



MESSENGER NEWSLETTER
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
 "The small church with a BIG heart: Ordinary people
 With an extra ordinary message!"
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VOLUME 52, ISSUE 11 **NOVEMBER, 2020**

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Schubert and Babbtown Newsletter
Calendar for November 2020

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

BABBTOWN

Sunday Worship

8:00 A.M. Worship

(Holy Communion 2nd & 4th Sunday)

SCHUBERT

Sunday Worship

Sunday school 9 A.M. &
9:15 A.M.

Bible study 9:30 A.M.

10:00 A.M. Worship with
(Holy Communion)

Also Streaming on Facebook

November at a Glance

- Nov 1 All Saints Day
Daylight Saving Ends
- Nov 3 Election Day
- Nov 4 Conf. 6-7:30 pm,
Elders 7:30 pm
- Nov 5 Schubert Ladies Aid 6:30 pm
- Nov 7 Worship 6 pm, mask required
- Nov 8 Drive-Thru Chili Supper
- Nov10 Pastors Conf-Fulton
- Nov11 Conf. 6-7:30 pm
Veteran's Day
- Nov14 Worship 6 pm, mask required
- Nov18 Conf. 6-7:30 pm
- Nov21 Worship 6 pm, mask required
- Nov23 Babb-Bible Class & Ladies
Aid 7 pm
- Nov25 No Conf
- Nov26 Thanksgiving Day
Worship Babb-8 am,
Schubert-9:30am
- Nov28 Worship 6 pm, mask required

Dear Friends and Members of St. John's Congregations, Brothers and Sisters in Christ Fellow Redeemed,

In the coming weeks we will be observing several different celebrations on our church calendar. The first: Reformation (Oct 31) Second: All Saints Day (Nov 1) and Third: Thanksgiving (Nov 26).

Obviously the current circumstance of the Covid-19 situation causes us to do things a little differently, never-the-less we are able to pause and reflect on the blessings that God has given to us and the need to remember who we are and what God has done for us.

#1. Reformation: This is an event that Protestants would acknowledge as a pivotal point which brought to light the need to return to the Bible as the sole authority for the church.

It also refocused the emphasis of the church to the Gospel message of Salvation by grace through faith. Although the Reformation caused a lot of stress and turmoil and division, never-the-less, it is a bitter sweet event that we need to keep in mind and to teach our children.

#2. All Saints Day: This is another opportunity within the church to set the record straight. By grace through faith in Christ Jesus, we are washed clean from our sins and declared to be saints (Holy). For centuries, the church had given the impression that only special people and superior Christians can be called saints. We rejoice that in Christ and in Christ alone, we are considered saints.

#3. Thanksgiving: This, for some, overshadows the first two celebrations because it involves food and feasting and sports games. Sadly many do not stop to give thanks to God from whom all blessings flow!

It is true that the Day of Thanksgiving is a national celebration not a liturgical one. Never-the-less the Bible is filled with directions to God's people to offer Thanks on a continual basis. (Continued)

Therefore we, in the church, ought to take the lead in setting the example for our society, to fill God's House as we give Thanks to the one True God who has made all things and by His grace sustains them.

Take time with your family to observe Reformation, All Saints Day, and Thanksgiving.

In Christ Love,
Pastor

SPEAKING FOR LIFE

“This Thanksgiving, let's remember exactly what God has bought for us with the blood of His Son—not just anything, but everything that matters: Pardon from sin and release from guilt. Peace with God and a home in heaven. We come empty-handed to this banquet of blessings. No marshmallow-topped side dish of good works can earn us a place at this buffet. We have nothing to offer God in exchange, yet '[t]he LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy' (Psalm 126:3).” Sarah Habban, Time of Grace – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life •

www.lutheransforlife.org

LADIES AID

Ladies we are going to try and have a Ladies Aide meeting in November, weather permitting, it will be held on November 5th. If it has to be canceled I will let you know by email. Please remember your Best Choice labels and stamps also remember your mites either put in Linda's mailbox or mail them to her.



THANKSGIVING DAY WORSHIP

BABBTOWN 8:00 AM

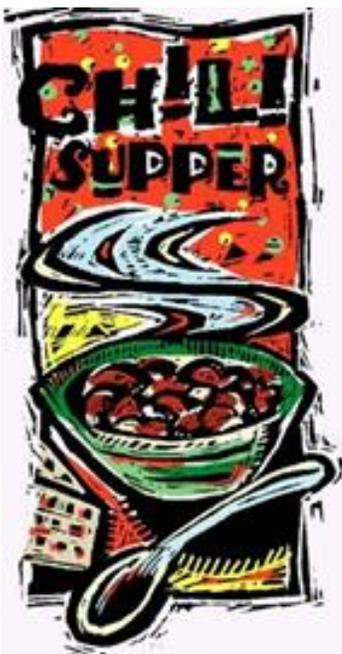
SCHUBERT 9:30 AM

A special offering of Non-Perishable food items will be received to share with the local food banks.

ANNUAL CHILI SUPPER

Our upcoming chili supper will be on Sunday, Nov. 8, 2020 from 12-3 p.m. Please tell friends, neighbors and relatives so that we can have a nice turnout. This year we will be doing a Drive-Thru with cold pre-packaged chili and cookies.

Please turn in your donation sheet if you have not done so yet. On Saturday morning Nov. 7, 2020 we will be cooking chili at church for those comfortable being around other people. If needed, we will ask for volunteers to cook from home.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL/CHRISTIAN EDUCATION****Come, for all is now ready**

These words, which we hear Pastor say each Sunday just before we share the Lord's Supper, are packed with meaning. We hear the invitation to come—to move from where we are physically to a much better place spiritually. We move from our sinful state to the glorious realm of forgiveness—all provided for us and now ready for us to receive—by the mercy, love, and sacrifice of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

We have all heard Pastor talk about coming to church so we can feed on God's Word. Like with food, we need God's Word for our survival. And like with food, we need to continually take in God's Word so it can nourish and nurture our daily thoughts, words, actions, and our hearts.

We are blessed at St. John's to have God's Word served to us in so many ways.

- Sunday School—every Sunday morning at 9:00 for children from age 2 through 8th grade
 - Confirmation Class—Wednesday evenings from 6-7:30 for kids starting in 6th grade
 - Adult Sunday School—every Sunday morning at 9:30 for youth and adults
 - Worship Service—every Sunday morning at 10:00 for everyone
- Mask required Saturday evening 6:00p.m.
- Opportunities to teach, be an assistant teacher, or help in other ways

Come, for all is now ready!

God's Blessings,

Kevin Lohraff



Purchase a
Poinsettia

Sign-up Sheets for Poinsettias will go out toward the end of November



PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS

During the month of November we will be making plans and preparations for the Christmas Celebration.

We will be distributing sign-up sheets for participating in the Christmas Eve Worship.

Currently we are looking at 2 Christmas Eve worship services—at Schubert—one in the afternoon and one at the regular evening time.

We plan on one service at Babbtown. All of our plans will give consideration to social distancing and the wellbeing of the worshipers and participants—while not losing sight of our purpose in giving Glory to God celebrating the Birth of Jesus.

All is a work in progress. Stay tuned for details and please be patient (and flexible).

Puzzle!

Write the words below in alphabetical order inside the squares. Then read down the second column to discover the sentence that begins and ends Psalms 146, 147, 148, 149 and 150.

- FEAST
- KHAKI
- MOUTH
- ESSAY
- LLAMA
- ORBIT
- CARRY
- UDDER
- BRUSH
- ITEMS
- APPLE
- LEARN
- CIDER

A			

Answer:

-----!

Answer: Praise the LORD!

Greetings in the name of God our Father,

November is National Adoption month. It is good to take time to recognize and acknowledge the challenges adoptive families face, but also to laud their courage as well as rejoice in the blessings of the gift of children however they come into a family. Adoption may not be for everyone, but certainly, fellow believers can and should help support families on that journey. St. James said, "**Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their afflictions, and to keep oneself unstained from the world**" (James 1:27).

The following are excerpts from an article entitled "**Look After Orphans in Their Distress**", by Beth Spitzer, member of Bethesda Lutheran Church, Hot Springs, South Dakota and Vice President of Hot Springs Area Right to Life:

Beth writes, "I am "Auntie Beth" to a nine-year-old nephew adopted from Russia and an eight-year-old niece adopted from the Philippines. I love them dearly, and they bring great joy to my husband and me. Because of my experience watching my brother and sister-in-law navigate the adoption process, I have become aware of the plight of orphans and the needs of adoptive families. I hope this article will help to make the Church aware of those needs.

"The first thing I would like to address is the cost of adoption---with international adoption being the costliest. My nephew's adoption cost around \$55,000, and my niece's adoption was around half that.....The only way these adoptions were made financially possible was through help from family and friends and a few adoption grants....The least expensive way to adopt is through the foster care system. Some people who are adoption-minded become foster parents and then end up adopting a child or children whom they are fostering.

"After the adoption and the child is home, the needs do not end. In the case of my nephew and niece, both have special needs.....they might be considered unique adoptees. What does not make them unique adoptive children is their history of trauma and attachment issues.

"James, brother of Jesus, did not call the need for orphan care a possibility. He called the need for orphan care a fact---a given: "**orphans...in their affliction.**" It doesn't matter what kind of loving home the child may be in now. These orphans have a history that can't be forgotten or ignored. This is true even of newborn babies. Trauma affects the brain physically, and that affects these children's behavior.

"My sister-in-law feels strongly that adoption is a special vocation. Even if it isn't everyone's, everyone can help and support. Christians in the Church can serve the cause in a variety of ways. Here are some suggestions for simple ways you can help: provide meals, ask how you can pray for them, and don't expect adoptive parents to do extra volunteer duties in the church. Another way to help is to get trained in ways to help foster and adoptive families. Two wonderful organizations that can help with this are Project 1.27 (www.project127.org) and the Christian Alliance for Orphans (cafo.org).

"Attachment issues are among the biggest issues that often come along with adoption. A child's behavior is greatly connected to healthy attachments. Because that attachment has been disrupted in the life of an adopted child, a healthy adoptive parent will work on attachment with their child for the rest of their lives. When an adoptive child first comes into the home that family is going to need to "cocoon" for a while to provide the necessary time to bond with that child. Congregational members should not assume they can hold that newly adopted baby, but should be respectful of parents who are trying to build a bond with their child.

"While I know this article has laid out some heavy information, I pray it has also lit a fire and helped to reveal the need for adoptive families. My niece and nephew are precious. Their giggles are one of my favorite things in the world. As I was interviewing my sister-in-law, she kept telling me how God provides. He has done that over and over again in big and small ways. One December, a man---a stranger---pulled up to my sister-in-law as she was on a walk and handed her a Christmas card through his truck window. When she opened it, there was a \$50 bill inside. This was at a time when she needed reassurance that proceeding with the adoption was the right thing to do. She says it was like God was telling her, "Oh, daughter, you have no idea how I can provide. Trust in me. I have this handled." (Beth Spitzer, LifeDate Fall 2020) For additional resources, she recommends authors Karyn Purvis, Heather Forbes, Sherrie Eldridge, Bryon Post, and Dan Siegel, and for books, *What Every Adoptive Parent Needs to Know: Healing Your Child's Wounded Heart* and *Parenting Your Internationally Adopted Child.*"

Would you consider adoption today or support a family who is adopting a child whom God has created, redeemed and wants to call into a relationship with Himself?

Sylvia Glenn

From St. John's Evangelism Committee

Be a Caring Encourager

Stand ready for opportunities and let God find them for you



Whether as a result of social distancing, or just being busy managing our own life and family during this upside down year, it is common to become disconnected from the needs and concerns of others. As a result, we can miss the signs that tell us someone is lonely, perhaps afraid of the unknown, or simply in need of some encouragement to make it through another day.

As Christians, we know that these are the times to tell and remind others that there is a God, that He is near, and that He will not forget us. As Jeremiah 29:11 tell us, *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* And as Peter writes, *"cast all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you (1 Peter 5:7)." What an important thing to know, and moreover, what an important message to share.*

Each of us is called to encourage one another – which means we are helping each other to develop a stronger relationship with God (1 Thess 5:11).

Proverbs 12:25 teaches us that *"Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad."* That means that our words can have a profound impact on others. That's why it is so important to be wise in our speech.

Encouragement brings hope. Pray to God to make you an even better encourager! Remember that God always blesses a heart that seeks Him. God wants us to trust Him, even when we may not understand what we are going through – why we are going through it, or how to handle it.

The Bible tells us that encouragement brings hope (Rom 15:4). Certainly, it is important to encourage one another because *"in this world you will have trouble"* (John 16:33). Thankfully, Jesus assures us in this same verse that He has *overcome the world*.

You can help people apply God's promise of salvation to their life by telling them of God's love and steadfastness. Listening, talking and sharing this message of hope is often the place to begin—and a wonderful gift you can give to encourage others. Also, while now may not be the time to invite someone to physically attend church with you, you can still invite them to be encouraged and strengthened through livestream Bible Study and worship services on Facebook.

Pray to God to show you who to encourage.



It may be someone at work, a relative, your next door neighbor, or your community. Whoever it is will be sure to need it. And often in the process, you will find not only others encouraged, but that you yourself are inspired and uplifted too.

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for overcoming the world. Because of your sacrifice, we know that You are here for us. As we seek to center our lives around You, help us to see and share the ways you are at work in our life each day, and encourage others in Your name.

Amen.

A taste of history

Add a yummy, authentic touch to your Thanksgiving meal with this recipe.



What you need:

- 2/3 cup heavy cream
- pint jar with lid
- strainer
- bowl
- container
- salt



What you do:

1. Pour cream into the jar and close the lid tightly.
2. Shake vigorously about 8 minutes, until a solid lump of butter forms. (Take turns with a friend!)
3. Strain the contents, catching the buttermilk in a bowl to save for another recipe.
4. Put the butter in a container. Add salt to taste.
5. After chilling the butter, enjoy on fresh bread.

PUZZLE

Glad gatherings

The first Christians met together over a meal. Today church families still gather to break bread and thank God.

Follow the instructions below. Then write the remaining words in order from left to right and top to bottom to complete the verses.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	They	found	broke	bread	acts	in
2	houses	their	homes	beautiful	and	round
3	the	world	beginning	together	follow	thought
4	with	numbers	God	happiness	listen	and
5	thanks	sincere	disciples	gathering	hearts	tradition
6	celebrate	good	praising	Christian	God	their

Cross out all words in column E with double letters.

Cross out all words that are books of the Bible.

Cross out all words in column B that end in d.

Cross out all words in column A that have more than 4 letters.

Cross out all words in row 5 with 3 syllables.

Cross out all words in the table with 9 letters.

Cross out all words in column F with 2 or more vowels.

ACTS 2:46-47, NIV

Answer: They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God. Acts 2:46-47, NIV

BABBTOWN NEWS

Quarterly Voters Meeting

The Voters Meeting will be hold following the Sunday Nov. 1, 2020, morning services

**CLEANING FOR
PARISH HOUSE
NOVEMBER, 2020**
Carla Nilges
Arline Mueller

**BAPTISM BIRTHDAY
NOVEMBER, 2020**
Nov 4, Jeremiah Schubert II
Nov 8, Richard Jarvis
Nov 20, Kenneth Kolb
Nov 29, Joshua Schubert

SCHUBERT

USHER SCHEDULE

- Nov 1 Jim Forbis
Andy Beach
Silas Luetkemeyer
Gary Lofton
- Nov 8 Jim Forbis
George Kuhlman
Eric Lofton
Dale Schmutzler
- Nov15 Jim Forbis
Mike Forbis
Dave Mueller
Dale Ludwig
- Nov22 Jim Forbis
Kevin Lohraff
Berry Wiggin
Sherrie Russell
- Nov29 Jim Forbis
Mike Forbis
Ross Schmutzler
Bob Nienhueser

DECEMBER, 2020
Newsletter Items are
Due NOVEMBER 22,
2020
Newsletter items may be
placed in either Pastor's or
Jan's mailbox.

Or they may be e-mailed to
Pastor Scheperle—
st.ischubert@outlook.com
Any announcement:
Weddings, birthdays,
anniversaries, personal
notes, pictures or church
related business are
welcome.

NOVEMBER, 2020
CLEANING
CHURCH
The Willson Family
ALTAR GUILD
Linda Brenner
Ronda Williams



- Nov 1 Cole Dippold
- Nov 4 Karen Forbis
- Nov 8 Gene Walkenhorst
- Nov15 Linda Kemmer

- Nov16 Justin Householder
- Nov19 Vera Backman
- Nov22 Tonya Toeppen
- Nov24 Molly Boeckmann

- Nov27 Ellie Walkenhorst
- Nov29 Lars Marion
Tracy Carver