

Trinity Tidings

NOVEMBER 2006: Trinity Lutheran Church, Pre-school, Childcare, Kindergarten 331 W. George St. West Chicago, IL 60185
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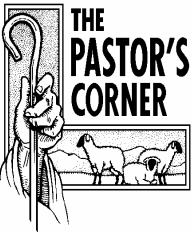
November 1st FIRST DAY OF AFTER SCHOOL CARE

November 19th Voter's Meeting

November 22nd Thanksgiving Eve Service 7PM

December 16th Christmas Coral Concert 5:30 PM Potluck afterwards

God's Grace and Halloween



It may sound strange to compare the two. Some Christians even avoid Halloween. But this article will focus on how God's grace is very similar to what I do on Halloween. Please note that all illustrations will break down if pushed, and I will note that latter.

The preparations for Halloween begin well before the actual day arrives. There are decorations to acquire and most importantly candy to buy. Now the purchasing of candy is not determined by cost, nor is it determined by healthiest (i.e. sugar-free candy) but determined by what tastes good. (i.e. chocolate) This is done so that if there are any leftovers the adults in the family will be able to enjoy themselves as well as the children.

Now I will attempt to make some parallels with God's Grace. When a person comes to the door, I present or another member of the family present the person with a gift, the candy. Please note that I give these gifts out to everyone, regardless if they say "Trick or Treat" or if they are in a great costume or not. The gift is for everyone who wants the gift. I don't ask if they have been good. I don't ask if they are from the area, everyone get the same gift.

God's gift is also given in a similar fashion. We go to where God's gift is located, where the Word is

preached and His sacraments (even more gifts) are administered. We come seeking gifts of love and forgiveness from God and He graciously gives, no strings attached.

Now some may say that we don't go to church in a Halloween costume. But actually we do. You see when we were baptized as St. Paul says we are clothed with Christ. Galatians 3:27 "For all of you who are baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." To be fair baptism is not a Halloween costume designed to scare other people, but baptism is a covering that hides our sinfulness so that God the Father sees the glory of Christ, and welcomes us as His dearly beloved children.

Yes, our life is based upon God's great gifts. His gift of life to each of us and His gift of salvation. And now that the Halloween decoration are being put away and we start thinking of the next holiday and there is another gift connection, but this time a bit more obvious.

So if you feel down and out and you sugar high from Halloween is low, come to where God's good gifts of love and forgiveness are still given. You don't even have to dress up or say, "Trick or Treat."

Enjoy God's Gifts to you through Jesus the Christ,

Pastor Balla

From the School

STEPPING- STONES TO LITERACY

Literacy is not just reading. It's pretending and puppet play. It's scribbling on paper and writing a thank you card. It's talking to a teddy bear or making up stories. Literacy begins at birth and develops as children learn to listen, speak, read, write, think, and socialize. Success in school and in life correlates highly to success in literacy.

Read Every Day: Vary the times you read and the types of books. Reading aloud to children even after they have learned to read is very important.

Rhyme, Rhythm, and Repetition: For the young reader, these are the 3 R's to remember. Repeat favorite books and rhymes, and encourage children to chime in on anticipated phrases and endings to stories.

Follow Their Lead: Read books they find interesting. You may thoroughly enjoy fairy tales, while they may enjoy books about dinosaurs or penguins. Expose them to a variety of subjects, and then respect what they truly find captivating.

Create A Writing Center: Provide paper, cards, envelopes, receipts, crayons, pencils, pens, and markers. Encourage children to dictate or write down their own stories, then listen as they "read" them back to you.

Foster Print Awareness: Words are everywhere. Point them out on cereal boxes, street signs, the daily newspaper, address books, greeting cards—wherever you find them.

Surround Children With Books: One of the most helpful things you can do is to create an environment filled with a variety of books. Cloth and board books are ideal for toddlers; picture books with few words are great for preschoolers; easy readers, mysteries, and books about social issues are appropriate for school-age children. There's no need to bread the budget when it comes to purchasing books. Quality books are abundant at yard sales, used bookstores, and the library.

Build Appreciation And Enthusiasm: Let your child see you reading books, magazines, and newspapers. Make up stories at bedtime, and collect your child's stories in homemade books. Keep books in good repair and easily accessible.

Research shows that talk around the family dinner table may make your child a better reader. More "rare" or vocabulary-building words are introduced at dinnertime.

Our school has always emphasized the importance of good literacy skills. Letter sounds, letter/word recognition, books, and reading, are a big part of every classroom's curriculum. We know how important those early reading experiences are to each and every child. Read on about an exciting event coming up that will deal with this subject.

UPCOMING EVENT: READING/ BOOK FAIR FAMILY NIGHT

ON DECEMBER 6 THE PARENT CLUB WILL HAVE A FAMILY READING NIGHT. THERE WILL BE REFRESHMENTS, STORYTELLING, AND A BOOK FAIR SET UP BY SCHOLASTIC BOOKS. THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO MEET OTHER FAMILIES, PURCHASE BOOKS FOR CHILDREN AGES 2-12 IF YOU WANT, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY COME AND JUST ENJOY A NIGHT OUT WITH YOUR FAMILY.

IMPORTANT DATES:

November 1	Start of After School Program
November 2	Full Day session of After School Program
November 3	Full Day session of After School Program
November 2	Visit from Fireman Lee
November 23	Center is closed for Thanksgiving
November 24	Thanksgiving Holiday.
December 6	Book Reading Fair

CHRISTMAS CHORAL SERVICE 2006

Come one, come all, and experience wonderful music and Scripture during our annual Christmas Choral Service. Trinity's choirs and Sunday School would like to praise God with "HOPE, LOVE, PEACE AND JOY". The service will take place on Saturday, **December 16, 2006 at 5:30pm**. There will be a potluck afterwards so people are encouraged to bring a dish to pass. This year, we will be dedicating the Free-Will Offering during the Potluck to the United States Armed Forces and peacemakers around the world. Additional donations are welcome and will be sent to the LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces. If you wish to make a donation, cash and checks will be accepted (please make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church). We look forward to seeing you there!



TASTEFULLY SIMPLE Returns!

Back by popular demand, Trinity Lutheran School is proud to host another TASTEFULLY SIMPLE fundraiser! This event will take place on Sunday, January 14, 2007, at 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to attend and sample some favorite winter products that will be sure to warm the coldest day. TASTEFULLY SIMPLE offers "a wide selection of convenient, easy-to-prepare gourmet foods designed to help people spend less time in the kitchen and more time enjoying the rest of their lives." For more information on the company, visit www.tastefullysimple.com.

Special Divine Services for the Holidays

Thanksgiving Eve November 22 at 7:00 PM

Advent Season

November 29 7:00 PM (Soup Supper starts at 6pm)

December 6 7:00 PM (Soup Supper starts at 6pm)

December 13 7:00 PM (Soup Supper starts at 6pm)

December 20 7:00 PM (Soup Supper starts at 6pm)

Christmas Season

December 23 5:30 PM (Advent 4)

December 24 10:00 AM (Advent 4)

December 24 5:30 PM (Christmas Eve)

December 24 11:00 PM (Christmas Eve)

December 25 10:00 AM (Christmas Day)

December 31 7:00 PM (New Years Eve)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN NOVEMBER

Laura Naill	1
Jessica Leeseberg	5
Dian Cracraft	5
Julie Hattula	6
Marissa Bartels	8
Daniel Perkis	10
Kaitlyn Howard	12
Ronald Rakow	19
William Bruce	19
Loane Dierking	20
Phyllis Hoffmann	21
Sean Pautler	21
Jerry Planek, Jr.	23
Jessica Hansen	23
Donna Kuhn	24
Daniel Greubel	27
Patricia Jensen	27
Gregorio Garcia	28
Kristi Gregory	28



ANNIVERSARIES

NOVEMBER

Daniel & Laura Kellogg
11/9/2002
Richard & Shirley
11/11/1961
Gary & Victoria Bersynski
11/16/1985
John & Cynthia Macko
11/17/1990

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES IN NOVEMBER

Leon Zarate	1
Sharon Lemon	1
Lois Kovarik	3
Wayne Matejka	7
Gretchen Planek	13
Cheryl Perkis	13
Harry Bruce	21
Michael Springer	23
Julie Hattula	24
Kelly Siekmann	25
Dian Cracraft	26
David Balla	29

Assistant Schedule for November 2006

DATE	TIME	WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	USHERS	LAY READERS	ACOLYTES	CHOIRS	COUNT TEAM
NOVEMBER 4 Communion	5:30 p.m.	Mike Cracraft	Aaron Cracraft David Zarate	Eldra Rakow			
NOVEMBER 5 Communion	8:00 a.m.	Wayne Matejka	Dan Rakow Richard Kovarik	Carl & Dee Mennecke	Sara Jensen Sarah Balla		
NOVEMBER 5 Communion	10:30 a.m.	Mark Beutke	Dennis Weaver Doug Schmidt	Doug Schmidt	Amber Matejka		Doug & Jamie Schmidt Wayne & Kristi Gregory
NOVEMBER 11 Communion	5:30 p.m.	Greg Garcia	Sharon Garcia Richard Rolseth	Eldra Rakow			
NOVEMBER 12 Communion	8:00 a.m.	Jim Grobe	Dan Rakow Carl Mennecke	Nancy Planek	Sara Jensen Sarah Balla		
NOVEMBER 12 Communion	10:30 a.m.	Dennis Hargreaves	Dan & Heather Grubel	Dan Grubel	Logan Bruce	Joyful Noise	Martha Tipper Judy Leeseberg
NOVEMBER 18 Communion	5:30 p.m.	Mike Cracraft	Aaron Cracraft David Zarate	Eldra Rakow			
NOVEMBER 19 Communion	8:00 a.m.	Jim Grobe	Dan Rakow Richard Kovarik	Lois Kovarik	Dan Rakow		
NOVEMBER 19 Communion	10:30 a.m.	John Pautler	Chris Fagalde Doug Schmidt	Chris Fagalde	Aaron & Megan Fagalde	Little Lambs & Hosanna Choir	Cheryl Perkis Greg & Sharon Garcia
NOVEMBER 22 Communion	7:00 p.m.	Mark Beutke	Carl Mennecke Dick Kovarik	Mark Beutke		Joyful Noise	
NOVEMBER 25 Communion	5:30 p.m.	Greg Garcia	Sharon Garcia Richard Rolseth	Eldra Rakow			
NOVEMBER 26 Communion	8:00 a.m.	Wayne Matejka	Dan Rakow Carl Mennecke	Sue Matejka	Sara Jensen Sarah Balla		
NOVEMBER 26 Communion	10:30 a.m.	Dennis Hargreaves	Dennis Weaver Doug Schmidt	Dennis Hargreaves	Jonathan Bartels		Jeni Siekmann Laura Grobe

NOVEMBER 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9 am Worship	2 4:30-5PM LL Choir 6:45-7:15 PM HC 7:30pm Joyful Noise	3	4 5:30pm Divine Service
5 8am Divine Service 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service	6	7 7pm Sunday School Teacher's Meeting 7pm Jr. High Confirmation	8 9 am Worship 10 am DCC	9 4:30-5PM LL Choir 6:45-7:15 PM HC 7:30pm Joyful Noise	10	11 5:30pm Divine Service
12 8am Divine Service 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service	13 7 p. m. Parish Planning Meeting	14	15 9 am Worship	16 11AM WC Terrace 4:30-5PM LL Choir 6:45-7:15 PM HC 7:30pm Joyful Noise	17	18 5:30pm Divine Service
19 8am Divine Service 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service 11:30 AM Voter's Meeting	20 7PM School Board Meeting	21 News Articles are Due 7pm Jr. High Confirmation	22 9 am Worship 7PM Thanksgiving Eve Divine Service	23 Thanksgiving Day	24 Church Office Closed	25 5:30pm Divine Service
27 8am Divine Service 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service	28	29	30 9 am Worship	1 4:30-5PM LL Choir 6:45-7:15 PM HC 7:30pm Joyful Noise	2	3 5:30pm Divine Service