



Grapevine

November 2010



American Lutheran

November Worship Schedule

ALC Staff

Henry Thorberg - Pastor
 Jane Plettner-Nielson -
 Director of Music
 Clarice Riege Secretary

ALC Council

Executive Committee

President - Doug Dexter
 Vice-President - Michael Welsh
 Secretary - Joel Bacon
 Treasurer - Jason Gustafson

Committee Chairs

Finance-Char Rohl
 Outreach-Ryan Rohl
 Parish Education- Wendy Hirsch
 Property-Mike Wheeler
 Social Concerns-Liz Cooper
 Stewardship-Paul Welsh
 Worship-Mavis Seelmeyer
 Youth- Bruce Spilker

November 7



**All Saints Sunday—St. James
Sanctuary Choir**

8:15 am Traditional Worship/Communion
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Praise Worship/Communion

November 14



**25th Sunday after Pentecost - St. Paul
Joyful Noise**

8:15 am Traditional Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Praise Worship

November 21



**Christ the King—St. Peter
Sunday School Sing**

8:15 am Traditional Worship/Communion
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Praise Worship/Communion

November 24



**Thanksgiving Eve
Sanctuary Choir**

7:00 pm Worship/ Communion

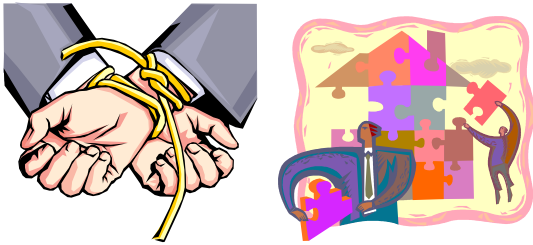
November 28



**First Sunday of Advent—St. Thomas
Hanging of the Greens
Gospel Rings**

Pastor - vacation
10:00 am Combined Worship
12:00 noon Soup Luncheon

"I" IN THE WRONG PLACE



Every once in a while it is a real blessing to make a typo; because one may have failed to see something very important for a long time until forced to deal with that mistake! A few weeks back, I intended to type united and typed untied instead. Same letters – same number of letters, but one letter changed it's location! The result was that the word said exactly the opposite of what I wanted to express! As I looked at the "i" in the wrong place, it struck me that this is the root of many if not all of our problems, and it's effect is the same effect as changing the place of the "i" in united!

It disconnects us from the very things which are life-sustaining and blessing in our unitedness with GOD! Even so, we are still primarily tempted to put the "i" where it does not belong! I am using the word primarily on purpose; since I believe that in many ways it is our misplaced "i" that fits the definition of sin. I do not think it is accidental when the Bible describes the original sin to be wanting "I" to be the focus of our being.

I believe the Bible meant to tell us that the desire we have to feed our own appetites puts our actions directly in conflict with the will of GOD for our lives! When Adam and Eve looked at the forbidden fruit, the question each of them had to answer for themselves was, "My way, or GOD's way?" We are told what their decision was; and we are told what the result of that answer was, too. We get all ready to slap the blame for what happened on them!

To that I say, "Whoa! Wait a minute? That is the same question we have to deal with in every temptation we face!" I want us to consider how often we make the same decision they did. That is to say, how often do we choose to satisfy our own appetites rather than do what GOD told us to do?!

We were given our appetites on purpose so that we are able to survive. If we do not control our ap-

petites, the very things that were intended to bless our lives, become a bane to our existence. That happens whether we over-indulge or under-indulge our appetites. Many of us go to one extreme or the other with regard to our appetites, and it does not matter which appetite of which we speak!

We can drink too much or too little. We can eat too much or too little. We can have sex too often or too little. We can take pride in too much or too little! We can sleep too much or too little! Regardless of which extreme we find ourselves on, the cause is the same. The "i" is put in the wrong place!!! Over and over again, we put ourselves in control, and just as often, we fail to maintain proper control when we do!

Over the years, I have begun to be convinced that the subtitle for the subplot of the Bible would legitimately be named, "Smarter Than GOD?" I am starting to think that it should be my task when I retire to write a Bible Study with that title; because we seem to intent so much of the time to behave as if we really believe we are smarter than GOD.

Of course the Bible's message is that GOD made us to be in a divine relationship, and has been busy re-establishing that relationship since the day we broke it off. Throughout the Divine/human relationship; GOD has had to constantly adapt to what we have caused; because we continually fail to allow GOD to have primary place in our lives, and try to take over that place ourselves. From the beginning when Adam and Eve choose to believe the serpent rather than GOD to the end, when Pilate dares to pass judgment on Jesus, people subject the will of GOD to our own will. That is because at least in our own life, we believe that we are smarter than GOD! The result is universally the same – we die! So how smart are we- not so much! It is time to be much wiser in where we place our "i"s!

P. S. Of course, I could have made note of the "t" being the letter in the wrong place; but that didn't work very well for my purposes in this article!

Pastor Henry

From the Music Director:

Thank you for your continued hospitality. I continue to meet new people and am warmly received. Thank you. Please continue to introduce yourself to me so I can get acquainted with you.

Rehearsals continue and new people are joining. The Sanctuary Choir has begun rehearsals for the Christmas Cantata but there is still plenty of time to learn it. Won't you consider joining us for the cantata? Rehearsals are Tuesday from 7:00 – 8:00. We are tentatively planning to sing the cantata on December 12. The rehearsal schedule for all groups will continue as follows: (all on Tuesday)

Joyful Noise – 5:30 to 6:15 (grades 1-5)
Gospel Rings – 6:15 to 7:00 (grades 6 through adult)
Sanctuary Choir – 7:00 to 8:00 (grades 6 through adult)
Praise Team – 8:00- 9:00 (grades 6 through adult)

The schedule for sharing our musical gifts during worship is as follows:

Nov. 7 – Sanctuary Choir
Nov. 14 – Joyful Noise
Nov. 21 – Sunday School
Nov. 24 – Sanctuary Choir (Thanksgiving Eve)
Nov. 28 – Gospel Rings (Combined Worship Service for the Hanging of the Greens)

The schedule for the Praise Teams is:

Nov. 7 - St. James Team. Members are: Bruce Spilker, Kim Malone, Morgan Malone, Jacob Spilker, Claire Sharp, Marcia Worth

Nov. 14 – St. Paul Team. Members are: Pastor Henry, Mavis Seelmeyer, Jim Seelmeyer, Angie Franzen, Vanessa Welsh

Nov. 21 - St. Peter Team. Members are: Brenda Spilker, Laura Martin, Natalie Dermann, Travis Ray

Nov. 28 – St. Thomas Team. Members are: Keith Spilker, Jana Spilker, Michelle Wiggins, Beth Sasse (Combined Worship Service for the Hanging of the Greens)

We are blessed with many singers and instrumentalists for the Praise Teams. If you would be interested in joining us, there is still room for more!

If you have any questions about the music program, please feel free to contact me. If you also have some musical gifts but don't have the time to commit to a group, please let me know and we can talk about ways to share your gifts. Thank you!

Jane Plettner-Nielson

Social Concerns for November

Center for People in Need

The mission of the Center for People in Need is to provide comprehensive services and opportunities to support low-income, high needs families and individuals as they strive to lift themselves out of poverty and achieve economic self-sufficiency.

In support of this mission they...

- Assist other human service agencies that are providing for the social and economic needs of low-income, high needs families and individuals.
- Provide for the emergency, basic needs of families through delivery of direct services.
- Actively advocate for systemic changes through federal, state and local policy makers.
- Develop and support educational programs, increase job training, and improve computer skills for low-income workers.

(taken from centerforpeopleinneed.org)

Ne Lutheran Campus Ministry—Lincoln

Dear Friends at American Lutheran Church:

Thank you for your generous heart and financial support of the Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry in Lincoln! Your financial partnership means so much and is greatly appreciated!

As you may have heard, Pastor Eric Bostrom has resigned from Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry in Lincoln and has moved back into parish ministry. He is currently serving as interim Pastor for Faith Lutheran Church in Seward.

We are very fortunate to have our interim pastor, Angela Khabeb, here for Sunday morning and Wednesday evening worship. The call process is underway searching for a new campus pastor. It is hoped to have someone hired by January, 2011. In the meantime, ministry is being conducted as usual at the Lutheran Center. Many strong student leaders have stepped up to help continue programming along with Intern Pastor, Lori Kitzing from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, and Sunni Richardson, who is working with student leadership training.

Please consider this a formal acknowledgement of your gift of \$203.00 received 10.6.10.

Blessings,

Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry—Lincoln

ALC NEWS

November

Lincoln Cluster Food Pantry

In November, the Lincoln Lutheran Food Pantry needs: Canned Beans [Pork, Red, Kidney, Chili, Baked, etc.] Canned Meat [Tuna] Hamburger/Tuna Helpers, Juices & Mac N Cheese. We cannot take used, opened, or expired food.

Cash donations are used for immediate needs. To donate cash, place it in the collection plate, clearly marked "Food Pantry"

Once again the Pantry is in need of volunteers to help fill the food orders. They have had some people stop volunteering and really could use the extra help. Contact Patti Flynn at pflynn@lincolnfoodbank.org or 466-8170 ext. 103

Executive Committee and Church Council will meet Thursday evening, November 11th , at 6:15 pm and 7:00 pm respectively.

Thank You!

I would like to thank Pastor Henry and fellow members for their prayers, cards, visits & phone calls while I was in the hospital and after returning home.

They were such a blessing and helped so much in my recovery.

Gert Remmers



Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, November 28, Hanging of the Greens Service - - Immediately following the combined 10:00 am service, we will once again have the Hanging of the Greens by decorating the church for the upcoming Advent and Christmas seasons. A soup luncheon will be held following the completion of the decorating. We encourage you to help in the joyous occasion!

Thank you—Worship Committee

Woodworking Auction!

The Woodworking Auction held September 26, 2010 raised \$16,116.00 for the Lutheran Student Center Campus Ministry.

Thank you to the following for donating desserts for the lunch, which raised funds through freewill donations. Grace Martin - Laura Ray - Judy Neeman - Rosann Keller - Linda Spilker - Linda Bartlett.

Claire Sharpe

Attendance and Stewardship

	Worship 8:15 am	10:30 am	General Offering	Phase III Offering	Other Offering
September 26	61	101	\$2405.00	\$70.00	\$230.00
October 3	58	111	\$4653.80	\$450.00	\$143.00
October 10	58	95	\$2733.00	\$360.00	\$548.40
October 17	53	97	\$4806.76	\$220.00	\$80.00

Financial Statement

God

Financial Results through 9/30/2010		
	September	YTD
Budget Income		
Pro-rata needs	\$ 14,303.00	\$135,879.00
Offerings	\$ 13,453.00	\$134,088.00
Difference	[\$850.00]	[\$1,791.00]
Budget Expenses	\$ 15,274.00	\$139,764.00
Phase III:		
Debt Obligation	\$ 2,976.00	\$ 26,784.00
Budgeted (mortgage)	\$ 1,796.00	\$ 15,288.00
Phase III Offerings	\$ 1,180.00	\$ 11,496.00
Total Paid	\$ 2,976.00	\$ 26,784.00
Cause of the Month:	\$203.00	

ALC - Statistics

New Members Received: 9/26/2010

Dustin Lottman - 8860 Sicily Lane - Lincoln, NE 68526

Brant Nielson & Jane Plettner Nielson - 4838 Walker Ave. #1 - Lincoln, NE 68504

Baptism: 9/5/2010

Zyla Jade Biggerstaff - Born 7/28/10 - parents: Kyle & Liz [Engstrom] Biggerstaff

Change of Address:

Kristina Vasquez - PO Box 21675 - Lincoln, NE 68542-1675

Seth & Rachel Lade - 3801 S. 40th Street - Lincoln, NE 68506-4206

Knud & Carolyn Larsen - 5602 Pioneer Blvd. Apt. 16 - Lincoln, NE 68506-5197

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

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US POSTAGE PAID
Lincoln, Nebraska
Permit No. 201

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Web Page www.americanlutheranlincoln.org

Henry Thorberg, Pastor
Sunday Worship 8:15 am
Praise Worship 10:30 am
Christian Education 9:15 am

Address Service Requested

*I am the vine, you are the
branches.*

*He who abides in me, and I in
him, bears much fruit.*

John 15:5



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|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 11/01 Lucas Hansen | 11/11 Geraldine Neemann | 11/20 Katherine Welsh |
| 11/02 Georgia Fritz | 11/11 Pamela Brush | 11/21 Bill Lang |
| 11/04 Bill Ray | 11/12 Loren Lowery | 11/23 John Krause |
| 11/04 Michael Krause | 11/14 Justin Spilker | 11/24 Vanessa Welsh |
| 11/04 Paige Schuler | 11/15 Carl Fricke | 11/25 Ellen Dexter |
| 11/06 Stephanie Everett | 11/15 Gale Hadenfeldt | 11/28 Brett Hofferber |
| 11/07 Rick Keller | 11/15 Sherri Pendergras | 11/29 Kip Gillispie |
| 11/07 Pam McGill | 11/17 George Stevens | 11/29 Davis Mbaga |
| 11/08 Brant Nielson | 11/19 Wendy Hirsch | 11/30 Lowry Engstrom |