

## FROM THE PASTOR

### Thanksgiving – the Christian’s Lifestyle

*"Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that confess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." Hebrews 13:15-16*

Thanksgiving is a time to ponder our blessings and say thanks. Most of us celebrate this American holiday by feasting on the bounty of a harvest of food. Maybe we gather together with close friends and family and enjoy a feast of food. Thanksgiving, however, is not about feeding ourselves. It's about thanking God who gives us so much to be thankful for.

In Christian circles, Thanksgiving provides an opportunity for us to worship and praise God from whom all blessings flow. But Thanksgiving is more than just one day during the year. Thanksgiving is really a lifestyle Christians experience every day of their lives.

The writer to the Hebrews describes the Christian's thanksgiving lifestyle:

✠ Through Jesus – God loved us first and sent his Son to be the world's Savior. Our thankfulness flows from our faith in Jesus.

✠ Continually – This is a lifestyle, part of our existence every day.

✠ Offer to God a sacrifice of praise – We thank God with our words; we praise him with the things we say.

✠ The fruit of lips that confess his name – A thanksgiving lifestyle expresses to others the hope we have in Christ.

✠ Do not forget to do good and to share with others – We thank God with our actions; we serve him by serving people around us, being kind and good to others.

✠ With such sacrifices God is pleased – Since all of our shortcomings are forgiven in Jesus, God is pleased with thanksgiving lifestyles that flow from faith in Christ.

May God grant us a lifestyle of thanksgiving, not only one day during the year, but everyday of our lives!

- Pastor Kehren



# Reformation Celebration

**Sunday  
November 4, 2018**

**Festival Worship  
8:00AM & 10:30AM**

**Fellowship Time  
11:30AM  
German Desserts  
Luther Slideshow**

Please sign up in the church entryway if you would like to bring your favorite German Dessert.

## Thanksgiving Eve Worship Pie Fellowship

Our Thanksgiving Eve worship service will be here at Jerusalem on Wednesday, November 21st at 7:00 pm. The children of our Elementary School, Sunday School, and Early Learning Center will sing. All are invited to a special pie fellowship hour immediately following Wednesday's service. If you are attending the fellowship after the service, please bring a pie to share.

## Thanksgiving Day Worship

**Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
10:00 am**

**at St. Matthew's  
9081 N Maryland Street, Niles**

## Thanksgiving Feast

Join our Jerusalem School family on Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, at noon, for a home-cooked, traditional Thanksgiving Feast in our downstairs auditorium. The cost is \$5 per person. Please RSVP to the church secretary. Due to limited seating, a ticket is required for this event.

Many volunteers are needed to make this event possible. If you would like to help, contact Becca Vance ([vance.becca@gmail.com](mailto:vance.becca@gmail.com))

## Counting our Blessings

You may remember that we had a similar blurb in our bulletin over the summer. It was a time when our offerings seemed to be tapering off a little bit, which often happens in the summer months. However, we continue to see a decline in those offerings. The church council has had to dip into our line of credit to continue to pay our bills. We are very blessed to be able to offer God's word through our church and school programs, and want to continue to do so. Please consider how God has blessed you through the good news of Jesus and the peace, joy, and hope you have in him. Consider how God has blessed you with many material resources as well and then prayerfully consider how you can give a special gift to help get us back on track. No special envelopes required, just add it to your regular basket offerings. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Patrick Ruehrdanz or Jeff Hawk.



## Sunday Bible Class

Adult Bible Study meets on Sundays at 9:15 am in the church sanctuary. We are studying the book of Revelation. The theme of this somewhat mysterious book is “Christ Will Triumph Over Evil” and is intended to bring comfort and encouragement to believers living in troubled and evil times.

### Children

**(Preschool - 6th Grade)**

*September - May*

Sundays 9:15AM - 10:15AM

- Begin with Music in the Kindergarten Classroom
- Continue in separate classrooms for Bible study
- Finish up with social time & snacks

### Teens

**(Grades 7 - 12)**

*September - May*

Sundays 9:15AM - 10:15AM

- Meet in the 5th & 6th grade classroom for donuts
- Continue with Bible Study
- Finish up with social time

## Women’s Bible Study

Monday, November 26 7:00 pm

Women’s Bible Study continues a series called, “Prepared to Answer.” This class provides a helpful model for sharing one’s faith with unbelieving friends and struggling believers. It focuses on common questions and objections that people have about the Christian faith. Some of the engaging topics include why bad things happen, evidence of God’s existence, miracles, Jesus as the only way to heaven, whether there are moral absolutes or not, etc. Not relying on logic to prove the gospel, we will look to turn the conversation to Jesus’ life, ministry, death, and resurrection to reinforce the fact that all essential answers for our faith can be found in Christ.

## Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Join us in the downstairs auditorium on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 – 11:00 am. as we study the apocryphal books which were written between the Old and New Testaments. We will also look at the history of that period and how it set the stage for the first coming of Christ.

## Midweek Advent Services

Begin Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>

Services will be held on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:15 and 7:00 pm



## St. Matthew's Vacancy

Retired pastor Kurt Grunewald will serve as a resident vacancy pastor at St. Matthew's from November 1st – January 31<sup>st</sup>. This will release Pastor Kehren of vacancy pastor duties at St. Matthew's during that time period.

## Women's Advent Prayer Breakfast

Save the Date!

Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>  
9:00 AM

All women, confirmation age and older, are invited to come and enjoy a morning of Word and song, along with fellowship and food, as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of our Savior's birth!



**Set your Clocks back the night of Saturday, November 3rd!  
Daylight Saving Time Ends.**

## Outreach Committee

There will be an Outreach Committee meeting on Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, after the 2<sup>nd</sup> service (meet in the downstairs auditorium). All those interested in helping and planning our outreach activities are encouraged to attend.



# School News



Champions! On October 6<sup>th</sup>, the Eagles won their second CALAC Soccer Tournament in a row! Congratulations to players and coaches

## Instrument Highlight

By student reporters Ryan Freytes, Myles Waters, Joon Hwa Hong, and Guofu Shao

This year in the music classes for grades 3-8, we are all being introduced to new instruments. The 7-8 grade music class is learning to play the ukulele. The ukulele is an instrument that originated from Hawaii made by Portuguese immigrants. A fun fact about ukulele is that some people think that the name "ukulele" means "jumping flea" and others think it means "a gift from afar". Next the 5-6 grade class is learning how to play the recorder. A fun fact about the recorder is that King Henry VIII of England collected and owned 76 of them. Lastly, the 3-4 graders are learning to play the hand chimes. Hand chimes are originally from England and are another form of handbells. A fun fact about hand chimes is that the handles used to be made of leather, and now they are made of plastic. Those are all of the instruments our school is currently learning to play.

## Eagles of the Week

Students are recognized each week for their Christ-like attitude and academic effort. October Eagles of the week:

- Ryan J.
- Maylin C.
- Ninib G.
- Alyssa I.
- Joe. G.
- Evelyn M.
- Kai N.
- Celine K.

## Talent Fest

Celebrate the God given talents of our students at the JELS Talent Fest on Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the downstairs auditorium. Join us for an evening of entertainment as the children in grades K-8 demonstrate their skills in music, art, dance, collecting, model building, baking, etc...so much to see in one night!



Precious Child Early Learning Center will be holding two Open House events this year! The first one will be Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. The second will be Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 to 11:00 am. **Applications will be accepted beginning December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Open House.**

Invite your friends and neighbors with small children to visit and learn about our programs.

# Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6218 Capulina Ave  
Morton Grove, IL 60053

Pastor Jonathan Kehren  
Phone: 847-965-7340  
Email: pastor@jerusalemlutheran.org

**Fall Worship Schedule**  
Sunday 8:00 am and 10:30 am

*“Our purpose is to serve all people with  
the gospel of Jesus Christ on the basis of  
Holy Scripture”*

## *Thanksgiving Worship Schedule*

*Thanksgiving Eve Worship 7:00 pm  
Wednesday, November 21st  
Jerusalem Lutheran Church*

*All are invited to a special pie fellowship following the service*



*Thanksgiving Day Worship 10:00 am  
Thursday, November 22nd  
St. Matthews, Niles*