



Newsletter

2024

Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church

Box 159, 920 15th Street

Perry, Iowa 50220 515-465-5298

Email: mtolivetlutheran@gmail.com

Website: www.mtolivetofperry.org

Facebook: facebook.com/mtolivetlutheranchurch

From Pastor Kimberly

Dear Beloved church family,

The first Sunday in November is one of my favorite Sundays of the church year because it is a chance to celebrate the saints of old with saints of today. In the Lutheran tradition, we are both saint and sinner while here on earth. Redeemed in the waters of baptism, we are made saints, though we will never be 100% saint-y during this life time. This is different from the Catholic tradition which views saints as exceptional Christians and only bestows the title of saint on a particular worthy person who has already died.

But because Luther understands all of us to be saints made in the waters of baptism, all of our loved ones who have lived but now passed on are to be considered saints. Thus, on All Saints Sunday, we celebrate an abundance of people and their gifts this day instead of just the contributions of a few particularly holy types. If the saints in your life are anything like the saints that have gone before me in mine, they are people who have taught me about life, about love, about faith, and all kinds of other things. Certain parts or times in their life may not have been particularly holy or inspiring, but when their life is looked at in the whole they have shown me what it means to work hard, to receive with graciousness and gratitude, and to share with others. They have been witnesses of the transformative power of love and grace in every day places and people. None of the saints I know did any miracles or signs that would earn them a spot in heaven or make them revered, but they are nonetheless to be remembered and celebrated for the legacy of faith, love, service, and/or friendship that they left behind. Even the saints who taught us more what not to do than what to do are worth remembering.

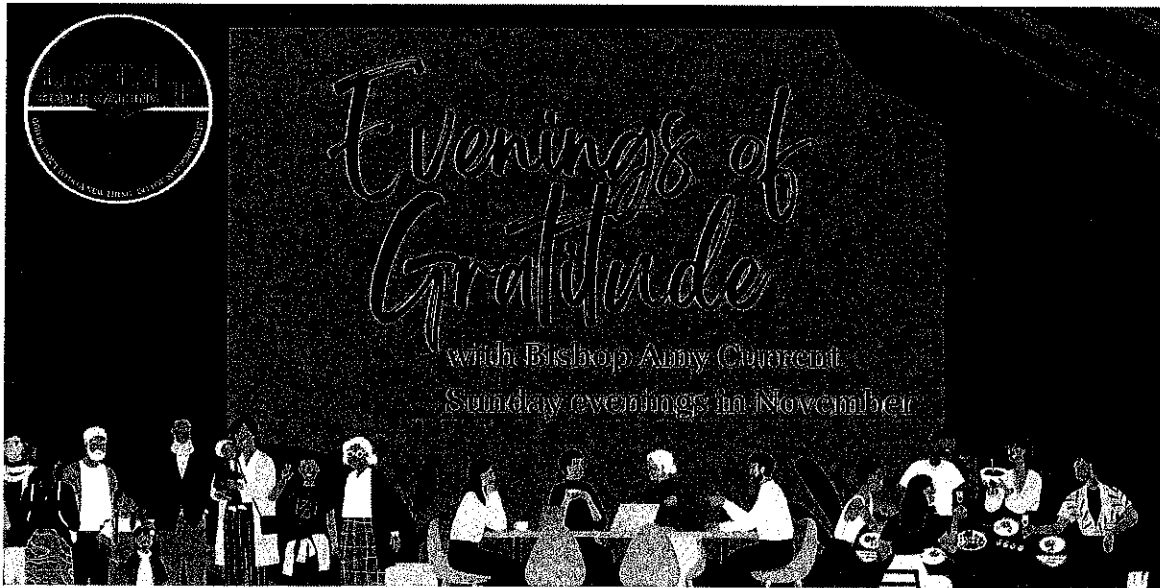
We will have a time of remembrance in worship on Sunday, Nov. 3 to celebrate the saints that have gone before us and the lessons they have passed along. I hope to that that day may strengthen our resolve and inspire us to continue down this road of discipleship that we are on together. We do not walk the road of faith alone. The saints that have gone before shine light on the path that we walk with our families, our friends, our church community, and so many others.

Discipleship, following Jesus, would be a lot harder without the witness of saints that have gone before. We would not have the words of Scripture, or the legacies of our congregations to teach and inspire us without these people. And discipleship would be a lot harder without the accompaniment of the saints that sit with you in these church pews. We need one another to support us in the hard times, to give thanks in the abundant times, and to model for us what faithful living looks like in this world. Each of those things—loving and supporting our neighbor, giving thanks, and witnessing to the faith are marks of saintliness and the discipleship to which Jesus calls us.

I hope as we celebrate together and then journey more into November with its focus on thanksgiving and gratitude that we can continue to find ways to be together, to learn together, and to inspire one another. Each of you is a gift to me and to this whole congregation. And so I give thanks for who you are, what God is doing in you, and the difference you make by walking this discipleship road.

In Christ,

Pastor Kimberly



Dear Rostered Minister/SAM/Office Contact,

I give thanks for the ways that you and your congregation/ministry setting listen to how God is calling you into ministry and mission. This fall, I and my staff invite you to join us and other congregation members, deacons, and pastors across the synod on a Sunday evening in November to share in gratitude for God's abundance. We will worship together, receive stories of gratitude, share a meal, and spend time in fellowship.

You are invited to put the date of the gathering location closest to you on your calendar. The schedule for each of the evenings is as follows:

4:30 pm to 4:45 pm	Gather
4:45 pm to 5:30 pm	Worship
5:30 pm to 7:00 pm	Dinner, Gratitude Stories, and Fellowship

The congregations in your conference are invited to attend the gathering at:

November 24: Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 3820 SW 9th St., Des Moines

Dinner will be a soup potluck. Each congregation is invited to bring a crock pot of soup and either bread or cut vegetables for our meal. The host site will provide beverages, and the synod office will provide cookies for dessert.

I look forward to gathering with you and your congregation members to hear your stories of gratitude and to share stories of our ministry together as a synod and church over the past year.

In Christ,

Bishop Amy Current

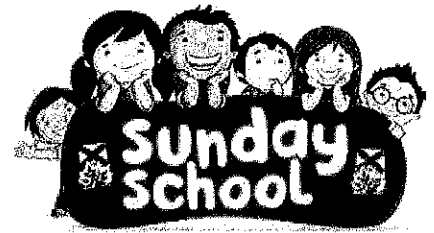


Southeastern Iowa Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

2635 Northgate Drive, Iowa City, IA 52245-9565 • (319) 338-1273 •

www.seiasynod.org

The Sunday school this month is the first and third Sundays - Nov. 3 and Nov. 17. Classes be held for 2 year olds through 6th grade.



Women of the Word will be meeting on Thursday, December 5 to discuss *A Voice in the Wind* by Francine Rivers. This is the story of a young Christian-Jewish woman living under the Roman Empire. Books are available to share, and it is also in ebook and audio formats through the library apps.

Community wide Thanksgiving Service: Sunday November 24 at 4pm there will be a Thanksgiving Celebration offered by the Ministerial Association at the First Presbyterian Church.



Altar Guild: All those interested in helping out with the Altar Guild, please talk with Darlene Lyons to learn about procedures and showing you where the documentation is for all procedures and the calendar for parament colors.

Prayer List

Prayers are powerful and as a church we want to be sure that whenever anyone in our family is hurting we are lifting them up in prayer. So please feel free to contact any of our church council members with any prayer concerns you may have. These may be for yourself or for people you care about, members or not.



Quarter Tube: Bring your quarters in to fill the Quarter Tube to benefit the Perry Ministerial group.



Worship Leaders & Greeters - November

Worship Leaders & Greeters - November 3 - Darek and Carol VanKirk

Worship Leaders & Greeters - November 10- Hardys

Worship Leaders & Greeters - November 17 - Sandy Seeman & Marlene Johnson

Worship Leaders & Greeters - November 24 - Jessica Renken & Sally Radke

Fellowship for November

November 3 -

November 10 -

November 17 - Lamms

November 24 -