

Trinity Tribune: November 2024

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church
Block (Paola), Kansas

“Thanksgiving”

The proclamation of Abraham Lincoln to establish a day of Thanksgiving in our nation reflects a profoundly Christian understanding of giving thanks to God in good years and in bad. In fact, Abraham Lincoln issued this proclamation in 1863, while the Civil War was happening!

It reflects on all that God has done for our nation. It also acknowledges that we have not been thankful to God for His bounty. Nonetheless, God remains good for us in his bounty.

It might seem odd to give thanks to God during a time of war and hardship and turmoil. But that might in fact be precisely the time to turn to God in faith and thanksgiving. When things are taken away from us, that is when we recognize their worth and where they truly came from.

Our reason for thanksgiving this year and every year is not based on how much stuff we have gotten, but rather on how good our God is. So, we can always “give thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Eph 5:20), knowing that from His gracious hand come all this.

So, here is Lincoln’s Thanksgiving Proclamation:

The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and even soften the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God.

In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign states to invite and provoke their aggressions, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere, except in the theater of military conflict; while that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union.

Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship; the ax has

enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege, and the battlefield, and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people. I do, therefore, invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a Day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens. And I recommend to them that, while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation, and to restore it, as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-eighth.

Abraham Lincoln

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Woelmer

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

November 1	Christopher England
November 2	Steve Debrick
November 2	Martin Carter
November 4	Peyton Mitchell
November 6	Jill Druse
November 7	Fritz Meyer
November 8	Erin England
November 9	Greg Windler
November 9	Brad Ashley
November 11	Lana Kettler
November 11	Chylar Jones
November 13	Dennis Ohlmeier
November 13	Doris Rodewald
November 14	Elena Smithhisler
November 15	JoAnn Vaughn
November 16	Sacred Davis
November 17	Devin Canada
November 19	Elaine Brocker
November 19	Kreston Debrick
November 19	Kathy Peckman
November 19	Betty Prothe
November 20	Alexis Belsanti
November 20	Luke Elkinton
November 20	Randy Maisch
November 21	Jim Prothe
November 21	Megan Tesar
November 22	Whitney Shoemaker
November 22	Burl Peckman
November 22	Jason Peterson
November 22	Martin Carter
November 23	Lisa Shannon
November 24	Lindsey Lester
November 24	Christie Stephens
November 25	Courtney Belsanti
November 25	Dana Hall
November 26	Liliana Peckman
November 29	Rick Druse
November 30	Alan Hutchison

Anniversaries

November 3	Ken and Karla Debrick (42)
November 18	Darrell and Barb Brandt (52)
November 20	Harry and Gay Stubbs (48)
November 21	Fritz & Miciah Carter (9)
November 22	Brad and Susan Ashley (19)

November 30.....Brett and Becky Stutzman (55)
 November 30.....Sam and LeAnn Allred (23)

BIBLE STUDY ON 1 PETER: “An Epistle of Hope”

This book, written by St. Peter, is a book of hope in the midst of persecution and suffering. It reminds us who we are and how we can walk in this world as saints of God. Join the Adult Bible Class at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays in the Heritage Room to learn more!

LOOKING AHEAD TO SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Join us in the Heritage Room from 10:30-11:30 on Wednesday mornings to hear a “sneak peek” of the readings for the next Sunday.

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE

Our Thanksgiving service this year will be at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 23rd. Come give thanks to God for another year of His grace and mercy and blessings. Without His providence for us, we would have nothing, but in Christ, we have all that we need.



COFFEE HOUR

Everyone is invited to stay for Coffee Hour in the Gathering Room following worship. Our thanks to those that provide snacks each Sunday. The sign-up sheet to provide snacks for Coffee Hour in 2024 is on the counter in the Gathering Room. Consider signing up to honor birthdays, wedding anniversaries, etc.



NURSING HOME SERVICES

You are invited to help Trinity provide brief worship services for nursing home residents this month. The simple services are approximately 20 minutes in length at each home. This month, we are scheduled for Sunday, **November 24th**. We will begin at 1:30 pm at North Point, and then go to Medicalodges around 2:15 for the second service. The residents really enjoy these services, especially singing their favorite hymns. It's great to have church members there to greet the residents and sing along. We have a few members who help but we could use your help too!

ONLINE GIVING

Visit our church's Facebook page sometime and look for the bright blue "Donate" button next to the "Like" and "Message" buttons. The company Guidestar processes the transactions; you may either tack on an additional amount to pay the 3% fee that they would charge, or allow the fee to come out of the donation. You may, of course, continue to donate via the offering plates in church; this is just one more way that people can donate.

VOTERS MEETING MINUTES

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Windler, followed with prayer by Pastor Woelmer. Roll call was answered by 20 members; there were no new member requests. Financial reports by the home treasurer and missions treasurer were given. Trustees reported the basement toilet has been repaired, HVAC thermostat/sump pump has been repaired, kitchen flooring repairs to be determined, and landscaping at the parsonage is in the planning stages. Reports were heard from Pastor Woelmer, as well as the Endowment, Board of Education, Blocktoberfest committees, and Youth group. Chairman Windler thanked all for their continued support and efforts.

Old business items reviewed included sign work is completed, cemetery low spots have been leveled, and additional flags have been installed on the west end of the cemetery.

New business items were officer elections. Results are Chairman – Greg Windler, Elder – Karl Karrow, Trustee – Kelly Kaiser, Board of Education – Jordan Menefee, Finance Committee – Cindy Karrow, Endowment Committee – Kynda Harshman and Jeff Thompson, Usher – Stan Loftiss, Secretary – Jim Prothe, Sunday School superintendent and secretary – Kristina Eilts and Michelle Haley.

Voters approved next year's Mission Budget to be the same as past year (\$7500 to Kansas District, \$500 to mission partner, and holiday loose offering to missions). Handrailing and signage for the west parking lot to be handled by the trustees. Voters were also reminded of the church being locked in conjunction with the upcoming November elections. The meeting was adjourned with the singing of the Doxology.

TRUNK OR TREAT

We would like to extend a big THANK YOU to everyone who made our Trunk or Treat event a success! The trunk creativity is always a highlight and you all (and the costumes) did not disappoint! It was wonderful to see so many people from our community come out, sharing in the space God has blessed us.

Trinity Tribune

Published Monthly by

Trinity Lutheran Church
34868 Block Road
Paola, KS 66071

Rev. Joshua Woelmer, Pastor
Stacey Elkinton, Church Secretary

Church: 913-849-3344
Pastor's Cell: 785-893-3960

Website: trinitylcms.org
facebook.com/trinitylutheranblock
joshua.woelmer@gmail.com
trinitylutheranblock@gmail.com

