OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

VOLUME 29, ISSUE 11 NOVEMBER 2026

this month
SERMON SERIES

Sunday, November 1 - *"Rooted to Remember"* (All Saints) - Pastor Josh
OT: Psalm 145:3–7
NT: Hebrews 12:1–2
Gospel: John 15:1–5

Sunday, November 8 - *"Rooted to Honor"* (Veterans) - Pastor Josh
OT: Micah 6:8
NT: Philippians 2:3–8
Gospel: John 15:12–13

Sunday, November 15 – *"Rooted to Serve"* - Pastor Josh
OT: Isaiah 58:6–9
NT: 2 Corinthians 5:17–20
Gospel: Matthew 5:14–16

Sunday, November 22 – *"Rooted to Give"* - Pastor Chad
OT: Deuteronomy 8:10–18
NT: 2 Corinthians 9:6–8
Gospel: Luke 12:13–21

Thursday, November 25 – *Thanksgiving Eve Worship* – Pastor Josh
Deut. 8:1–10
Psalm 67
1 Tim. 2:1–4
Luke 17:11–19

Sunday, November 29 – *"The Root of Promise"* – Pastor Justin
First Sunday of Advent
OT: Genesis 3:14–15
NT: Romans 5:12–21
Gospel: John 1:1–5

in this ISSUE

From Pastor Britton
Page 2

From Our Worship & Music Director
Page 3

Upcoming Events
Page 4

Assimilation
Page 4

LWML/MITES/New Beginnings
Page 5

SONshine Kids/Vision Planning
Page 6

Life Team News
Page 7

Mission Life/Samaritan House
Page 8

Church Family Prayer List
Page 9

Monthly Birthdays/Anniversaries
Page 10

Calendar
Page 11

Its Your Serve
Page 12

a message from PASTOR BRITTON

I am so thankful for the many blessings that the month of November brings! Whether it is the cooler temperatures, more chances to cozy up around the fireplace with loved ones, in the opinions of some - decorating for Christmas WAY too early, or the occasions to gather with family and friends, November generously grants us the chances to count and recall all the blessings and reasons we have to be thankful and grateful as followers of Jesus.

As we have focused on the importance of being rooted in Jesus over the last few weeks, we are going to continue to see the same truths in how we are called to live a rooted life in response to Christ that remembers and sacrificially serves and gives just like Jesus did.

Looking for opportunities to respond with grateful and thankful hearts in loving service and generous giving is not only a fitting heart and mindset to be in for this month, but it is also the life we are called to live out in Christ.

The Apostle Paul reminds us to, "Rejoice always, pray continually, **give thanks** in all circumstances; **for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.**

Jesus is the reason we can be thankful and grateful. He did all the work. We are loved, forgiven and forever His because of Christ. In light of this truth, God wants us to be giving thanks in all circumstances.

I am praying that as we seek to stay rooted in Jesus this month, God continually opens up doors and gives us circumstances to be thankful, and therefore respond with sacrificial and generous service and giving for all Jesus has done for us.

Do you see a need? Has God given your hands the ability, time, resources, or talents to respond and fill the need? May we jump at it as they arrive!

It isn't about giving a certain number percentage or meeting a quota, especially not in God's economy as followers of Jesus.

What it is about is seeing and noting how generous God is. God modeled and set the tone in how He didn't hold back a single "cent". Think about it, He GAVE Himself by sending His one and only Son to come down and set the example of what it means to sacrificially serve in such generous ways, that because of Jesus, eternity is now open to everyone.

We get to be cheerful givers in response to this work so that people ultimately hear and know about Jesus! This is why we respond and give thanks in all circumstances - *we want people to know about Jesus, to hear about Jesus, to encounter and receive the gifts of Jesus...and it starts with us*.

When the opportunities come this November, as they certainly will with the Holidays approaching, we get to remember and focus on what Christ did for us and then respond in sacrificial and generous ways with grateful and thankful hearts.

May God continue to open the doors as we faithfully walk through them empowered by the Holy Spirit, in Jesus name!

One more quick thing - in an effort to better know, connect, and serve you all, I would love to meet with all the homes of members and/or family units here at Our Redeemer. If you can, please plan for 30 minutes as I don't want to take up a lot of your time. Please contact me directly at jbritton@trinityutica.com so we can arrange a time to connect. I look forward to getting to know you more!

- Pastor Josh

from our MUSIC DIRECTOR

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. (Colossians 4:2)

Thanksgiving is not just a day to be observed once each year; it really should be a way of daily living.

No Thanksgiving Day gathering would be complete without the singing of this traditional Dutch hymn "We Gather Together". Today we sing this hymn as an expression of thanks to God as our defender and guide throughout the past year. The text was originally written by an anonymous author at the end of the 17th century to celebrate the Dutch freedom from the Spanish overlords, who had been driven from their land. Freedom was now theirs, both politically from Spain and religiously from the Catholic church. The translation of the song was done by Edward Kremser.

"We Gather Together" must be understood and appreciated in its historical setting. For many years, Holland had been under the scourge of Spain, and in 1576, Antwerp was captured and sacked by the Spanish armies. Again, in 1585, it was captured by the Spanish and all of the Protestant citizens were exiled. Many other Dutch cities suffered similar fates. During the 17th century, however, there developed in Holland a time of great prosperity and rich post-reformation culture. Commerce was expanded around the world, and this was the period of great Dutch art, with such well-known painters as Rembrandt and Vermeer. In 1648 the Spanish endeavors to control Holland were finally destroyed beyond recovery. *(ref. Amazing Grace: 306 Hymn Stories for Personal Devotions by Kenneth W. Osbeck., Copyright 1990)*

You can really see the references to these historical events throughout the hymn's text:

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; He chasten and hastens His will to make known. The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing: Sing praises to His name -He forgets not His own.

Share with others, perhaps your family members, how God has guided and protected your lives throughout this past year. Sing this hymn together before enjoying the Thanksgiving meal.

I pray you all have a wonderful November and rest of the year. May you be thankful for each day that the Lord has made and all His many blessings.

For this month here are some passages to reflect upon:
Psalm 5:11, 12; John 16:33; Romans 8:31; Hebrews 12:5-7

Blessings,
Cari Muirhead, Director of Worship and Music

Upcoming EVENTS

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS
Sunday, November 1st
**Set Your Clocks Back*
Saturday Evening

ANNUAL VOTER'S MEETING
Sunday, November 1st
12:00pm

2 DAY VISION PLANNING
Friday, November 6th
6pm-9pm
Saturday, November 7th
8am-12pm

CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR
Saturday, November 14th
8am-2pm

WOMEN'S BUNCO NIGHT
Thursday, November 19th
6:30pm

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP
Thursday, November 25th
6:30pm

CHRISTMAS DECORATING
Sunday, November 29th
After the 10:30am Service

QUILTING
Mondays @ 10:00am

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
Tuesdays @ 7:00am
@ The Golden Toast

BELL CHOIR
Tuesdays @ 7:00pm

LADIES BIBLE STUDY
Wednesdays @ 9:30am

MISSION LIFE
Wednesdays @ 4:30pm

JR. CHOIR
Wednesdays @ 5:30pm

ADULT CHOIR
Wednesdays @ 6:30pm

OUR REDEEMER MINISTRIES

ASSIMILATION

As we are fully into our Fall season, there's a lot going on at Our Redeemer!

Thank you to all who participated in Trunk or Treat! It was so much fun to be with all the preschool families.

Thank you to those of you who served at Salvation Army. We are going to take the month of November off but will be serving again soon. Look for notices in your bulletin.

Ladies, we are having a Bunco Night on Thursday, November 19th at 6:30 p.m. Invite your friends!! We will be having snacks and of course prizes!! We are collecting diaper cream, baby shampoo, baby wash and diaper wipes for Compassion Pregnancy Center. Sign up in Narthex by November 15th.

We are collecting food items for Samaritan House. Grab a grocery bag from table in Narthex, fill it up and bring it back to stock their shelves!

Watch for the Christmas SHARING tree going up in the Narthex mid month with tags on it for your chance to purchase Christmas presents for those less fortunate.

On November 29th we will be decorating the church for the Christmas season after 10:30 service. All are invited to help! Many hands make light work!

Looking ahead to the advent season: our ladies Advent Tea is going to be on Friday, December 4th. We are looking for hostesses! Please let me know if you are interested or are looking for more information.

Kathy Sowers
Assimilation Director

OUR REDEEMER MINISTRIES (cont.)

LWML MITES WORKING HARD:

In June, The Michigan District LWML chose 13 Mission Grants for the 2026-2028 Biennium. The first one is: CTSFW Food co-op Purchase Food for Seminary Students-Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne-$15,000. This Food co-op provides up to 85% pf student families monthly grocery needs at no cost to them. The Food Bank spends approximately $7,000 a month on fresh produce and other grocery items.

LWML:

At our meeting in October, we honored our first responders by assembling a gift basket with snacks and thank you cards, which was delivered to our local fire station.

LWML Sunday was celebrated on October 11th. Thank you to everyone who purchased mums during our sale that day. Also thank you to everyone who donated children's socks and underwear as part of our collection for Gifts for all God's Children. Your support is always appreciated and helps us to assist in funding Christian based missions.

The Our Redeemer Craft & Vendor Show is on track for Saturday, November 14th, from 8 am-2 pm. Please come and support our local small business participants, including several members of our church. Crafters and vendors will be selling many beautiful handcrafted and sewn items, including Christmas items, children's activity kits and coloring pajamas, wellness items (neck wraps, skin care, essential oils), Motown Soups, quick breads, Sugar Buzz Bakery Dot Cakes, Christian based products and photography, and much more! Stop in for a hot dog, chips, and a drink, for $1 each. Admission is $2 and we will be drawing for a door prize every hour.This is a great opportunity to begin or finish some Christmas shopping and mingle with fellow church and community members.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 2nd, at 6 pm. We will be packing and wrapping boxes for our shut in members for Pastor Britton to deliver in December. We will also complete our Secret Sister forms and plan our December potluck and meeting. Please bring a roll of Christmas wrapping paper if you can.

If you are curious about LWML, please feel free to join us. We would love to have you! God's Blessings!

Terry Winkel
LWML Secretary

NEW BEGINNINGS

Hello all,

Fall has arrived and the colors are gorgeous. Last month our group went to Art & Jake's, good food lots of fun and fellowship. This month we will be going to G's Kitchen and Cocktails, 56129 Vandyke, Shelby Twp.. Wednesday, November 18th at 4:30. If you would like to come and have dinner with friends please let me know, 586-746-7547. Everyone have a blessed and happy Thanksgiving, God is good and we need to be thankful always.

-Blessings, Joyce Mason

OUR REDEEMER MINISTRIES (cont.)

VISION PLANNING 2-DAY SESSION FOR OUR REDEEMER, NOVEMBER 6 & 7:

The mission of both Our Redeemer and Trinity is focused on the Great Commission of making disciples. What is our plan on how we will fulfill that mission? The leadership at both Our Redeemer and Trinity feel it will be beneficial to conduct a Vision Planning Session for Our Redeemer on **November 6 & 7** to develop that vision. This activity will be beneficial regardless of the outcome of the merger investigation. Trinity conducted a similar session in 2025 which in the same way will help us to identify our strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities for being the hands and feet of Jesus. We would like to invite and engage **everyone** at Our Redeemer in this 2-Day Vision Planning Session taking place **Friday evening, November 6 (6-9pm) AND Saturday morning, November 7 (8am-12pm).** Dinner will be provided on Friday evening and a light breakfast on Saturday morning. Please plan on attending both sessions. In order to get an accurate headcount for food, **please RSVP to Mary Jane at: secretary@ourredeemer-lcms.org by Monday, November 2.**

SONSHINE KIDS NEWS & NOTES:

During the month of October, our SONshine Kids learned some of the foundational Bible stories from the Old Testament: Noah's Ark, Abraham, and Joseph. They also celebrated Pastor Appreciation Month and learned about the Christian Jack O'Lantern.

We kicked off our fall mission project: "A Quiet Witness". This project will send Bible books to children in Malaysia through Lutheran Heritage Foundation. Each book costs $5, and our goal is to send 30 books. The congregation will have an opportunity to help us reach this goal on November 8th! The kids will be singing in church and sharing information about our mission project. We'll have a gift to pass out to everyone after both services that morning, and we'll have a donation box out for anyone who wants to contribute to this special mission project.

It's never too late to join the fun, so if you have kids or grandkids age 3 through 8th grade, please join us on Sunday mornings from 9:00-10:15!

Upcoming Dates:

- November 8th - sing at 8:00 & 10:30 services (meet at 8:40 in the narthex)
- December 24th - Kids' Christmas Program at 5:00pm service

*If you have any questions, please email/text me at mlwesley44@gmail.com or 248-854-3564.

Serving in Christ,
Mandi Wesley

OUR REDEEMER MINISTRIES (cont).

LIFE TEAM NEWS

Thank God for Life!

"For you created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
Your works are wonderful, I know that full well."
Psalm 139:13-14

As Thanksgiving approaches, many people will take time to thank God for the countless blessings He has given. This is obviously an appropriate thing to do, and an important tradition to pass down to the next generation. But here's something to ponder: among the list of all the material things we are thankful for, do we remember to include perhaps the most basic gift we have: the gift of LIFE?

Our very existence is a precious gift from God. He created each of us with a purpose and gives us a life full of opportunities to serve Him and love others. What if it became the norm to include LIFE as something we thank God for, not just at Thanksgiving, but throughout the year? What if we help raise up a generation of kids who recognize LIFE as a gift, and who help show others that every life is valuable, regardless of age, race, gender, physical/mental ability, or any other qualifier? What an incredible difference that would make in our broken, sinful world that continues to devalue human life.

This Thanksgiving and beyond, I challenge you to make a point of thanking God for the gift of LIFE. Tell your kids/grandkids/students/neighbors that you are thankful for their lives as well. The world is not going to change overnight, but if we all make a point of sharing the message that LIFE IS A GIFT with just a few people, perhaps there is still hope that our society can shift towards having respect for all human life and treating one another like fellow children of God!

Thanksgiving Blessings,
Mandi Wesley
Life Team

OUR REDEEMER MINISTRIES (cont).

MISSION LIFE:

Hi everyone! We are in full swing for Mission Life! Thank you to all of you who participated in serving at Trunk or Treat! Five of our 7th & 8th graders had a great time attending Camp Arcadia in October! Special thanks to Ed & Sarah Sosnowski for taking the time to be chaperones! We will not have class on Wednesday, November 25th, as it is the day before Thanksgiving. I am attaching the acolyte schedule for November. Thank you all for inspiring your children to participate! I love seeing acolytes at both services now! Just a reminder, If you have a scheduling conflict, please reach out to someone else on the list to switch. If you do, please reach out to me or the office to let us know too!

~Kathy Sowers

ACOLYTES IN NOVEMBER:

	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Nov. 1:	Ethan Anzano	Alyssa Paul
Nov. 8:	Brennan Veres	Penny Tomasino
Nov. 15:	Stella Tomasino	Cole Smiley
Nov. 22:	Caleb Sosnowski	Mackenzie Paul
Nov. 29:	Carter Veres	Makayla Paul

SAMARITAN HOUSE

Business Hours
Tuesday & Wednesday, 10am-6pm
Friday, 10am-4pm
(586-336-9956)
www. samaritanhousemichigan.org

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thanksgiving -- Samaritan House anticipates providing 225 Families with Thanksgiving Food boxes along with a $25 gift card to purchase a turkey. If you can help with a gift card we would be most appreciative! ***ALSO: Our Redeemer will be putting out our annual food pantry bags so check the Narthex!***

Little Green Apple Hallmark – has chosen Samaritan House As the recipient of their Gift Giving Event!
Stop by one of three locations on November 28th!
30 Mile & Van Dyke
25 Mile & Dequindre
21 Mile & Card
Purchase one of the beautiful Abbey & Cathedral Art Pewter ornaments for $9.99 and $5 from every ornament Sold will be donated to Samaritan House. If a Samaritan House Volunteer is present the entire $9.99 will be donated!

PANTRY NEEDS:

Canned Kidney Beans
Italian Dressing
Canned Corn
Graham Crackers
Vegetable Soup
Canned Ravioli
SpaghettiOs
Turkey Gravy Packets
Hamburger Helper
Ritz Crackers
Cheez-it Crackers
Paper Towel
Liquid Hand Soap
Chocolate Snack Pack Pudding

Church FAMILY PRAYER LIST

TALK WITH GOD *(Please remember these friends in your prayers.)*
These are the most recent prayer requests.
Please contact the office if you would like to add or remove someone.

Barb Pellegrino *(Muellers' friend; cancer)*
Frank Cody *(Margo Schuch's brother)*
Mona Pfent *(Christin Peyerk's mom; cancer)*
Tina Hayden *(Haydens' daughter-in-law; cancer)*
Grace Angela Beachnau *(Mueller's granddaughter)*
Dana Primeau *(stage 4 colon cancer)*
Andy Walgenbach *(cancer treatment)*
Lillian Dodson *(Sandy Huyck's mom)* **Ray & Sally Burke**
Mary Reinhardt *(Jim Reinhardt's mom)* **Andy Anderson** *(recovery)* **Robin Meyer** *(Marian Schultz's sister-in-law)*
Cole Yahara *(Jan & Walt Mueller's grandson)*
Ruth Kacmar *(Sasse's granddaughter)*
Steve Stefani *(Linda Coles son-in-law)*
Hannah Thoms *(recovery - Charlene Thoms daughter-in-law)*
Chelsea Iwamoto *(Friend of Jim & Sandy Huyck)*
Sharon Brennecke *(recovery from surgery)*
Gail Feeback *(cancer treatment)*
Kevin Busch *(recovery from back surgery)*
Corey Fritz *(cancer recovery - Norm Fritz's Son)*
Dave Edwards *(Cheryl Edwards' brother-in-law; esophageal cancer)*
Esther Diener *(heart problems)*
Myra Hemingway *(cancer - Joan Hemingway's daughter-in-law)*
Norma Hotchkiss *(strength)* **Peggy Alward** *(MS)*
Shirley Alward **Margie Draucker**
Ryan Wesley *(recovery from stroke/heart surgery)*
Karen Horn *(recovery from fall)*
Scott Johnston *(recovery from broken femur surgery)*
Joanne Dykstra *(heart attack-friend of Margie Kirsh)*
Pat Walgenbach *(multiple myeloma treatment)*
Joseph Eckhardt *(Margie & Gary Kirsh's son)*
Erin Gomez *(Gary Grebb's niece-healing from lung & lymph node cancer)*
Frank Labinski (for healing) **Don Tallman**
Pastor Gary Faith *(Joyce Kilpatrick's brother-cancer treatment)*
Margo Schuch *(broken foot)* **Scott Moeller** *(strength)*
Eddie Schultz *(healing from hip surgery)*
Brian Steffens *(healing from open heart surgery)*

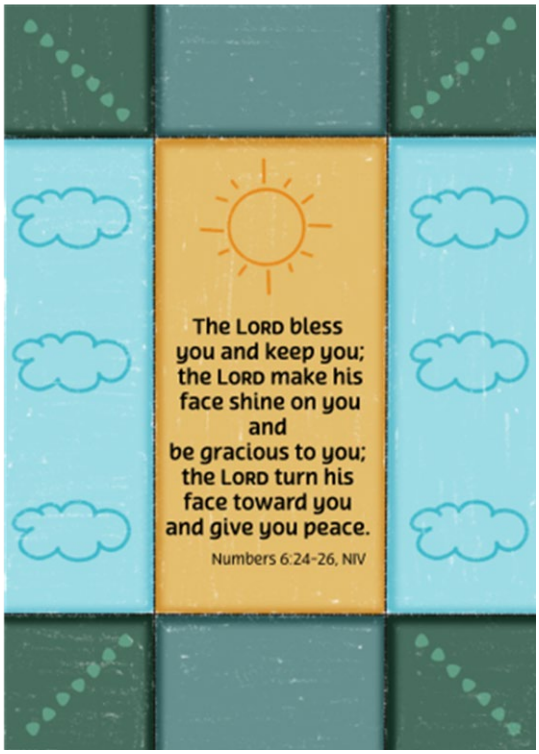
NOVEMBER
Birthdays & Anniversaries

November Birthday Prayers

Lynnda Currin	11/2
Linda Irwin	11/4
Frances Tomasino	11/4
Hannah Bernthal	11/5
David Friedli	11/6
June Valcke	11/7
Cynthia Brough	11/8
Pat Walgenbach	11/9
Patricia Wigley	11/9
Rock Kuchenmeister Sr.	11/10
Danielle McIlhargey	11/11
Scarlett Friedli	11/11
Cynthia Holland	11/15
Char Hohnstadt	11/15
Kayley Lorts	11/17
Lee Newton	11/18
Hailey Flynn	11/18
Elliana McIlhargey	11/21
Kristin Walker	11/23
Bill Hohnstadt	11/24
Margie Kirsh	11/24
Leah Flynn	11/24
Elizabeth Britton	11/24
Sharon Brennecke	11/25
Nadine Steffens	11/28
Diane Schmueser	11/28

November Anniversary Prayers

Brent & Linda Irwin	11/6
Mark & Robin Falker	11/12
Scott & Rosanne Johnston	11/20
Jim & Terri Riske	11/27
Philip & Diane Awe	11/27
David & Diane Schmueser	11/28



Please let the office know if your birthday or wedding anniversary is not included in these monthly lists! Thank you.