

November 2022 Vol. 62, Issue 11

CHRONICLED



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

MISSOURI SYNOD

1900 N 4th Avenue E, Newton, Iowa 641-792-1084

www.oursavlutheran.com

Email: oursavr@windstream.net

Message From Pastor

Dear Fellow Redeemed in Christ,

During the long holiday weekend of Thanksgiving, we're accustomed to listing out the blessings that God has given us in this life. This often includes family and friends, house and home, food and drink, clothing and shoes, and the like. All of these are what we call in the church "First Article" blessings, and God blesses both believers and unbelievers with these things. It's important that we realize that everything that we have and everything that we are comes from the loving hands of our heavenly Father.

However, **we sometimes short-circuit the thankfulness that we ought to have for the rest of the blessings** that we confess in the words of the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds. Let's examine these other gifts from God, as guided by the ecumenical creeds.

"Second Article" gifts: Chiefly do we give thanks to God for sending His Son, **Jesus Christ, into the flesh, to be our Savior and bear our sin**. We are thankful that He has given us the ability to have hope for the future, and not be brought down to sorrow and despair because of our sinful nature, our desire to sin constantly and frequently. God didn't have to send a Savior to us at all; He would have been completely justified in leaving us forlorn in our sin, hopeless and destined for the fires of hell. But, because of His great mercy and grace, He doesn't give us the destruction that we deserve, but lavishes us with the hope of eternal life, and His presence with us throughout our earthly lives. This changes us – it **allows us to be people of light, of hope, having an outlook that is positive**, even though the devil, the world, and our sinful nature try to bring us down to the pit of despair or elevate us to an unearned arrogance. This great joy is evident to those within our sphere of influence that are without such a future.

"Third Article" blessings: The Holy Spirit continues to work within us to lead us, guide us, chide us, produce good works within us, sanctify us in the one true Lutheran Christian faith. **He provides the means by which we receive the forgiveness of sins** – the Word of God, and the Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. We don't have to flail about, looking for God and not knowing where to find Him. Rather, He has told us that He is present everywhere, but has chosen to make Himself manifest in His Means of Grace. **We have the opportunity to receive this gift of forgiveness every time we gather for the Divine Service** – where God serves us with His freely-given marks. When we hear the words of absolution spoken by the pastor corporately on Sunday morning, or individually as the situation may lead, we can be sure that the man of God is speaking in the stead and by the command of Jesus, so that it's just as if Jesus is speaking the words to us, merely using the lips and voice of the pastor.

Pretty amazing, isn't it? **God is superabundant in His sin-forgiving, life-giving mercy and grace**. As we gather around the Thanksgiving table later this month, and we go around the table and answer the question for what we are thankful this year, let us call to mind much more than just the "First Article" gifts that we always call to mind. Not to diminish the physical things that comes from God, but without the death and resurrection of Christ, and Him bringing that to us by the working of the Holy Spirit, all the toys and provisions of this world wouldn't matter a whit!

I hope to see you in church, in Bible study (both on Sunday and Wednesday), and around the community!

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Daniel M. Provost

OSL COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 13

Please check your church mailbox for a white Stewardship envelope.

Prayerfully consider how each member of your family can use their gifts to serve God through many opportunities within Our Savior Lutheran church. Return the forms on Sunday, November 13 to offer your family commitments during the worship service. If you have questions, contact Donita at (319) 330-5626. (If you do not have a church mailbox, please let Donita or an usher know so one can be assigned to you.)



**much & many
ThankS!
For all you do!
We really appreciate**

Thanking our First Responders and our Teachers with this note and a bowl of M&Ms. Deliveries were made to: Newton Public Schools (including NHS, Berg MS, Aurora Hgts, Thomas Jefferson, Emerson Hough and Woodrow Wilson), West Academy, Lynnville-Sully HS and Middle School. Newton Sheriff's Dept., Fire Dept. and Police Dept

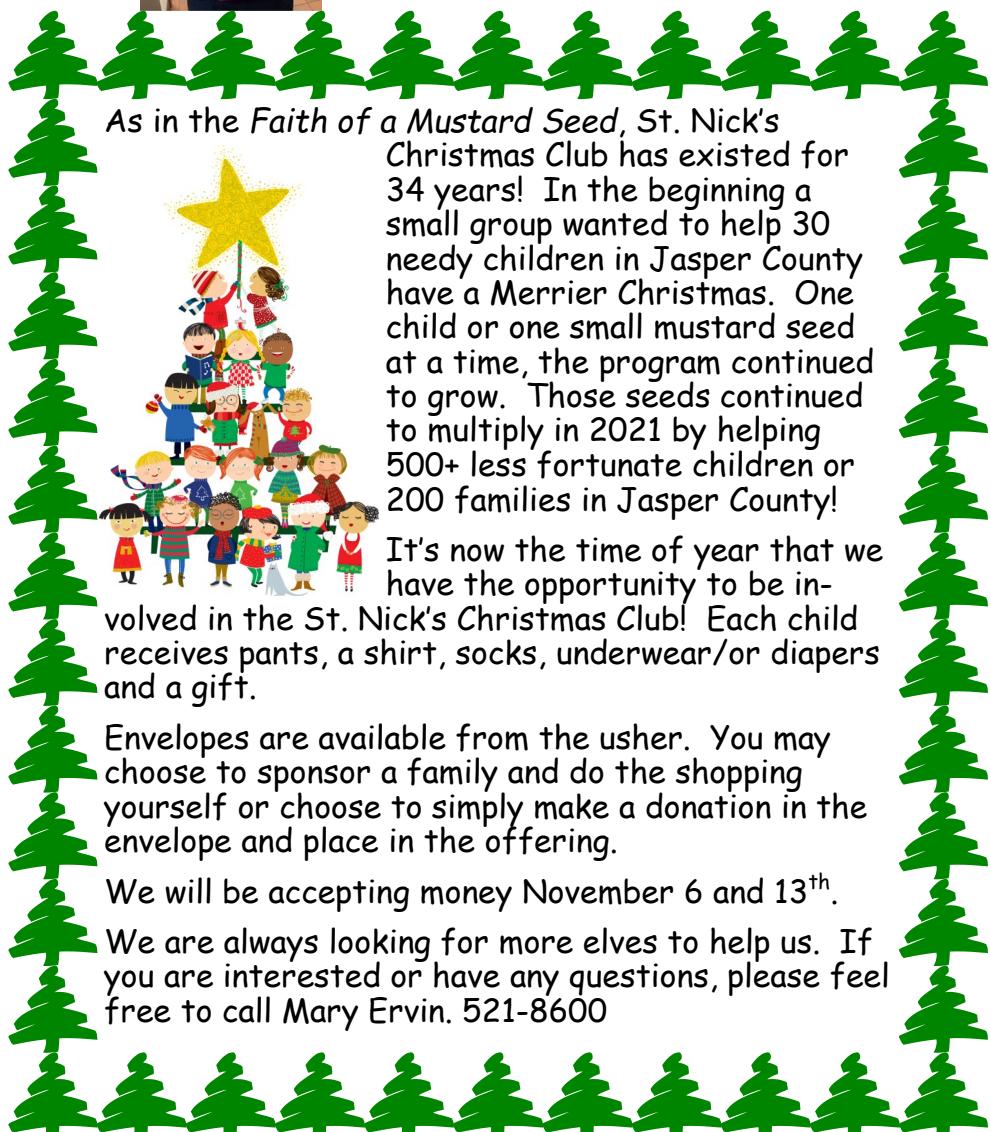


Luck of the Draw!
Dennis Erpelding & his son Kyle
pick up the
Craftsman mower!



The Faith Society met on Monday, October

17th and enjoyed a potluck salad dinner. Discussion centered on what activities we each enjoy thru LWML and those that we would like to do again. We did agree to do a LIP BALM drive to help the homeless and supply the hygiene care closets at the high school and middle school. Please join us in this drive! A box is located in the Nar-



the to drop off any sticks or tubes of lip balm. Thank you once again for supporting another outreach for our community.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, November 21st at our normal time of 4 pm. Hope to see you there. All women of the church are invited!



Fall Clean Up 2022 Version— Oct. 15 —There were only 8 but they were mighty! They know how to make our church shine! Thank you — Carolyn, Donita & Tim, Carmen & Dorothy, Bob & JoAnn and Doug D. Loretta also popped in to add to the fun!



Thanksgiving
2022 Food Bank
Collection will be
held Sunday, November 20, at the regular
Sunday Service. If you know that you will
not be able to attend on that day, there

will be receptacles in the Narthex beginning on November 6 for your contributions. The food will be delivered to the Newton Salvation Army

 foodbank for local distribution. Steve Shelton has arranged for a \$250 Thrivent match which will provide further assistance.

On, November 20, we will have the opportunity to place our gifts at the altar, asking God's blessings on the gifts and the recipients. This will resume a practice that some Our Savior members recall as an important part of Thanksgiving. Please plan to join us in sharing God's gifts with those in need.



"I think they are just digging for M&Ms!!!!!"



FOLLOW UP

In case you are wondering about the contest winner (see the Insert from last month's Chronicler)

Our Savior New, published December 6, 1960, Vol 1 No.3 Greg Trost, son of Ed and Geneva Trost, 11 y/o, 6th grader at Berg Elementary is the winner for the Name*The*Paper Contest. Greg submitted 4 entries and the independent judging committee after long deliberation decided his suggestion of "Our Savior News" was a very meaningful name

On Oct. 10 — Several LWML and Care &

Share team members met to assemble the 13 M&M baskets delivered to our first responders and area schools. Also, that morning, the team assembled 5 fabric kits and 18 baby care kits, which were delivered to Lutheran World Relief drop-off site by Julie Dlouhy. Thank you to all who contributed their time and supplies.



I see you Marilyn— digging for candy

for the paper. Greg reasoned .."because it would be the name of the paper which will have the news of our church." There were over 25 entries for the contest.