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CHRONICLER



HOPE PEACE JOY LOVE

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

MISSOURI SYNOD

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Message From Pastor

Dear Fellow Redeemed in Christ,

Welcome to one of the busiest times of the church year – Advent/Christmas/Epiphany. Except for Lent/Holy Week/Easter, we spend the greatest amount of preparation time during this season. We're not only getting ready to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord, His coming and dwelling with us on earth, but we're also mindful that **we're drawing ever closer to the second coming of Jesus** on the Last Day. That's why the liturgical color for this time of the church year is blue – it's the color of hopefulness, of anticipation. We only change to white when the Day of the Nativity has come, and then we can celebrate by marking the purity and holiness of the Messiah that has come to save His people.

I'd be remiss, however, if I didn't point out the important fact that Jesus didn't just come to be born a cute, cuddly baby in a manger in Bethlehem, because there wasn't room for Him to stay anywhere else. **He came...to die.** I know we don't want to think about that, because to ponder His death means that we must also come to grips with the fact that our sinful nature and our abject sins of thought, word and deed were the reason that He had to come. God the Father wasn't content to destroy us in our sinfulness; however, **the only way for our sins to be paid for was for a death to occur**, for blood to be shed. As we're focusing on the Christ child this year, and pondering the familiar Scriptures, let us also remember the purpose of His coming: not to just live among us, but to live among us and die and rise again in our place.

As the world around us spirals more and more into the chaos of sin, and as being labeled as a Christian becomes an epithet rather than a badge of honor, let us remember that the Scriptures warn and predict that this will happen as the days grow shorter. **Conservative Lutheran Christians are becoming more and more counter-cultural every day.** We preach the total depravity of man and the complete restoration through Christ crucified and risen. We stand for God's gift of life, from conception to natural death.

We must rely on each other, band together as Christian brothers and sisters, for our own **encouragement** as well as our own **accountability**. Let us lift up our heads in courage and joyous anticipation, as Judgment Day draws ever nearer, giving thanks that Christ's second coming is nearer now than when we first believed. Details about the world we live in may get us down and make us think that we are indeed enrolled in an unwinnable fight. However, we are told that Christ has overcome the world!

Look to the **1st century church** as a model of how things can be so difficult, it might seem as if they are unwinnable. But, just as in the early church, God is in charge of everything in this world, and everyone in it. He is not limited by our lack of understanding, our timidity of heart, our fear of those who would beset us with trials that can harm or kill the body. In the days of the apostles, the church was small, frail, and unpopular. It was even illegal in parts of the realm to belong to a Christian group of malcontents! **However, even though the church of God was insignificant to the world, it was strong in faith, united in the hope of the world to come, and backed by the strongest force in the entire universe.** They were strengthened by God's means of grace, in Word and Sacrament, just as we are today. They were given the courage to be beacons of light to a world steeped in darkness, which we are called upon to be in our day and age.

Thanks be to God for preparing us for the coming of Christ in the manger, but maybe more importantly, for His coming again at the end of time, when His time is perfect. I hope to see you in church (especially for the special services this time of year), in Bible Class (both on Wednesday and Sunday), and around the community.

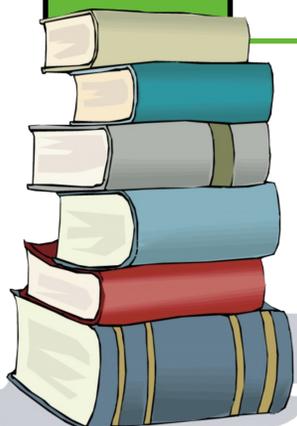
In Christ's Service,

Pastor Daniel M. Provost

New books in Library **Title and call number**

Ephesians 226 Eph
Angelogy 235.3 Tru
90 minutes in heaven 236 Pip
The kids are all right 362 Wel
The last catto F Ase

The Christmas thief F Cla
A gown of Spanish lace F Oke
The tender years F Oke
Rooms F Rub
102 questions children ask about the Bible E
Vee





FoodBank A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL who participated in our Thanksgiving 2022 Food drive. All food was delivered before Thanksgiving to the Newton Salvation Army foodbank for local distribution. The \$250 Thrivent Grant money went farther than imagined with some careful & thrifty shopping. Steve is pictured sorting the food at home and with Salvation Army staff with all the food gathered. Smiles all around!



&



December 11

Caroling and Chili Supper!

Be at church by 3P



ADVENT SEASON



MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES AT 7 PM

DECEMBER 7 AND DECEMBER 14

SUPPER SERVED AT 6:00 PM

PRIOR TO THE SERVICE



Fellowship Meal

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES AT 9 AM

ADVENT II DECEMBER 4 ADVENT III DECEMBER 11

ADVENT IV DECEMBER 18

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE DECEMBER 24 (AT 7 PM)

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP DECEMBER 25



Marilyn working on a tie blanket for donation to a Veteran!



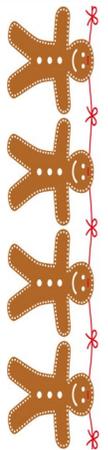
PUMPKIN COOKIES. . . .

. . . . SHARED BY JO MOSES

Children eat these soft cookies without making crumbs.....

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1/2 c shortening (or butter) | 4 t baking powder |
| 1-1/4 c brown sugar (firmly packed) | 1/2 t salt |
| 2 eggs | 1/2 t ground cinnamon |
| 1 t vanilla | 1/2 t ground nutmeg |
| 2 c mashed cooked or canned pumpkin (1 can) | 1 c raisins |
| 2-1/2 c sifted flour | 1 c chopped nuts |

- *Cream together shortening and brown sugar. Add eggs; beat thoroughly.
- *Mix in vanilla and pumpkin.
- *Sift together dry ingredients. Blend into creamed mixture. Stir in raisins and nuts.
- *Drop dough by heaping teaspoonfuls about 2" apart onto greased baking sheet.
- *Bake in a moderate oven (375 degrees) about 15 minutes until lightly browned.
- *Remove cookies and cool on racks. (If desired, cookies can be spread with a simple cream cheese or powdered sugar frosting, after cooled) Yummy!! Thanks, Jo



Children's Program

December 18
(during service)
Sunday School
Christmas Program



Our "Honor Our Veterans" service was held Sunday, Nov 6. Special music and a slide presentation of our OSL Active Duty Military, Veteran Military and Veteran Military in Memory was a part of the service. Pictorial boards and some articles and further information about our Veterans was set up in the Narthex. A special thanks to all who contributed to this special service and the patriotic-themed treats enjoyed in the fellowship hall after the service – including colorful red, white and blue cupcakes, flag shaped and decorated cookies and the patriotic decorations that added to the celebration to honor our Veterans this year.

OSL & Thrivent Support Needy Military Veterans

On November 9, 2022, Maria Casad, and Bob & JoAnn Bringolf delivered several items for extremely needy Veterans to the Jasper County Veterans Affairs Office. Each of 6 Veterans received toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, combs, body wash, shampoo, laundry detergent, several nonperishable food items, and a quilt made by our OSL quilting group. A total of \$350 given in donations was used to purchase gift cards for each Veteran. (The gift cards stipulated they couldn't be used for alcohol or cigarettes.)



Bob used the Thrivent Action Team project \$250 to purchase requested winter coats, winter boots, and jeans for some of the men. Alyssa Wilson, administrator, & Keith Thorpe, assistant administrator for the Jasper County Veterans Affairs Office, were extremely appreciative of all that Our Savior Lutheran members donated. Thank you to all who supported this project by donations, prayers, and time spent quilting. If you missed the opportunity to contribute to this cause & would like to help, contact Bob Bringolf (521-7460) or Keith Thorpe at his office (792-7993). Please continue to pray for our military Veterans, especially the homeless & those in need. Thanks!

