

## NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER, 2016

Fellow Soldiers of the Cross,

I greet you in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, Master, Savior, and King.

### **Life is a matter of STEWARDSHIP.**

Psalm 25:1 "The earth is the LORD's and everything in it." What does this mean? It means that everything about us and every blessing in our life...is from God. We are HIS possession along with everything/everybody we may call "ours" too....my spouse, my children, my property, my time, my work, my possessions, etc. It all was God's before He laid it in my hands, and it will all be HIS when my earthly time is ended. Stewardship is how we use what we've been given to serve God's will and purpose in all our life. While we may accomplish great things in the eyes of the world, but none of that really matters to God. All we do in life will come to pass, but that which is done for the LORD will last.

2 Cor. 5:15 "He died for all that those who live should not live for themselves, but for HIM who died for them and was raised again." God owns us. He has a creative and redemptive claim on us. Therefore, we are accountable to HIM for everything in our life.

### **Stewardship involves SACRIFICE.**

Some think stewardship is just a matter of convenience... money...minimal service... occasional worship. Reality check! Stewardship is not a matter of convenience! It's a matter of sacrifice.

Jesus gave His life for us so that we may live! Sacrifice becomes the very essence of how we live! It's about living for God, seeking His will, living in His grace. It's about helping others, serving the good of all, bringing others to Jesus! Sacrificial living suddenly becomes a real adventure! Look at what St. Paul says about sacrifice...

Romans 12:1-2 "I appeal to you therefore by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship."

How then can each of us give our time, our life (whether it be a Sabbath Day or any other day of the week) as a living sacrifice for God...a sacrifice of worship, of praise, of thanksgiving? Think about what this means for you.

### **In it all, we find the blessing of THANKSGIVING.**

Whether it be in our stewardship, in our sacrifice, we recognize God's amazing and abundant grace in our life. Looking back, we can be so thankful for His love, His guidance, His protection and care. Secure and content in Him, confident and thankful, we can look to Him, not just for our immediate needs of each day, but for our ultimate and eternal deliverance of salvation! Just take a peek into heaven!

What are the saints exclaiming and proclaiming... how tough life was for them?... or how much they had to overcome to win their victory? NO! Their song is one of pure praise and thanksgiving, because in heaven, they realize that it was the power of God that rescued them and delivered them into God's eternal paradise. We need to see that also so that our life never be void of this precious gift of thanksgiving.

Revelation 7:11-12 "And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

So, as we consider Stewardship and Thanksgiving during the month of November, may God bless us all with joy and peace that each of us continue to grow in His grace.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Asmus

OUR MISSION: CELEBRATING, PROCLAIMING, AND SPREADING THE WORD.

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IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER ARE FACING SURGERY OR HOSPITALIZATION, please contact Pastor Erland Asmus: Cell #: (651) 308-8492 Church Office: (651) 436-3357

PASTOR ASMUS WILL BE HAPPY TO MAKE A CALL (OR IN HIS ABSENCE, ONE OF THE ELDERS), BUT WE DO NEED TO BE INFORMED.

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE! NEWSLETTER ARTICLES FOR DECEMBER ARE DUE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE NO LATER THAN MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>.

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### Treasures in God's Word

**BASICS OF FAITH** - Mondays - 7:00 a.m. @ The Machine Shed; Tuesdays - 10:00 a.m. - at church; Wednesdays - 5:30 p.m. - during Foundations hour.

Week of:

November 7 - Lesson 9 - "Forgiveness"

November 14 - Lesson 10 - "Confession: A Sure Win"

November 21 - Lesson 11 - "No More Than We Can Bear"

November 28 - Lesson 12 - "Too Good To True"

**REVELATION** - Sunday morning Adult Bible Class - 10:30-11:00 a.m. As we have begun on September 19, we are moving forward into this final Book of the Bible. For those who can't attend every Sunday, all materials are made available for you to keep up with us as a self-study, and to join us as you are able. During November, we will focus on Chapters 6 and 7. As Jesus opens the seven seals, spectacular things happen. Then, we're taken to the Throne in heaven, seeing the multitude of believers in heaven!

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### S.P.L.C.W. (ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN) FALL MEETING

S.P.L.C.W. FALL MEETING will be held on Thursday, November 10th, 7:00 p.m. WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE EACH PERSON BRING 2 FLOUR SACK DISHTOWELS. Someone will show us how to decorate them at the meeting and we will be using them in our new kitchen! There will also be an election of officers. If you have questions, call Peggy Oehlke.

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**CONGREGATIONAL FALL VOTERS' MEETING** will be held on Sunday, November 13th, with a POTLUCK at 11:00 a.m.; MEETING at Noon. On the agenda are Committee Reports, Election of Officers, and Work Program for 2017.

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S.P.L.C.W. (St. Peter Lutheran Church Women) **WILL HAVE A BAKE SALE** on Sunday, December 4th, following the 9:00 a.m. worship service. All baked items (or canned items) should be brought to church prior to the service. Feel free to have your items priced and ready to sell.

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**OUR FIRST SOUP SUPPER** will be on Wednesday, November 30th, 5:00-6:15 p.m., with **ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICE** at 6:30 p.m.

**Our weekly worship services: (Bring your Bible!)**

+ *Pentecost: A season of Growing!...in grace...in faith...in love...in hope... IN CHRIST! Alleluia!*  
*The difference CHRIST makes in a believer's life.*

Wednesday - November 2

5:30-6:25 p.m. - Foundations: 5-6 grade Bible Class; 7-8 grade Catechism

6:30 p.m. - Devotional Worship with Holy Eucharist

Sermon: See November 6.

Sunday – November 6 - All Saints' Sunday

**9:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship with the Sacrament of the Altar**

Theme: Saints of the Lord, here and in heaven.

Sermon: "Children of God" (1 John 3:1-3)

Bible Class: Revelation 5

Wednesday – November 9

5:30-6:25 p.m. - **FOUNDATIONS - 5-6 grade Bible Class; 7-8 grade Catechism**

6:30 p.m. - Devotional worship with the Lord's Supper.

Sermon: See November 13.

Sunday – November 13 - Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

**9:00 a.m. – Praise Service with The Sacrament of the Altar**

Theme: Signs, wonders, and ...complacency.

Sermon: "Behold...So what?" (Malachi 4:1-6)

Bible Class: Revelation 6

Wednesday – November 16

5:30-6:25 p.m. - FOUNDATIONS - 5-6 grade Bible Class; 8 grade - Oral Exam (Apostles' Creed) (**No 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**)

**6:30 p.m.** - Devotional Worship with the Lord's Supper.

Sermon: See November 20.

Sunday – November 20 - Last Sunday of the Church Year

**9:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship with Holy Eucharist**

Theme: The Coming of our Savior-King.

Sermon: "Taunt and Triumph" (Colossians 1:13-20)

Bible Class: Revelation 7

Wednesday - November 23 - Thanksgiving Eve

7:00 p.m. - Praise Worship with Holy Communion

Sermon: "THANKS...for Nothing" (Luke 18:9-13)

Thursday - November 24 - Thanksgiving Day

9:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship with the Holy Eucharist

Sermon: "THANKS...for Nothing." (Luke 18:9-13)

Sunday - November 27 - First Sunday in Advent

**9:00 a.m. - Praise Worship with Holy Communion**

Theme: About God's arrival.

Sermon: by Rev. Dr. George Riemer

Bible Study: Open

Wednesday - November 30

5:00-6:15 p.m. - Advent Soup Supper

6:30 p.m. - Advent Worship

Sermon: "I Shall Return." (Acts 1:1-11)

**MISSION-OF-THE-MONTH FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER**  
**UNION GOSPEL MISSION, ST. PAUL, MN**

“I thought there was no help and no hope. If it hadn’t been for Union Gospel Mission, I don’t know if I’d be in a safe place right now. They helped me so much in a time when I thought there was no help and no hope. But God stepped in through them – and made a difference” (Ramona)

Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities provides more than 400,000 meals each year to hungry and homeless neighbors, poor families and seniors on limited incomes. A good, hot meal is often the first step to real and lasting change for a person.

The Mission is also home to the state’s largest free dental clinic staffed by volunteer dentists and dental students, serving thousands of people every year.

Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities’ shelter programs provide safe housing and care for men, women and mothers with children struggling with homelessness. Their shelters not only provide a safe place to sleep, but a full program designed to build life skills and stability.

Alcohol and drug addiction are often at the core of chronic poverty and homelessness. Their 12-step resident recovery program helps men break the grip of addiction. On October 8th, we welcomed men to spend a day at our church from the Christ Recovery Center, through “Little Church of Hope”. This is a program started by Brian Smiley in 1990 to give love and hope to the homeless that evolved to the men of Union Gospel Mission’s Christ Recovery Center.

UGMTC has the most effective and comprehensive job coaching support network for the “difficult-to-employ” in the Twin Cities. They offer education and career opportunities for all, from earning a GED through finding a rewarding career.

Union Gospel Mission also has a long history of engaging at-risk children and teenagers in positive activities that give them a shot at success in spite of their circumstances. In fact, a path to a loving God is clearly laid out in every youth program the Mission offers—from their Child Development Center to their teen outreach programs.

**SEE THE MISSION TABLE IN THE NARTHEX FOR MORE INFORMATION. BROCHURES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.** (Mission envelopes are available in your offering envelopes, in the pews, and on the Mission Table.)

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**FOUNDATIONS** meets on Wednesdays: 5:30-6:25 PM - Grades 5-8 Bible/Catechism; “Basics of Faith” Bible Study (\*No 7th Grade November 16) 6:30 PM – Devotional Service with the Lord’s Supper.

\*(On November 23 NO FOUNDATIONS. We will have a Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service with Communion at 7:00 p.m.)

\*(On November 30 NO FOUNDATIONS. (No Foundations during Advent. It will resume on January 4.)

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Members from LCMS Minnesota South District congregations and the surrounding community are invited to help us pack one million meals for **Feed My Starving Children**. We need your help to make this event a success as we serve those in need of food across the world! The dates of this event are November 10<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup>. **Our packing site is Woodbury Lutheran Church. We have 25 spots reserved for Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, from 2:30-4:30.** If you would like to serve on a different day, you can go to [mnsouthdistrict.org/fmsc](http://mnsouthdistrict.org/fmsc) and sign up for a different day/time. Each meal packed costs just 22 cents, but that means for one million meals the cost is around \$220,000. Feed My Starving Children completely relies on donations to cover the costs of all the meals they package and send around the world, so any donation you can make is very much appreciated. For more information on volunteering for this event, or to donate towards the cost of the meals, talk to Tony Engen or go to [mnsouthdistrict.org/fmsc](http://mnsouthdistrict.org/fmsc).

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** is an opportunity for us to impact the life of a child around the world. Just pick up a shoebox located in the church narthex, fill it with toys, hard candy, socks, toothbrush, anything that can fit in the box, and bring it back to church.

Please grab a shoebox, and a shopping list of items from the display.

**All filled shoe boxes need to be returned to church  
no later than Sunday morning, November 20<sup>th</sup>.**

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**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE WITH COMMUNION**  
**Sunday, December 18th, 2016 - 9:00 A.M.**

Please let Tony Engen or Laura Nelson know by November 27th if you have a Sunday School aged child who will be unable to participate. Practice times will be December 4 & 11 during Sunday School (10:15-11:00 a.m.), with Dress Rehearsal on Saturday, December 17th, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

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**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP THIS THANKSGIVING!** A Traditional Worship Service with Communion will be held on Wednesday, November 23rd, at 7:00 p.m. A Contemporary Worship Service with Communion will be held on Thursday, November 24th, at 9:00 a.m. **If you would like, you can bring items for the Food Shelf to share with those in need at this special time of year.**

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**SECOND HARVEST HEARTLAND**

St. Peter has been selected to be recognized as a top volunteer contributor on the featured Partner's Page on the Second Harvest website for the months of October and November. They are featuring groups who volunteer on a regular basis, contributing to their mission of ending hunger through community partnership. It is an honor to be recognized and hope we can continue to support their mission.

We are always looking for volunteers to help out. The date and signup sheet is always posted on the kiosk and we volunteer once a month. Our November date is the 11th and December is the 9th. We volunteer from 1:30-3:30 p.m. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the faithful volunteers who put their names on the signup sheet each month. If you have any questions about volunteering, please contact Cheryl Schmidt.

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**SPECIAL EVENT - SAVE THE DATE!**  
**December 4, 2016**

**The St. Peter Choir will lead the 9:00 a.m. worship service that day** with special music for the Christmas season. **Holiday treats will be served** during the fellowship time following the service. The SPLCW (St. Peter Lutheran Church Women) **Holiday Bake Sale** will have goodies you can purchase and take home with you.

And, a new **WHAT MAKES CHRISTMAS SPECIAL display!** We would like all members of our congregation to be thinking about just what it is that makes Christmas special for them. Then (similar to what has been done in the past with nativity sets) we will set up a display of the items special to our members. Watch the Bulletin for more information but, in the meantime, be thinking of something you may want to share. It might be anything from a tie or scarf worn only for Christmas; it might be a wreath or a Christmas stocking; it could be an Advent calendar or a favorite holiday recipe; it might be a Christmas tree skirt, some holiday napkins, a Christmas apron, some old family photos or whatever holds special meaning for you.

Let's make this a special day for all of us! If you are interested, or if you have questions, see Karen Stoltzmann or Joan Riemer. Thank you!

**S.P.L.C.W. (ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN) FALL MEETING** will be held on Thursday, November 10th, 7:00 p.m. We would like to have each person bring 2 FLOUR SACK DISHTOWELS. Someone will show us how to decorate them at the meeting and we will be using them in our new kitchen! There will also be an election of officers. If you have questions, call Peggy Oehlke.

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**A “Life-thought”**From “Life Date” a quarterly journal from Lutherans for Life

Faith can't be legislated. The Bible speaks no "separation" of church and state - and neither does the U.S. Constitution. Nevertheless, we recognize that God ordains a distinction of manner between them. The one He rules according to His Gospel and the other according to His Law. This Law, by force and coercion, commands, sets conditions, threatens consequences, and rewards obedience. It does nothing for souls or salvation. In Gospel, God does this for us and gives freely unto everlasting resurrection. Law has to be permitted to precede, without interference from Gospel, in order that

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**TLC (PRE-K THROUGH 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE KIDS & PARENTS)** are invited to join us on Sunday, November 20, at 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall for crafts, games, and treats! We will be making “I'm a Thankful Turkey” hats and enjoying a special Thanksgiving treat. Hope to see you there!

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**IT'S TIME TO THINK ABOUT IDEAS AND MARK YOUR CALENDAR** - If anyone has any ideas to share for Christmas, please talk with Judy Hansen. The decorating will take place on Saturday, December 3rd starting at 9:00 a.m. I know the holiday season is a time with many commitments, but please consider having fun together enhancing our sanctuary and narthex for the birth of Christ.

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**Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Mission – our call to proclaim**

It is a blessing to walk and work together in witness and mercy with the 35 districts of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and with our 34 partner church bodies around the world. The mission we engage together extends the reach of the Gospel around the world. Coming together as a synod, by sharing resources and people, we by God's grace, help to change lives now and for eternity. For a closer look at our LSMS Mission work being done today, take a walk down the hallway to Pastor's office, where you will see a bulletin board display, showing all the countries in the world where we are actively engaged in Missions, along with recent news articles describing what's happening in these areas.

Are you looking for a way to get involved at St. Peter? We have the perfect opportunity!! **The Board of Education is in need of a great team to reach, nurture, prepare and challenge all youth, with a focus on Jesus and his love and grace!!** Getting involved is easy and fun! The Board of Education meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. Meetings usually last about an hour. At the meetings we discuss a variety of topics concerning our youth here at St. Peter, including Sunday school, youth group activities, mission trips, VBS, WHAM, family fun nights, fundraisers, Children's Christmas Program, etc. The Board of Education along with the DCE discuss, plan and execute these programs. It is important that we continue to put a focus on our youth here and to do that, we need your help! Please see Laura Nelson or Tony Engen if you are interested or have any questions.

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## **URGENT:** **Greenhouse Appeal for North Korea Flood Relief**

From August 29–31, three days of torrential rains and impact from Typhoon Lionrock caused floodwaters to suddenly rise, inundating houses, causing landslides, and wiping away entire villages in multiple counties in the two most northeastern provinces of the DPRK. One hundred and thirty-eight deaths were reported and another 400 are missing (presumed dead). Nearly 70,000 people have lost their homes and all their belongings due to the flooding. Crops, days away from harvesting, were destroyed or heavily damaged in the fields, and railroads, bridges, and roads have been heavily damaged. Over 600,000 who live in the area are affected. Now relief/rebuilding efforts are in a race against time as October brings with it snow and temperatures that regularly drop to -25C and below. The United Nations and other international agencies have been able to visit the region and have confirmed the significance of the damage and the urgency of the situation for those living there.

CFK (Christian Friends of Korea) responded quickly during our recent visit by releasing pre-positioned stocks of emergency relief goods including hygiene kits, water filters/buckets, food, blankets, and other materials that were in our warehouse in Pyongyang. These goods were to be delivered by local colleagues during the week of September 21st. We expect to confirm the distribution of these goods during a special flood-relief visit planned for late October.

However, in the meantime, we are **LAUNCHING AN EMERGENCY APPEAL** to send long-term help for recovery to flood affected hepatitis and TB facilities. In the late 1990's, CFK introduced small vinyl greenhouses to the DPRK. They are in use at all of our supported care centers, producing on average 1-3 tons of food every year – including long before and after, when crops can be grown in outdoor fields. **We are urgently seeking funding to send at least two greenhouses to each TB and hepatitis care center in flood-affected areas.** These greenhouses can be set up in 1-2 days, and can provide basic shelter immediately, and then transition in late fall/early spring to grow vitamin-rich crops such as spinach, crown daisy, lettuce, and cabbage. For people who have just lost the main summer harvest due to flooding, along with their small animals, household goods, kitchen gardens, winter fuel supply, clothing, and homes, greenhouse production can help to supply sustainable nutrition and bring hope to a very difficult situation.

We have just received an emergency \$20,000 gift towards this effort from a generous donor. We need to raise another \$36,000 to reach our goal to send a total of 14 greenhouses. If more funds are raised, they will be applied towards our existing greenhouse project in other parts of the DPRK.

We fear that TB and hepatitis care centers will soon have many more patients to care for due to the heavy toll that flooding can have on people's lives and health. **Please help us reach our goal quickly so we can order and send these greenhouses before the cold of winter sets in.**

Now more than ever before, the people of the DPRK need to know of God's love and care for them through the loving hands of Christians.

Thank you in advance for your prayers and generous support!

Our CFK Staff

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## NOVEMBER, 2016

### ACOLYTES FOR NOVEMBER

November 6 - 9:00 a.m. Charlie Veith  
13 - 9:00 a.m. Ashley Walton  
20 - 9:00 a.m. Emma Schatt  
23 - 7:00 p.m. Malachi Oberdeck  
(Thanksgiving Eve)  
24 - 9:00 a.m. Gabriella Richert  
(Thanksgiving Day)  
27 - 9:00 a.m. Callie Koller  
30 - 6:30 p.m. Izaak Schmidt  
(Advent Midweek)

### USHERS FOR NOVEMBER

Bruce Albrecht, Elder  
Steve Wellner  
Sharon Wellner  
Jerry Hundertmark  
Eldo Thielfoldt

### GREETERS FOR NOVEMBER

November 6 - 9:00 a.m. Lorraine Hansen  
13 - 9:00 a.m. Helen Thielfoldt  
20 - 9:00 a.m. (Open)  
23 - 7:00 p.m. (Open)  
(Thanksgiving Eve)  
24 - 9:00 a.m. (Open)  
(Thanksgiving Day)  
27 - 9:00 a.m. (Open)

**MORE GREETERS ARE NEEDED!!  
PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE BOOK  
ON THE KIOSK.**

### COFFEE HOSTS FOR NOVEMBER

November 6 - Outreach  
13 - Voters' Potluck  
20 - (Open)  
27 - (Open)

**MORE COFFEE HOSTS ARE  
NEEDED! PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE  
BOOK ON THE KIOSK.**

### READERS DURING WORSHIP SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

November 6 - 9:00 a.m. Carol Nelson  
13 - 9:00 a.m. Jackie Polinske  
20 - 9:00 a.m. Virgil Polinske  
23 - 7:00 p.m. Joan Riemer  
(Thanksgiving Eve)  
24 - 9:00 a.m. Wendy Asmus  
(Thanksgiving Day)  
27 - 9:00 a.m. Joan Riemer

### ALTAR GUILD FOR NOVEMBER

Gayle Schneider  
Wendy Asmus

### **A Table Prayer for Your Home**

Fill our house, Oh Lord, with blessings from above,  
but most of all, we humbly ask, fill us with Your love.

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

May all these gifts to us be blest.

Oh give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good,  
and His mercy endures forever. Amen.