



Love Lights

~Reserve holiday tree lights in memory of or in honor of a special person in your life on the Annual Tri-County Love Light Tree.

~Deadline for Donations is November 27

~Community Tree Lighting & Remembrance Ceremony is Tuesday, December 4 at 6:30pm

For more information, ask Crystal in the office.

Lines from LaVerne... Your life may seem cluttered, but learn to live above your circumstances. Accept each day just as it comes and find God in the midst of it all. Talk to God about every aspect of your day, including your feelings. Remember, that your goal is not to control or fix everything around you. Stay in touch with God even if many things are undone at the end of the day. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and

he will keep you close to God. God has promised to meet all your needs, Your deepest need is for God's peace. Peace is in your heart where God lives. The weeds growing there are: worry, too much pride, selfishness and unbelief. You are sent trials in this life. Trust God in the midst of trouble and He will shine the light of His presence into your heart. In God you have everything and you are complete. Desiring God above all else is the best way to live. After all, it is God's first commandment. The world is still at His beck and call. Things that are visible are brief and fleeting, while things not seen and that are invisible are everlasting. Let God fill you with love, joy, and peace. These are glorious gifts. God will give you the strength you need each day. His Spirit within you is more than sufficient to handle whatever the day brings to you. His sufficiency is your strength. Take nothing for granted. Always thank God for your many blessings. Take nothing for granted, not even the rising of the sun. Thankfulness should be as natural as breathing. Do not focus on what you do not have or your mind becomes darkened. We take for granted life, salvation, sunshine, flowers, and many other gifts. God is the potter and we are the clay. God designed us. His everlasting love is at work in every event of our lives. God is always with us as a constant companion and provider. Are we with God? Are you ignoring God by thinking or acting as if he is not with you? His love for you is constant and he is always the same yesterday, today and forever. God is delighted when you open your heart to His presence. When you feel far from Him, whisper His name. You are

His and thing can separate you from God's presence. Many problems vanish in the light of God's love. Trust God in every detail of your life. Let God's thoughts burst freely upon your consciousness. Don't worry about what is on the road up ahead. God will help you find security. He has taken care of you so far, hasn't he? Our Lord says, 'I am life and light in abundance. Spending time with me helps you to be energized as you can transfer heavy burdens onto God'. Pray about everything and trust in God and leave the outcome to him. P.S. Enjoy Thanksgiving and remember to thank God for all your blessings.

Your Lay Minister, LaVerne

Christ in Our Home - These wonderful daily devotionals are available in the narthex. Large print versions are also available. If you know someone that is homebound or would enjoy a daily uplift, please share with them!



**The choir practices
Wednesdays at 7:15pm.
We would love to have
you join us!**

What Does It Matter

What does it matter that the Lord has done great things? What does it matter that there are green pastures for animals and trees that bear fruit and vines that give abundantly? What does it matter that you shall eat your fill, not only on Thanksgiving Day, but every day? What does it matter that the Lord your God is the only God and there is no other? What does it matter that God desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of that truth? What does it matter that Jesus Christ gives himself as a ransom for all and is mediator between humans and God? What does it matter that Jesus Christ gives himself as a ransom for all and is mediator between humans and God?

What does it matter?! It matters for your faith! Without the great things that God has done throughout human history, there is no possibility for faith in anytime, in any place, in any way. Without the gifts that God has bestowed on creation, upon the land, the sky, the sea, there is no giving thanks. There would be no Thanksgiving break. Thanksgiving week would be like any other week of the year without long lines at bus terminals and airports and train stations and department stores and malls filled with black Friday frenzy. Without the great things that God has done we wouldn't be here, we wouldn't be breathing, we wouldn't exist. What does it matter? It matters for life, your life, and the life of all creation. Faith in the great things that God has done brings life, abundant life, just like abundant rain.

Now, faith in the great things that God has done doesn't always mean that giving thanks to God will be pleasant. A 4yr-old boy was asked to return thanks before Thanksgiving dinner. The family members bowed their heads in expectation. He began his prayer thanking God for all his friends, naming them one by one. Then he thanked God for Mommy, Daddy, brother, sister, Grandma, Grandpa and all his aunts and uncles. Then he began to thank God for the food. He gave thanks for the turkey, the dressing, the fruit salad, the cranberry sauce, the pies, the cakes, even the Cool Whip. Then he paused, and everyone waited—and waited. After a long silence, the young fellow looked up at his mother and asked, "If I thank God for the broccoli, won't He know I'm lying?"

Yes, sometimes giving thanks is not easy. Yet, whether its broccoli, or spinach, or peas, or horse-raddish sauce, giving thanks sometimes is hard work; especially for a young person who doesn't like certain vegetables. Especially, in a year that has had compounded grief for my family, as well as other families in this parish who grieve the loss of loved ones. Yet, by faith I will give thanks at our family's thanksgiving table.

My point is, it takes faith. It takes a trust in God's good desire to do the best for us. Just like God has clothed the grass with the lilies and flowers of the field, so too, God will clothe you with the righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, the beloved Son. (Mt. 6:25-34)

This month we gather together to give thanks for all the great things God has done for us. And we give thanks especially for the welcome to come to Christ's Eucharist

Table-The Thanksgiving table. That's what the word "Eucharist" means: Thanksgiving. The table of the Lord is the greatest gift you receive from God. A thin wafer, a small glass of wine or grape juice and Jesus Word spoken for you; and then you have all the love that God desires for you. And with that love comes the forgiveness of sins for your life, now and forever.

Do not fear people of God, be glad and rejoice. The Lord God has done great things for you! The Lord God has done the greatest for you by giving his Son as a ransom for all. Give thanks O people of God. Praise the name of the Lord. Happy Thanksgiving!

Pr. Ahles

Upcoming Neighboring Events

see bulletin board in church for further details

***Saturday, November 3** – Blair Lutheran’s Lutefisk Dinner & Supper,
11am-7pm

***Saturday, November 3** – “Chords of Harmony” *Christmas Walk* in
Mondovi 9am-5pm

***Sunday, November 11** – Eleva Lutheran’s Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner
10:30-1pm

October 2, 2018 Congregational Council Meeting (Unapproved)

Meeting was called to order at 7:13 p.m. by Vice-President Jim Odness. Members present were Brandi Berg, Stephanie Rumstick, Jim Odness, Keith Nelson, Linda Odness, and Tim Radatz
Jim led us in prayer and devotion, with a reading from Romans 12:1-8.

Treasurer's Report provided and presented by Brandi Berg

- Checking Account - \$10,285.26 Building Fund Checking - \$2584.45
- 2020 General Fund - \$35,366.21 Memorial Fund - \$3,639.31
- Church Savings- \$14,349.73

Brandi would like to remind members to designate their Thrivent dollars.

Motion was made by Keith to approve report, Tim seconded and motion carried.

Secretary's report for the September Congregational Council Meeting was read by Linda; motion to approve as presented was made by Jan, 2nd by Tim; motion carried.

Pastor's Report

- None as Pastor is on Vacation

WELCA

- Memorial committee is still looking into ordering five colored stoles to be worn during most common church seasons
- “God’s Work Our Hands” event at Dove Healthcare was a success. Some children from the church sang, dessert was served to the residents and time was spent visiting.
- The ladies served 57 people at The Synodical Woman’s Organizations Leader Training that was held on September 22.
- Care kits will be assembled on October 3, 2018 at church
- Annual bazaar is Friday, November 2, at 7:30 with country store opening at 7:00
- Coffee break is ever Wednesday at 10:00 all are welcome

Parish Secretary Update

- Crystal plans on returning as the church secretary on Wednesday, October 17, 2018.

Parish Council

- Nothing to report as council is scheduled to meet third Tuesday of November.

Old Business

1. Portico paperwork and payments have been submitted and are current.
2. The council would like to thank Kenny Berg and kids for delivering, spreading out and sweeping all the crushed rock. It looks fabulous!!
3. A huge thank you to Nate Rongstad and his crew for the concrete work that was completed at the parsonage.
4. Thank you to Tim Radatz for making the survey electronically available for us.
5. Osseo Plastic will be resurfacing the floor in the dishwasher room in the next two weeks.
6. Jim will contact Osseo Plastic regarding the kitchen floor and Beacker Glass for to repair the glass on stain glass window on east side of the church,
7. Chili Cook-off is well underway.

New Business

1. Brandi updated the council that we have been notified by the county that the parsonage is no longer on the tax roll for property tax.
2. Nominating committee for council needs to meet in November and current members are: Allen Rongstad, Kellen Nelson, Brian Christopherson, and Steve Ebert.
3. Preliminary budget for 2019 will be made available at November meeting, by Brandi with plans to discuss Pastor's performance and compensation for 2019
4. Jim will check with Ben Aonis to have him check the furnaces at church and the parsonage.
5. Plan to meet after service on Sunday, October 14 to tally survey results.

Motion to adjourn made by Linda 2nd by Tim, motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:52, we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Odness, Recording Secretary.

Nominations are currently being sought for the **Chippewa Valley Family Caregiving Alliance's Caregiver Award**. The Caregiver Award is given to someone who voluntarily gives of their own time, talents and energy to help an older adult in their lives. If you know someone who makes a difference in the lives of those they care for, please consider nominating them. All nominees will be invited to attend the Alliance's annual free Town Hall meeting on Monday, November 12 where they will be saluted for their efforts. In addition, the winner will be presented with a plaque and gift basket from the Alliance. To nominate someone please fill out the nomination form located in the church office and send it to Katie Fennell, Azura Memory Care, 3712 Damon Street, Eau Claire, WI 54701 or e-mail the information to Katie.fennell@azuramemory.com by Friday, October 19, 2018.

Elk Creek WELCA met for its October meeting on 10/22/18. The date was changed due to Chili cook-off the previous Sunday. Meeting opened with Verse and Creed at 10:00am. Minutes from September meeting were read. Motion by Tammy, second by Josie to accept secretaries minutes, minutes were placed on file. An informal treasurer's report was given. After paying \$10,000.00 for the blacktopping done our check book balance was at approximately \$300.00. Money in the amount of \$1500.00 was transferred from the savings acct to the checking. Amounts of the Coffee hour proceeds were given. The Treasurer's report was accepted and placed on file.

Old Business:

Memorial committee ordered Stoll's in 4 colors. The red one was not ordered but a fancier Stoll was ordered for special occasions and could also be used for the Sundays that are red such as Pentecost. Jan Berg's brother has volunteered to make a set of wooden goblets to be used when 2 sets are needed.

The Day of Enrichment went very well with many compliments received. Several cookbooks were also sold at the event. A thank you for hosting was read.

A Thank You/Apology from A resident at the Trempealeau Co. Health Care center for playing bingo was also read. They did ask if we would come and sing carols at Christmas time.

Chili cook-off was a success. Kudos to those that organized!! Suggested to have something of that nature annually.

New Business:

Bazaar- Volunteers to bring cakes or desserts for the cake walk. Choir will set up on Wednesday night. Circles to donate Cash prizes to go with the beautiful quilt (made by Jean S.) being raffled. Tickets for the raffle distributed. Lynn applied for a Thrivent action grant.

Request from Osseo School for an after Prom Party donation. Motion by Tammy to donate what we have previous years. Motion 2nd by Debbie, motion passed.

Alzheimer Fundraiser to be held Saturday November 3rd. Motion by Tammy, 2nd by Debbie to donate \$100.00 to Alzheimer foundation.

Request for donation from Whitehall RIF program. Motion by Barb to give \$100.00 second by Tammy. Motion passed.

Remainder of giving was tabled until next meeting. Thanksgiving Eve service will be at Eleva church.

Nominating Committee ballot of Officers for 2019 year:

Co-Presidents: Jan Berg and Tammy Dannenberg

Treasurer: Becky Rongstad **Secretary:** Barb Fischer

Church Council Representatives: Becky Rongstad, and Barb Fischer

Alter Committee: Nicole Nelson and Crystal Johnson

Auditors: Brandi Berg and checking with Barb Howard to continue for 2019.

Nomination Committee: Debbie Ebert, Lindsey Nelson, Amber Radaatz

The Nominating committee is reaching out to Ladies for Mission Action, Quilting, and Librarian/Historian, let Debbie, Lindsey or Amber know if you are interested.

Motion to adjourn, Meeting closed with offering and Lord's Prayer. Barb Fischer, Sec.