

St. Thomas Lutheran Church News



*November 2016
XXXVII I Issue 11*

*Give us This Day Our Daily Bread
(The Lord's Prayer, 4th Petition, Small Catechism)*

AJ Jacobs, a self-professed agnostic who is not sure he believes in God, spent a year of his life living as literally as possible according to the “rules” or commands that he found in the Bible. He shared his experience in the book [The Year of Living Biblically: One Man's Humble Quest to Follow the Bible as Literally as Possible](#).

“At the beginning of the year,” he says, “I wrote down every rule, every guideline, every suggestion, every nugget of advice I could find in the Bible. It’s a very long list. It runs 72 pages. More than 700 rules. Some rules were wise, some completely baffling. Some were baffling at first, then wise. Some were wise first then baffling.” When the year was over, Jacobs developed a number of his own lists, among them a list of the “most unexpectedly wise and life-enhancing rules” that he had discovered along the way. These can be found on the web at <http://ajjacobs.com/resources/the-rules/>. The fifth rule on this list was:

“Give thanks. The Bible says to thank the Lord after meals. I did that. Perhaps too much. I got carried away. I gave thanks for everything – for the subway coming on time, for the comfortableness of my couch, etc. It was strange but great. Never have I been so aware of the thousands of little things that go right in our lives.”

Our old friend Martin Luther might say that through the discipline of giving thanks Mr. Jacobs discovered daily bread. In his explanation of the fourth petition of the Lord’s Prayer, Luther said:

In fact, God gives daily bread without our prayer, even to all evil people, but we ask in this prayer that God cause us to recognize what our daily bread is and to receive it with thanksgiving.

It is as if the discipline of giving thanks opens our eyes, ears, and hearts to see more than we would see otherwise, a world filled to overflowing with daily bread. "What then does 'daily bread' mean?" Luther asked in his Small Catechism and then answered his own question:

Everything included in the necessities and nourishment for our bodies, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, farm, fields, livestock, money, property, an upright spouse, upright children, upright members of the household, upright and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, decency, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

Giving thanks opened AJ Jacobs' eyes to see this daily bread filling his life. It can do the same for us. Why not give it a try, not just on Thanksgiving Day, but every day? Imagine the thousand bits of previously overlooked daily bread you will see!

And, giving thanks for the daily bread in our own lives can also open our eyes, ears, and hearts to see the many people around us and in the world who do not have all the daily bread they need: refugees, the poor, those who struggle with hopelessness or aimlessness, victims of natural disaster, war, and prejudice. May our giving thanks also move us to be grateful enough that we ourselves, as individuals and communities, will reach out to become bits of the daily bread for which others pray.

Peace be with you,
+Bishop Bill Gafkjen



All Saints Sunday

On All Saints Sunday (November 6th), we will remember in prayer those who have joined the Church Triumphant over the past year. We will remember J. Darrell Bakken, David Cline, Amada Hertel, Curt Knudsen Max Mingee, and Frank Stewart. Those in attendance at worship that day will have the opportunity to add the names of family and friends for inclusion in our prayers.



Congregational Meeting – November 13 Following the 11:00 A.M. Worship Service

Our Annual Congregational Budget Meeting is set for Sunday, November 13th following the late service that day. Regular worship services will be held at 8:30 & 11 am . The annual budget meeting will be at 12:30 in the Sanctuary. The 2017 budget is the only item on the agenda. We expect the meeting to be brief and no luncheon will follow.



Community Thanksgiving Service

The Congregations of Beth Shalom, First United Church, Islamic Center, St. Mark Methodist, St. Thomas Lutheran, University Baptist, Unitarian Universalist and others are joining together for a common celebration of Thanksgiving on Tuesday, November 15, 7:00 p.m., location to be announced.

Advent 2016: Remembering, Repenting, Reconciling in the ELCA

This Advent, we look at the Reformation in action today. In recent years, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has engaged in deepening our ties of understanding and neighborliness with many groups. We will explore four of these groups especially affected by troubling aspects of Reformation zeal during the Wednesdays in Advent.

- 11/30 Lutherans and Jews
- 12/7 Lutherans and Native Peoples
- 12/14 Lutherans and Mennonites/Anabaptists
- 12/21 Lutherans and Roman Catholics

Join in worship on Wednesdays at noon or at 7:00 p.m. Come hear moving stories of reconciliation and enjoy singing the Haugen Vespers.

This series is part of our year-long celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.



November 2016 Adult Forum Schedule

- November 6: Culture of Conversation, Sanctuary: Join Pastor Lye for an open conversation about the ministries and missions of St. Thomas.
- November 13: TBD
- November 20: Intergenerational Day – We'll be making special Christmas tree ornaments to sell for Heifer International. Hands of all ages are invited to help with this project!
- November 27: Education Classes will not be held on Sunday, November 27 – Thanksgiving Break.

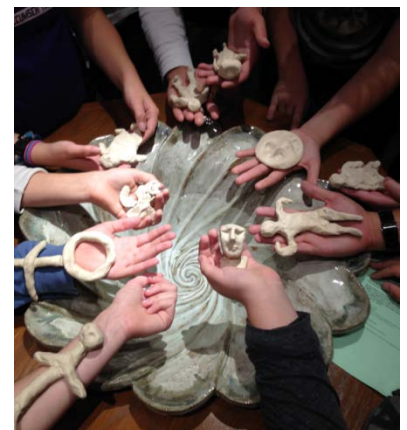


Youth Group Schedule:

- November 6, 5:30-7:30 pm – Dinner Church & Family Game Night. It's a pitch-in dinner with a special worship service in the style of St. Lydia's, Brooklyn. After dinner we'll play a life-sized board game.
- November 20, 5:30-7:30 pm – Regular youth group at St. Thomas
- November 27, 4:30-7:30 pm – Advent Vespers & Dinner. The whole family is invited for a special worship service to kick off the Advent season, a congregational meal, and then Advent themed games.
- December 4, 5:30-7:30 pm – Regular youth group at St. Thomas
- December 18, 5:00-8:00 pm – Christmas Caroling.



October 9th Youth Group:
Remembering that we are all
lovingly and wonderfully made
by God.



Congratulation to Our Confirmands

The congregation congratulates Erica L. Goldsworthy, Zachary Howard May, and Mitchell Knipstein on completing the requirements for our confirmation program at St. Thomas Church. They engaged in class work, retreats, memorization, and service to the congregation and community. Erica, Zach and Mitchell presented their confirmation testimony at worship on Reformation Sunday, October 30th.

May God continue to bless each of them with wisdom, growth in faith, and a spirit of joyful service to their Lord and the Church.



Advent Evensong & Dinner Sunday, November 27

All ages are welcome for any or all of the evening. Come when you can, leave when you must!

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to RSVP and also to help provide food and help with set-up, serving, and clean-up.

4:30 – Organ Prelude

5:00pm – Evensong Worship - A service of readings, scripture lessons, and canticles

5:45pm – Dinner

6:30pm – “Reindeer” Games for all! Play and learn about the animals that are a part of our Knitter’s Basket from Heifer International, our Sunday School Offering Project.

7:30pm – Sending Blessing with take home spiritual resources for the whole season of Advent.



Intergenerational Fiber Arts Group:

The group continues to meet 1 - 2 times a month on Saturdays from 10:00 – 12:00 at church. We have plans for gatherings outside the church as well as teaching sessions. We hope to teach knitting-- especially to children in the winter months. Keep tuned for a date!

Next meeting will be: Saturday, November 19th from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm at church.



Introducing Faith Forte!

We invite the toddlers and their parents of St. Thomas to join together once a month for talking about the Bible, singing songs, and getting the wiggles out. We will start the frivolities November 13th at 9:45 in Heritage Hall. Hope to see you there!



NOVEMBER 5

St. Thomas Mission Endowment Fund Call for Proposals

The Mission Endowment Fund provides funding for special projects at St. Thomas Lutheran Church, local outreach, and missions beyond the local community. Distributions from the endowment are made quarterly and are for programs or projects not already supported by the congregation's budget. Any member of St. Thomas may submit a proposal by completing the paper or electronic forms available from the church office. If you have a project in need of funding, please submit an application by one of the quarterly deadlines: before the first day of February, May, and August, and November. If you have questions, please contact the office or David Daleke, Chair of the Mission Endowment Fund Committee.



2016 World Community Day

Church Women United is focusing on "Sharing Gifts" at this year's World Community Day, November 4, 2016. There will be an ecumenical service at Arlington Methodist Church at 11:00 in the morning, followed by a lunch at noon. Arlington Methodist Church is located at 1820 Arlington Road. All (men and women) are invited to attend. For more information contact Gail Seegert at gmseegert@comcast.net.

On another note: CWU is collecting items for the less fortunate. Some suggestions include: warm clothing for winter, gently used backpacks, and toiletries (especially toothpaste, deodorant, and feminine products). If you have these commodities to contribute, please look for a box in the narthex marked "CWU", or contact Gail Seegert. Thank you in advance.

Stewardship Reminder

If you haven't already, please complete and return your "Time and Talent" sheet and your pledge card for 2017. Additional copies are available in the Narthex. Many thanks to members who have already turned in their forms.

Wedding Anniversaries

11/26	Gary & Helen Ingersoll	50 yrs
11/27	Darrell & Kathleen Boggess	45 yrs
11/27	Jerry & Betty Smith	62 yrs

November Pantry Needs For MCUM

Food: canned fruit (no pineapple)
Baking mixes & pie crust mixes
canned veggies (esp. green peas & potatoes)
soups – veggie, tomato, cream of chicken or mushroom
dried beans and peanut butter

Cleaning Closet Items:
Underwear – men's sizes 32-36
Tube socks for winter



NOVEMBER 5

November Birthdays

11/1 Lyle McKee
11/4 Dana Barron, Nick May
11/5 Andrew Watters
11/7 Kathleen Boggess, Susan Colston,
Evelyn James
11/12 Lyman Hitchcock, Kris Stewart
11/15 Jane Warner
11/16 Ron Ohslund
11/19 Chris Smith
11/20 David Polansky
11/22 Kaye Hill
11/23 Martha Seaman
11/27 Gail Bourkland
11/29 Jim Halvorson
11/30 Michael Laros, Natalie Schacht

Unsubscribe from this list or update
your preferences by emailing:
kayehill@stlconline.org

Our mailing address is:
St. Thomas Lutheran Church
3800 East Third Street
Bloomington, IN 47401
www.stlconline.org



NOVEMBER 5

November & December 2016 Volunteers

	*NOVEMBER 6	NOVEMBER 13	NOVEMBER 20	NOVEMBER 27	DECEMBER 4	DECEMBER 11	DECEMBER 18
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	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM
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DEACON	Robin Hershberger	Kris Stewart	Kathleen Boggess	Gail Seegert	David Rohlfing	Lindsey Smith	Robin Hershberger
LECTOR	Judy Bush	Mike Laros	ML Nierzwicki	Pauline Caldwell	David Ellies	Lynn Coyne	Bob Cutter
ACOLYTE	Madelyn Shupe	E Goldsworthy	Lilly Rademacher	Zach May	Max Arterberry	Matthew Schacht	Joel Arnold
SERVER	David Ellies	Kent Unger	Jean Brown	Barb Unger	Judy Bush	Gene Laughman	ML Nierzwicki
USHERS	F/ML Nierzwicki	D/D Nixon	J/M Doering	G/G Laughman	L/U Coyne	F/ML Nierzwicki	D/D Nixon
GREETERS	G/G Laughman	Evelyn Niemeyer	B/K Unger	David Ellies	M/J Laros	Jean Brown	Shirley Mingee
CRUCIFER	David Ellies						

FLOWERS	J/R Steele						
BREAD/WINE	C/K McDonald	T/R Steele	D/K Boggess	B/C Gallien	Katie Anderson	C/M Foley	Pauline Caldwell
COUNCIL CO	S/M Eichmiller	Cindy Gallien	Ashley Ahlbrand	Cindy Gallien	S/M Eichmiller	Ashley Ahlbrand	Dean Arnold
	Ashley Ahlbrand	G Moehlmann	Dennis Baurle	Dean Arnold	G Moehlmann	Kim Filiatrault	Ashley Ahlbrand
ALTAR GUILD	Gail Seegert	Ute Coyne	Barb Unger	Jean Brown	Barb Unger	Gail Seegert	Shirley Mingee
	Pauline Caldwell	Charlene Braun	Betty Smith	Charlene Braun	Mary Sasse	Betty Smith	Pauline Caldwell

	*NOVEMBER 6	NOVEMBER 13	NOVEMBER 20	NOVEMBER 27	DECEMBER 4	DECEMBER 11	DECEMBER 18
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	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM
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DEACON	M O'Connor	C Repsholdt	Mark Carpenter	Lyman Hitchcock	Betty Smith	Gary Ingersoll	Ashley Ahlbrand
LECTOR	Stephanie Biehn	Kari Esarey	Sharon Fawbush	Sandy Arnold	G Hitchcock	Peter Iversen	David Daleke
ACOLYTE	Truman Daleke	Sophia Waters	Sam Polansky	M Bourkland	Nina Daleke	Mitchell Knipstein	Birch Foley
SERVER	Claire Repsholdt	Chris Ogan	Katie Anderson	Sharon Fawbush	David Daleke	Gary Ingersoll	Stephanie Biehn
USHERS	Kaye Hill	D/S Arnold	P/L May	McDonald/Ohslund	Baurle/Filiatrault	Kaye Hill	D/S Arnold
GREETER	Haley Garl	T/J Sinn	C/M Foley	L/A Madsen	Margret Harter	Ruth Rives	T/J Garl
CRUCIFER	Claire Repsholdt						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 UClub Yoga 10am Worship Com. 6:30 pm	2 Friday Musicale Board 9:30 am Mission Co 6:45 pm Jazz Band 7 pm	3 Gables Homeowner 5:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	4	5 Property Co 10:00
6 Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 Education Hour 9:45am Culture of Conversation 9:45 New Members received & reception Youth Group Family Night 5:30 pm	7 Living the Questions 7:00 pm Community Band 7pm	8 UClub Yoga 10am	9 Swing Band 7:00 pm	10 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	11 Friday Musicale Event 7:00 pm	12 Bach Cantata Rehearsal 1:30 pm
13 Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 Education Hour 9:45am Children's Choir 9:45 am IONA Group 9:45 pm Faith Forte 9:45 am Annual Budget Meeting 12:15 pm Bach Cantata 2:30 pm	14 Community Band 7pm	15 UClub Yoga 10am Community Thanksgiving Service 7:00 pm	16 Jazz Band 7 pm	17 Finance Co 6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	18	19
20 Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 Intergenerational Sunday 9:45 Children's Choir 9:45 am Pipers Society 4:00 pm Youth Group 5:30 pm	21 Community Band 7pm Spinners/Weavers 7pm	22 UClub Yoga 10am Lace Guild 7:00 pm	23 Swing Band 7:00 pm	24 	25 Church Office Closed	26
27 Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 No Education Hour Advent Evensong & Dinner 4:30 pm	28 Community Band 7pm Reformation 500 Group 7:00 pm	29 UClub Yoga 10am	30 Advent Worship 12:00 & 7 pm Jazz Band 7 pm			