

The Friendly Visitor

October 2018

St. John's Lutheran Church

*God has called us to
Care, Share, Teach and Love
as Jesus has loved us.*



St. John's Lutheran Church
51161 Maria
New Baltimore, MI 48047-2197

Office Hours: Tue.-Thur. 9-2
historicsaintjohns@sbcglobal.net
586.725.6801

Website: www.stjohns-nb.org

Pastor's Corner

Grace that Calls us to Follow

Dear Friends,

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German theologian and pastor who was executed in prison for his opposition to the Nazi regime, spoke about cheap grace versus costly grace. Bonhoeffer said that cheap grace was grace without the cross of Jesus Christ. Costly grace is costly because it calls us to take up our cross and follow Jesus.

As pumpkins and goblins decorate our neighborhoods again this year, let us remember that we are called to lives of

costly grace following Jesus. We need look no further than the man upon whom our religious denomination gets its name, Martin Luther, to see an example of costly grace. On the cool October night of Halloween in 1517, Martin Luther took up the cross of costly grace as he nailed his 95 theses (issues) he had with the church to his own church door where he was a priest – the church of Wittenberg. As Luther himself wrote when doing so:

‘When you have taken Christ as the foundation and chief blessing of your life, then the next part follows; that you take Christ as your example for living – giving yourself in service to others no matter what the cost.’

Luther was making it clear that God is the Mighty Fortress in our lives. So, let us live doing what Jesus would do each day even if it costs us everything. When Martin Luther wrote the hymn, *A Mighty Fortress is our God* in 1529, the ending verses made clear that we are called to lives of costly grace. Luther wrote:

God's Word forever shall abide, no
thanks to foes who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side with
weapons of the Spirit.

Were they to take our house, goods,
honor, child or spouse,
though life be wrenched away, they
cannot win the day.

The Kingdom's ours forever!

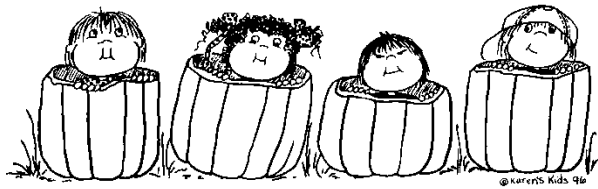
Let us never forget our call to lives of costly grace following Jesus.

Blessings – Pr. Roger

From the Editor

Articles for the November newsletter are due no later than October 28. Full page flyers should be submitted by October 28. Articles past the due date will be saved for the following newsletter. Please submit your entries in the Editor's mailbox or by emailing them to walter_steffens@sbcglobal.net.

Visit St. John's Lutheran Church on the web at www.stjohns-nb.org



From the Editor:

Just as we are taught in the Gospel to help others who are in need, the people of St. John's Lutheran Church continue to show the Love and Commitment you have for our fellow man.

Thank – You One & All

Greetings,

Trinity Lutheran Church will be hosting MCREST this year from October 21-28. Many of you have joined in on this mission in the past and we are reaching out again this year and asking for help. We have created a SignUpGenius to make the sign-up process easier. If possible, can you share this link (below) with any members who are willing to assist/donate/volunteer.

Thank you.

Leslie Peterson
Dalynn Radjewski
Angie Smerek

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4FA5AC2CA6FF2-mcrest>

SPAGHETTI DINNER



Saturday, October 13 4:00 - 7:00 pm
St. John's Lutheran Church Education Bldg.



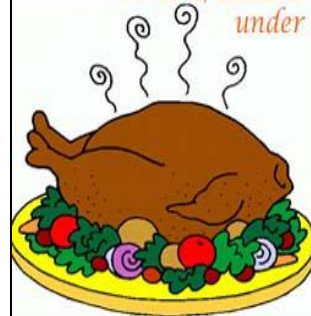
Seeking Sunday School Teachers for the upcoming year

This is a great way to get to know the families in our congregation. Requirements are easy... Happy, easy-going person to teach *once a month* during the second worship service. Lessons and activities are provided.

Please call or see Alison White
(586) 909-2207

St. John's Lutheran Church,
51161 Maria St., New Baltimore (586) 725-6801

Thanksgiving Dinner
Sunday, November 18 2:00 pm
Cost: Adults ~ \$10.00
Seniors/Children ages 8-12 ~ \$8.00
under 8 ~ free



For tickets contact
Nancy 586-994-6720
Shirley 586-725-0427
Mary 586-716-0676
Betsy 586-215-7155
or Evelyn 586-725-8935
Only 100 tickets are available.

Youth-led services

The youth and teens of our church will lead one 10:15 am service per month with Minister Enoch on September 30, October 21, November 25, and December 30. Age doesn't matter!

The following areas are available:

Assistant Minister, Acolyte, Usher, Lector, Gospel, Youth Message, Music (sing or play an instrument), other. You may sign up on the form on the Member Care board in the back of the church, or contact Enoch Carlton 586-484-8407.



Member Care Committee

Special thanks to all of our members who attended the Recognition Luncheon hosted on September 16, 2018. We are blessed to share time with each other in celebration of all the hard work and support our members contribute to the mission of St. John's.

We want to continue to celebrate special moments with our members that occur all throughout the year. If you would like to share photos with your St. John's family of events that occur outside of church, we would love to post them on the Member Care Board. You can email pictures to Debb Carlton at deborahcarlton@yahoo.com or give a printed copy to any of the ushers.

FUNDRAISER FOR MCREST

We are going to have a fundraiser for MCREST. It is a discount card to various restaurants in New Baltimore and Chesterfield/Macomb. They are \$10 each and we get \$6 for every card sold. They pay for themselves after you use them a couple of times. They also make great stocking stuffers! There are cards available in other areas, also. I will have these cards available on Monday Oct. 1. If you would like to purchase one or help sell them please contact Nancy Steffens at 586-994-6720.



Christian Education

Confirmation is starting up again! Confirmation classes meet regularly on Sundays in the Education Building from 9:00-10 a.m. We kicked off the year with Rally Day on September 30. Our first class is Sunday, October 7. Our Confirmation program is a 2-year program and involves attending church services, attending Sunday classes, serving in the church and assisting at worship services. This year's instructors are Charlene Barrett, Roger Bokano and Minister Enoch Carlton. We look forward to a wonderful year with this year's students.

Sunday School also kicked off the year on Rally Day. Thanks to everyone who supported our Bake Sale, attended Rally Day, participated in the Ministry Project and stayed for the picnic. Sunday School meets in the church basement following the Children's Message during the 10:15 a.m. service. On alternating months, the staff and students will work on Ministry Projects for our shut-ins. Please contact Alison White or Christine Snooks if you have any questions about the Sunday School Program or Ministry Projects. We continue to collect **Box Tops for Education**. Box Tops can be placed in the box located in the back of the church. The staff is excited to work with the children of St. John's!

We will once again be sending out College Care Packages to our college students during the month of December. Please help us recognize the St. John's Lutheran Church college students by calling the church office and providing Brenda with your student's name and address. Thanks so much!

“Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.”

Psalm 100:2



Children's Hospital Blanket Drive

One month of the blanket drive for Children's Hospital is gone. Ten blankets have been given so far. You have until the **21st of October** to bring any blankets you have to the church and place them in the box designated for this purpose.

Remember that any blankets must be **new** and washable.

They can be:

- Store bought
- Handmade (knitted, crocheted, quilted, sewn, or hand tied fleece (just one layer, please).
- Any size, because they are for babies and toddlers, older children & teens.
- Any color.

A big **thank you** if you have already donated!

(The deadline has been moved up a bit from October 28th so that the blankets can be delivered in good time, not at the last minute.)



October 2018

| Date | Time | Acolyte | Assisting Minister | Lector | Ushers |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 7 | 8 AM | | | Betsy Facione | Don and Diane Hinz Jamie Inman |
| | 10:15 AM | Ben Wrobel | Kyle Larsen | Joe Tinson Jr. | Dolores Nelson, Joe Tinson Sr., Joe Tinson, Jr. |
| 14 | 8 AM | Evan Westrick | Owen Westrick | Charlene Barrett | Vic Barrett, Colin Barrett, Jamie Inman |
| | 10:15 AM | Payton Wrobel | Kathi Bokano | Gayle LeClair | Joe Tinson Sr., Tom White, Mark Olivares |
| 21 | 8 AM | | | Melissa Westrick | Paul Meteyer, Allison Meteyer, Clarence Huwe |
| | 10:15 AM | Alex Goerke | Gayle LeClair | Diane Schulz | Joe Tinson Sr, Joe Tinson Jr. , Shirley Tinson |
| 28 | 8 AM | Nathan Wright | Enoch Carlton | Debb Carlton | Vic Barrett, Ron Custer, Jamie Inman |
| | 10:15 AM | Greg Larsen | Julie Lind | Kelly Barhorst | Bud Fox, Carol Olivares, Jamie Inman |