

FAITH NEWSLETTER

Oct. / Nov. 2016



Dear Friends in Christ,

Serve the Lord with Gladness has been our theme for this fall.

What does it mean to “serve the Lord?” The first thing you probably think of is going out and helping people, taking care of those in need. That is definitely serving the Lord, but it’s not exactly what this verse is about.

This phrase is from Psalm 100. The rest of the verse says, “Come into his presence with singing.” Two verses later it says, “Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!”

Serving the Lord means first and foremost to come before him to offer songs, thanksgiving, and praise. That is what you are called to do.

It may not seem like praising the Lord is doing much. Some churches in our area have special Sundays where everyone comes to church, but instead of having a worship service, they do volunteer work in their community.

Volunteering in our communities is certainly a good thing, but the most important way that we serve the Lord is in our weekly Divine Service.

In the Divine Service, God serves you first. God serves you by:

- Forgiving your sins
- Teaching you His ways
- Feeding you with Jesus’ body and blood
- Giving you His blessing.

And then you respond by serving God. You serve God by:

- Singing songs of thanks and praise
- Praying for the needs of the whole world
- Giving Him your tithes and offerings

As you go home, and as you work and serve in your community, God gives you many opportunities to continue to serve Him by loving your neighbors. All of this flows from what He does for you each week in the Divine Service.

This fall and in the year ahead, I encourage you to Serve the Lord with Gladness as we gather in worship each week.

God’s Blessings



Pastor Birkholz

In and Around Faith Church

Faith, Hope, and Peace (FPH) Ministries

This is a volunteer organization working around the suburban area since 2009 to bring the Word of God to those living in area residential care facilities. As we approach the fall of 2016, we continue to serve 16 facilities, our newest being Deer Path of Huntley, whose residents receive the message of salvation each week.

Currently, over 116 volunteers (pastors, organists, hosts, administrative assistants) from 39 area churches serve our facilities by providing weekly church services to residents. If you could spare a few hours during the week to play a keyboard, help residents at the services, share your clerical skills, use your sewing talents, or just help out with a task when needed, please contact Craig Chidester, Executive Director, at 630-710-0396 or cdc33@att.net. Visit our website at www.fhpministries.org. Your willingness to spread the Word is a wonderful statement of faith as we grow together in Christ. Thanks and may God bless you!

Ladies Aid

Plans were being made for our annual Christmas Bazaar during our Sept. meeting. The date is Saturday, November 12th from 11:00 - 3:00 PM.

We have our chili lunch, bake sale, raffle and white elephant table. We will be setting up on the evening of the 10th and possibly the morning of the 11th. We appreciate any assistance you can give us in the way of helping us set up, bake, donations of time or items for the white elephant, and especially supporting us on the day of the event.

We welcome Carol Piergies and Laura Zilensky to our organization. Our next meeting is October 6th at 6:30 PM. Please think about joining us.

Thanksgiving Banquet – October 9th.

Our fall discipleship program will conclude with a special Thanksgiving Banquet on Sunday, October 9th at 10:30 AM. Come to give thanks to the Lord for all the blessings that He has given to you through this congregation. For the meal, turkey and ham will be provided. If you would like to bring a dish to share, please sign up at church.

Reformation Day – October 31st

October 31, 1517 is the day when Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses on the door of the church in Wittenberg, starting the Reformation. You are invited to attend a special service at St. Paul, Oak Lawn on Monday, October 31st at 7:00 PM to give thanks to the Lord for the work of the Reformers, and all who proclaim the good news of salvation

All Saints' Day – November 6th

This year at Faith we will be celebrating All Saints' Day on Sunday, November 6th. During the service we will remember the members of our congregation who have died in the past year, including Betty Baker, Lloyd Peterson, Walter Renn, Erma Johnson, and Grace Scott. You will also have the opportunity to submit names of those for whom you continue to mourn. Special music for the service will be provided by Lynn White on the violin along with the Faith Choir.

Thanksgiving Eve – Nov. 23rd

At the Last Supper, Jesus “gave thanks” before breaking bread, as He instituted the Lord’s Supper. Join us in sharing this special Thanksgiving meal on Wednesday, November 23rd at 7:00 PM as we give thanks to the Lord for all His blessings.

Schedule of Oct. / Nov. 2016 Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Oct. Event</u>
1	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
2	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Class
9	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Class
15	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
16	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Class
23	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Class
30	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Class

Weekly Meetings

Bible Study	Fri. - 10:00 AM
AA Groups	Mon.&Fri. - 6:00 PM
	Wed. - 7:00 PM
	Sat. - 8:00 AM
Alanon	Tue. - 7:30 PM

October Hymn of the month:

**“Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way”
(# 857)**

This is another new hymn in LSB. As we talk about servanthood this month, this text reminds us of Jesus’ example of service. Jesus laid aside His glory to take on the form of a servant and to serve us all through His death on the cross.

He made His point about service most poignantly at the Last Supper as He washed His disciples’ feet. Likewise, we are to serve one another in our times of need, not letting our pride in get our way.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Nov. Event</u>
5	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
6	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Class
13	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Class
19	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
20	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Class
23	7:00 PM	Thanksgiving Eve Worship / Communion
27	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Class
30	7:00 PM	Advent Worship

November Hymn of the month:

“Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise” (# 680)

The text for this hymn was written by Pr. Herbert Brokering, who is actually a distant relative of Pr. Birkholz. Pr. Brokering also wrote the words to other well-known hymns, such as “Earth and All Stars.”

This hymn connects our worship here on earth to the heavenly worship described in the book of Revelation. It reminds us that the Lord’s Supper is a foretaste of the great heavenly banquet to which we are all invited on the Last Day. The music was written by Dr. Carl Schalk, who served for many years as a music professor at Concordia University in River Forest, IL.

Oct. / Nov. 2016 Elders, Ushers & Lay Readers

October Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

Oct. 2	Alden Ketchum Gene Osmanski Mary Slepki Gail Henson
Oct. 9	Frank Oslakovic Ed Neaves Howard Johnson Mark Trojanowski
Oct. 16	Alden Ketchum Richard Clark Marilyn Diehl Eleonore Lang
Oct. 23	Frank Oslakovic Gene Osmanski Richard Clark Cheyenne Breitbarth
Oct. 30	Richard Clark Ed Neaves Mike Kampenga Katie Kampenga

Lay Readers 9:00 AM Sunday

Oct. 2	Gene Osmanski
Oct. 9	Mike Kampenga
Oct. 16	Katie Kampenga
Oct. 23	Ray Bennett
Oct. 30	Ed Neaves
Nov. 6	Debbie Hochgesang
Nov. 13	Mike Kampenga
Nov. 20	Mark Trojanowski
Nov. 27	Gene Osmanski

Advent Services

It may seem hard to believe, but Advent is just around the corner. This year we will have four midweek services on Nov. 30th, Dec 7th, 14th, and 21st. We will also have a soup supper before each service. Watch for more information in the weeks to come

November Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

Nov. 6	Gene Osmanski Alden Ketchum Mark Trojanowski Dora Haynes
Nov. 13	Frank Oslakovic Ed Neaves Kennilynn Breitbarth Ray Bennett
Nov. 20	Richard Clark Howard Johnson Mike Kampenga Katie Kampenga
Nov. 27	Gene Osmanski Alden Ketchum Mark Trojanowski Richard Clark

Midweek Worship 7:00 PM

Nov. 23	Richard Clark Frank Oslakovic Ed Neaves Gail Henson
Nov. 30	Gene Osmanski Alden Ketchum

Organ Sneak Preview Nov. 19th

We hope to be receiving our new organ in the coming months. For a preview of this instrument, we will be taking a trip to St. John Lutheran Church in Wheaton on Saturday, November 19th. We will be meeting at church at 2:00 PM to carpool.

At St. John we will have a tour of their facilities, and Carl will play the organ for us. We will also have dinner there, and you can stay for their 5:30 PM service, if you like.