



# The CLARION

Volume 20 - Issue 11

November 2020

Zion Lutheran Church  
Sioux Falls, SD

## THANKSGIVING BLESSINGS!

At Zion Lutheran we are committed to reaching out, strengthening the saved, and serving Jesus Christ by serving others!



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### Special Points of Interest

- \* **NO PIE SOCIAL** this Thanksgiving Eve!
- \* **NO Streets of Bethlehem**
- \* **NO Rebekah or Mary Circle Meetings in November**
- \* **First Communion Service November 8**
- \* **Annual Meeting Sunday, November 22**
- \* **Continue to use the following link to Register for Worship**
- \* **Tom Roberts will be at Zion on December 20**

In spite of COVID 19 we have much to be **thankful** for because ....  
 “NOT EVERYTHING IS CANCELLED”  
**Not everything is cancelled...  
 Sun is not cancelled  
 Fall is not cancelled  
 Relationships are not cancelled  
 Love is not cancelled  
 Reading is not cancelled  
 Devotion is not cancelled  
 Music is not cancelled  
 Imagination is not cancelled**

**Kindness is not cancelled  
 Conversations are not cancelled  
 Hope is not cancelled  
 And God's love for HIS people is NEVER cancelled.**



### Zion Lutheran Parish Nursing

2020 has been quite the year. It's understandable to struggle with what to be thankful for or even why practice an "attitude of gratitude". As Christians, we rest assured that God is our fountain of each and every blessing.

*Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise... Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; He to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood. ~ LSB 686*

Here are a few **HEALTH** benefits of gratitude.

Dr. Robert Emmons, a leading scientific expert on gratitude, has found some interesting health benefits of being thankful.

#### PHYSICAL

- stronger immune systems
- less bothered by aches and pains
- lower blood pressure
- sleep longer and feel more refreshed

#### PSYCHOLOGICAL / SOCIAL

- more stress resistant
- more forgiving, helpful, compassionate
- more joy and pleasure
- feeling less lonely and isolated

**PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW**

Nov 1 Mark Fiechtner  
 Nov 1 Colten Miller  
 Nov 2 Amber Holmes  
 Nov 2 Jaiden Loween  
 Nov 2 Darlene Wollman  
 Nov 3 Valerie Fox  
 Nov 4 Paul Francis  
 Nov 4 Jeffrey Sebasta  
 Nov 6 Alayna Ebert  
 Nov 7 Amanda Saeger  
 Nov 7 Colton Schettler  
 Nov 7 Adalynn Yost  
 Nov 7 Connor Yost  
 Nov 8 Hope Hanisch  
 Nov 8 Deb Hinde  
 Nov 8 Angel Reiner  
 Nov 9 Courtney Thorpe  
 Nov 9 Elsie Wagner  
 Nov 10 Timothy Graff  
 Nov 10 Rod Knuth  
 Nov 10 Kelly Wilhelmssen  
 Nov 11 Jim Brunz  
 Nov 11 Jaxon Hofer  
 Nov 12 Lori Hagen  
 Nov 12 Tammy Holmes



Nov 12 Blair Lindemann  
 Nov 12 Taylor Wall  
 Nov 12 Ed Wiedecker  
 Nov 13 Andy Anderson  
 Nov 13 Olivia Olawsky  
 Nov 13 Brian Radke  
 Nov 13 Tyler Zick  
 Nov 14 Michelle Baartman  
 Nov 14 Ashtyn Davis  
 Nov 16 Nichole Boese  
 Nov 16 Sherry Miller  
 Nov 17 Penny Fox  
 Nov 19 Emerson Schager  
 Nov 19 Eric Storm

Nov 21 Lil Raabe  
 Nov 22 John Duprey  
 Nov 22 Valerie Strandell  
 Nov 24 Natalie Olawsky  
 Nov 24 Lola Rotert  
 Nov 24 Aaron Stotts  
 Nov 25 Carter Schuster  
 Nov 26 Mary Lou Giddings  
 Nov 26 Roxanne Halverson  
 Nov 26 Alan May  
 Nov 26 Killian Zick  
 Nov 27 Jill Johnke  
 Nov 27 Jody Rasmussen  
 Nov 29 Heather Kellenberger  
 Nov 29 LaVonne Lenz



**October Home Giving**

Envelopes and Electronic Giving .....	\$44,545.90
Plate .....	1,027.00
Missions .....	445.00
Youth Missions .....	5.00
Flowers .....	100.00
Radio .....	50.00
World Relief .....	25.00
Lutheran Hour .....	20.00
Love Kitchen .....	10.00
Main Street Living .....	200.00
Shirts .....	438.00
<b>Total Received .....</b>	<b>\$46,865.90</b>
<b>Quarterly Need .....</b>	<b>\$60,000.00</b>

**Other Giving**

Memorials .....	\$335.00
<b>Total Received .....</b>	<b>\$335.00</b>

**2021 BUDGET and ANNUAL MEETING**

**THE ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING** will take place at 9:15 am on Sunday, **November 22** in the Atrium. A Budget Question and Answer Session will be held on Sunday, **November 15** at 9:15 am, also in the Atrium. The 2021 Proposed Budget will be available on Sunday, **November 8**. Plan to pick up a copy of the Proposed Budget and then plan to attend both of these important, upcoming meetings!

**STUDENTS CELEBRATING** their First Communion on Sunday, November 8 at our 10:30 Service are:

Brandon Aamold  
 Tristan Castetter  
 Alyssa Clow  
 Aubrey Friedrich  
 Norah Nelson  
 Cody Stotts



We pray God's Blessings on these young people!

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Thanksgiving is a national holiday that is unique to our United States. President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the first "Day of Thanksgiving and Praise" in 1863, and in his proclamation he referred to "the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies" and many other bounties "which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God."

At times we believe that it was our ability, our work, our intelligence, or our persistence that secured our blessings. We look past the reality that we had nothing to do with where we were born, the gifts and graces we have or many of the opportunities we have been given. We wrongly believe that we have been the master of our fate.

Thankful people recognize their need and the generosity and goodness of the Giver. Every truly

grateful person is humbled by the amazing gifts they have received from God. It's important as we celebrate the day of Thanksgiving this year, that we also give thanks to God our Heavenly Father for our daily bread.

We see the 'hand' behind the food that fills the table and plate and stomach. We see the 'hand of God' in the growth and production of the food that we eat, as well as the distribution system that brings it to us, the wealth that allows us to purchase it, the homes in which we eat it, all from God.

May we celebrate ALL that God has done for us in Jesus and continue looking to the author and perfecter of our faith Jesus Christ. Any gift points to the giver. God freely gave His only son for us all. He lived in a hostile world, used His gifts in love and service, died to pay for our sins and rose triumphantly from the grave. "The gift of God is eternal life through

Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom 6:23b).

So we ought to be the first ones who have a great understanding of the Hand of God and on being humble and dependent upon His Unseen Hand. Let me share a couple Scriptures that come to mind...

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name." Psalm 100:4

"Offer unto God thanksgiving" Psalm 50:14

Nothing wrong with sharing a bountiful feast with family and friends but let me challenge you to stop on this Thanksgiving Day, acknowledge God, and be truly thankful for who He is and for what He is doing and for what He has provided and for what He will provide. Have a great Thanksgiving!

Thankful!  
Pastor Greg