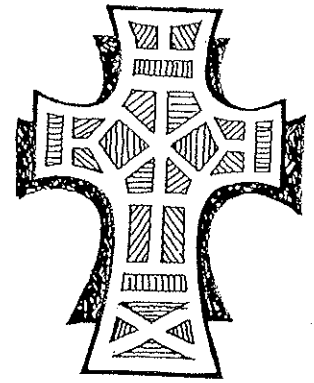


✠ St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Kenesaw, NE



Pastor Paul S. Duffy  
402-752-3421, 3536  
(Cell) 308-216-1254  
<http://stpaulskenesaw.org>

Pastor's Ponderings  
November, 2015

Dear Sons and Daughters of God,

I recently saw a picture of a friend that showed three generations of people; and I began to think of the vast differences in each. Within each generation lay different concerns, priorities, and involvements. Today's generation is in the midst of an entirely different world than that of their grandparents. I don't have to detail how communication is different, access to information is different, exposure to once-forbidden subject matter just a button or two away.

One thing has not changed, nor will it ever, regardless of the generation: that is the basic, inner needs of people. Everyone needs to be accepted. Everyone needs to be loved. Everyone needs to have a purpose or cause for which to live and find meaning. Everyone needs to be grounded in a familiar family structure that, ideally, is intact and healthy.

Unfortunately, and more and more today, individuals of this current generation are finding themselves living in a world that is less accepting (even though we hear much about accepting others), less loving, without real meaning and purpose, and replete with the offshoots of a family structure that is wounded or unhealthy.

Where does one go to find the remedy for all this, or is it foolish to think a remedy exists at all? Where does a person find acceptance, love, a purpose, and an intact family?

It used to be our immediate family was expected to carry out that purpose and be that

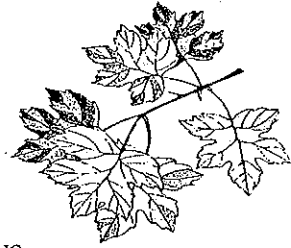
accepting, loving, and purposeful institution. However, so many families are fragmented, even though on the surface they may seem intact. This may be one of the key reasons that we hear of a myriad of desperate acts: deluded individuals lashing out in violence; and we later find out their only foundation on which they could find acceptance, purpose and love offered little or none of those things.

Life itself can be a harsh and barren land when there is no strong connection to a firm, purposeful foundation. Today's world offers little in that regard. One cannot find it in a culture where electronic communication rules our lives.

One needs to be grounded in a place that is sure and immovable - everlasting. That would be the Church of God, the people of God, established from the beginning of time. It will last because Jesus said hell itself would never prevail against it. The church of God, where His Word is proclaimed and taught, is THE place where one finds God's acceptance, God's love, God's purpose, forgiveness, and a familiar family structure in and among His people. It is a place where there is peace and meaning. It is THE remedy for all that ails a society and culture. It is basic to the inner needs of man because he/she is connected to the God who has made us for the purpose of knowing Him and finding refuge in His one and only Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Flee to Him and be comforted!

See You in Church!  
Pastor Duffy

## Workers for the Lord in November 2015



**Acolytes:** Savannah Williams  
Jenna Jaeschke  
Hope Nienhueser  
Kaylee Steer  
Paige Morrow  
Payton Morrow

**Crucifer:** Rhett Augustin

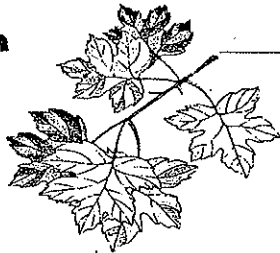
**Counters:** Jackie & DeWayne Boesen  
Valerie & Brent Schirmer

**Ushers:** Clint Burr  
Stephen Rowe  
Alan Nixon

**Elder:** Leonard Schroeder

**Altar Guild:** Sharon Duffy  
Bev Nixon

## November Birthdays



- 2 Jack Hoban  
Cogan Thompson
- 3 Jean Stocker
- 4 Beverly Nixon
- 5 Roger Denkert  
Bonnie Monie
- 6 Adalyn Applegate  
Lloyd Fischer  
Rose Wehrman
- 7 Sharen Lukow  
Mike Schroeder
- 8 Larry Hersh
- 14 Ryan Denkert  
Cody Krous  
Paulette Kuehn
- 15 Kari Morgan
- 20 Megan (Adams)  
Stickels
- 23 Taylor Jacobitz
- 24 Lee Rockefeller
- 26 Fred Valentine
- 27 McKinnley Kroos
- 28 Darwin Beirow
- 29 Brett Ehly  
Randy Kennedy



### Who Are My Neighbors?

**N** is for neighbor. Many of us have neighbors who are not actively involved in church or Sunday School.

**E** is for employees and employers. Are all the people you work with actively involved in a church?

**I** is for interesting people. Every day we meet a lot of interesting people who are not actively involved in church or Bible study.

**G** is for general contacts—people at the bank, spa, classroom, service station, or grocery store.

**H** is for hobby friends—people who share our interest in antiques, needlecraft, stamp collecting, etc.

**B** is for baby. New babies are born daily, and this is a natural time for parents who have been inactive to get involved in church again.

**O** is for occupational friends—people in the workplace who admire and respect you.

**R** is for relatives—children, parents, brothers, in-laws, etc.

This list shows that you as a Christian really do have a wide circle of influence. Share your witness with these neighbors. Let them know that God cares for them.

# NOVEMBER COMING EVENTS

Nov. 1 † All Saints' Day  
(Sun.) 10:00 AM



Join us for a special celebration as we commemorate those who have died in the faith and gone before us to their eternal rest with their Lord Jesus.

Nov. 1 Daylight Savings  
Time Ends

Remember to turn your clock back one hour on Saturday evening, Oct. 31st.



Nov. 4 Election Day  
(Tues.)

Remember to vote. Give thanks for those willing to serve. Pray for our elected officials and country.

Nov. 4 † Worship at Premier †  
(Wed.) Estates 10:00 AM

Nov. 5 Ladies Aid  
(Thurs.) 2:00 PM



Nov. 11 Veterans' Day  
(Wed.) Give thanks and pray for those who have served or are serving in the military this Veterans' Day

Nov. 11 OGT Sort & Pack Day  
(Wed.) 10 AM - 2 PM

St. Paul's monthly sort and pack day at the Grand Island warehouse. Pool rides from the church at 9:15 AM.

Nov. 11 Fellowship League  
(Wed.) 8:00 PM - Fellowship Hall

Nov. 15 Pastor Appreciation  
(Sun.) with Potluck (following morning service)

Theme: *"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made."*  
Psalm 119:14



Let's show Pastor our appreciation and thanks by sharing a meal with him on this special recognition day.

Bring a dish, salad or dessert of your choice. Drinks and table service provided.

Nov. 16 December Newsletter  
(Mon.) Deadline

Please place your news items, lists of volunteers, etc. on the desk in the workroom. Advent begins Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to include any Advent meals, activities, etc. Thanks!

Nov. 17 LWML  
(Tues.) 7:30 PM Fellowship Hall

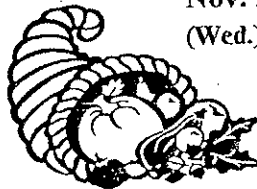
Take note LWML meeting early Nov. Activities: Bible Study from the Quarterly, plan Advent Supper & Bake Sale, sign Christmas cards for residents of Premier Estates and decorate the sanctuary for Thanksgiving.



Nov. 25 † Thanksgiving Eve  
(Wed.) Service 7:30 PM

Come and sing a song of praise and thanksgiving.

Nov. 25 Lutheran Layman's  
(Wed.) League (LLL) Meeting  
(following evening service)



HAPPY THANKSGIVING



## LYF

**Sunday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> & 15th**

7:00 PM

Bible Study and more! Bring an unchurched friend!

## Advent Begins

**Nov 29 Fellowship Coffee 9 AM**  
**(Sun.) Hymn Sing 9:45 AM**  
**Worship Service 10 AM**

Begin your Advent season with us!! Share a cup of coffee, wassail or hot chocolate, satisfy your sweet tooth and enjoy some lively conversation. View Advent and Christmas selections available from our church library to take home to enjoy. Then head to the sanctuary to sing your favorite requested Christmas/Advent hymns prior to the morning worship service.

### Advent Services

Wednesdays 7:30 PM  
December 2, 9, 16

(Advent meal proceeding services)

### Other Area Events

**HOLSTEIN ST. PAUL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH 20<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL**

**Nov. 1 WURSTFEST**  
**(Sun.) 5 - 7 PM Holstein Fire Hall**

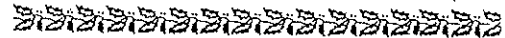
Enjoy a feast of brats, kraut & more.  
Proceeds fund mission projects.

**Advanced tickets:** Adults \$9.00  
Children (ages 5-12) \$5.00  
**Tickets at the Door:**  
Adults \$10.00 Children (ages 5-12) \$5.00

**For Advanced Tickets Call:**  
Darwin Beirow (402) 752-3666  
Or call (402)756-5703

**Nov. 1 International Day of  
(Sun.) Prayer (IDOP) for the  
Persecuted Church**

Uniting in prayer for the persecuted church, in the spirit of oneness that Christ commanded: 'For, if one suffers, we all suffer.'



Concordia University, Nebraska invites you to join music lovers from around the country at **Christmas at Concordia**, scheduled December 4-6, 2015. Be filled with joy as more than 250 student musicians share the Good News of Christmas with music from across the ages. Concerts will be held at St. John Lutheran Church in Seward and are scheduled as follows:



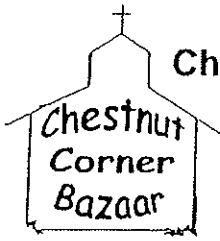
**7:00 PM Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**3 & 7 PM Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**3:00 PM Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**

Admission is free, but tickets are required. **Registration is by phone only and opens on November 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.** To register, please call 402-643-7150 or 402-643-7160 at that time.

In addition to the concerts, Christmas at Concordia weekend features two events on Sunday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>:

**21st Annual Scholarship Parade of Homes** (tickets required) and **Concordia's Christmas Open House** (4:30 - 6:30 PM) and **Tree Lighting** 6:00 PM (free and open to all). For more information about Christmas at Concordia Weekend, please visit [www.christmasatconcordia.net](http://www.christmasatconcordia.net).





# Chestnut Corner Bazaar

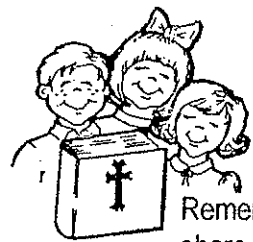
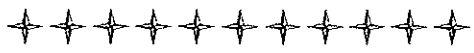
Saturday, Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>  
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Faith Lutheran Church  
837 N. Chestnut Ave - Hastings

Baked Goods - Crafts - Cookie Walk - Homemade pies, jelly & candy. "Christmas Once Again" Room (gently used Christmas items)

8:00 - 11:00 AM Coffee & Rolls  
11:30 - 1:00 Lunch Pulled Pork, Baked Potato, Homemade Pie

**Proceeds go to**  
**Orphan Grain Train**  
Supplemental Funds provided by  
Thrivent Financial



**THANK YOU!**  
**Sunday School and**  
**Mid-week Teachers**



Remember them in your prayers and share a world of thanks and appreciation to them the next time you see them sharing God's word with the children of St. Paul's.

**This year's teacher's are:**

- |                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Paulette Kuehn | Jack Duffy    |
| Daniel Duffy   | Stephen Duffy |
| Jamie Beal     | Deb Adams     |
| Corina Mulford | Shandra Uden  |
| Sharon Duffy   |               |

**Helpers:** Rose Wehrman; Brenda Mack  
**Superintendent:** Bev Nixon

Thank you from the Board of Education

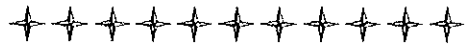


# Thanks

Dear Family in Christ,

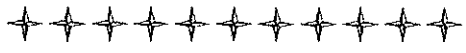
*I would like to thank you for your continued support of me as I make my way through my years at Concordia. It has been such a blessing and I pray that God will bless all as we continue in His Kingdom.*

Love in Christ,  
Michael Franklin Duffy



*Thanks for the opportunity to give a Gideon Report at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. We appreciate your continued support over the years with offerings and prayers. We received a generous offering of \$443.22 which will provide many Bibles and Testaments locally and worldwide. We are grateful for your generosity.*

Sincerely,  
G. Willis Gabbert, Adams/Clay  
Counties Gideon Camp



*Thank you for your continued financial support as I attend Concordia University. I greatly appreciate your kindness. Concordia has been a great school, and a great place for me to further strengthen by faith.*

Thank you again.

Sincerely,  
Chris Shelton



# STEWARDSHIP TIPS FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

## Stewardship Means Wisely Using the Treasures God Gives You

If you have possessions, any possessions at all, no matter how many or few you might think them to be, it means that God is blessing you with these things and trusting you to use these things wisely.

As I say that, I think one of the key words in that sentence is "use," as we say "use these things wisely." God does not shower down all of these blessings to store up in bank vaults or safe rooms in our homes, never to be used for His glory and the good of His kingdom or the welfare of those He places in our lives.

For some, it becomes very easy to hoard these things, thinking that we need to keep as much as we can for ourselves in case, and this will never ever happen, God should quit providing for us and we fall upon hard times. Now, don't get me wrong. This does not mean that we go out and live as did the younger son in the well-known parable more properly called the Prodigal Father since "Prodigal" rightly means extravagant. This, after all, is how the father in the parable dealt with his repentant, returning, son, and this is exactly how our Father deals with us, His oftentimes wayward children, but that is a whole other story which we don't have time for right now.

What Christian stewardship means is using the things with which God has blessed us in ways that

are pleasing to God and for the good of His kingdom both here on earth and for eternity in heaven. It does not mean living at either extreme: pinching each penny until it screams or throwing it all to the wind just for the fun of it.

No, we turn to God in His Word to see how He would have us use the money and possessions He has provided for us. We look for opportunities to care for those He places in our lives, even as we plan for our future and take care of the needs we have right now. And no matter what our circumstances we are blessed to be able to say with full confidence, just as did St. Paul in Philippians 4:10-13, <sup>10</sup> *I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity.* <sup>11</sup> *Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.* <sup>12</sup> *I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.* <sup>13</sup> *I can do all things through him who strengthens me.*

Rev. John Heckmann

LWML Senior Pastoral Counselor



### Christian Book Club

Have you read any good books lately? There's nothing like reading a good book and sharing it with someone else. A book club is a good way to get together with others and discuss ideas and issues in light of faith. It's a way to share your faith with others and to pray for and support one another. The book club is open to men and women. If you would be interested in starting a book club at St. Paul's please sign the sheet between the mailboxes, how often you would like to meet and AM or PM time. Watch for more details.



### A Thanksgiving Psalm

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the deep places of the earth; the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it; and his hands formed the dry land.

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the deep places of the earth; the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it; and his hands formed the dry land.

O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Psalm 95:1-7



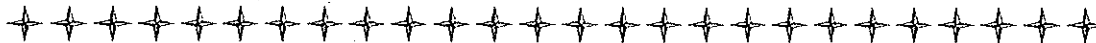
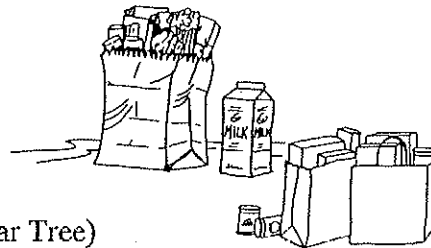
# MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

## Backpack Service for Qualified Kenesaw School Students:

A child takes a backpack home on Friday that is filled with food items, then returns it on Monday to be refilled by volunteers. The items are partially selected with the idea that the children could be preparing the food themselves. The basic menu includes - canned pasta, cereal or breakfast bars, crackers, fruit and vegetable. Juice boxes and various snacks are provided when available. Milk, hamburger and chicken helper have been provided, however they are expensive items. During the holidays more food is provided in the packs for the longer time period. A ham is provided at Christmas time. Over 30 kids are signed up this year. All contributions can be brought to a box in the church entry labeled Back Pack. Cash donations would also be appreciated.

### Requested Food Items:

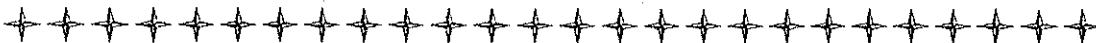
Ramen Noodles	Cereal or Breakfast Bar
Chicken Noodle Soup	Crackers
Tomato Soup	Peanut Butter
Spaghetti	Tuna/Crackers (from Dollar Tree)
Spaghetti-Os	Chicken/Crackers (from Dollar Tree)
Ravioli	Juice boxes
Mac-N-Cheese	Pancake Mix/Syrup



## Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child Shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child are available in the entryway. If you are interested in packing one or more, help your self to a box and instructions. **Return the filled boxes to the church by the first week of November.** More information about Samaritan's Purse can be found on line at [www.smaritanspurse.org](http://www.smaritanspurse.org)

Thank you for your help with this ministry.



## November Mission Grant

### Cancer Care Packages - Phil's Friends \$50,000

Since 2006 care packages and cards have been prepared by an army of volunteers for Phil's Friends. Phil Zielke was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma in 2004. After receiving aggressive chemotherapy he showed no signs of cancer, however, in 2005, once again cancer returned. During his journey Phil often felt alone so friends prepared a care package with much needed items. He also received cards on a weekly basis to let Phil know that he was uplifted in prayer. As dark and as challenging as the journey Phil was going through, something hopeful and positive was birthed. Today thousands of patients with cancer receive care packages, weekly cards of hope and prayers--all free. Volunteers at Phil's friends provide hope, comfort and encouragement in homes and hospital throughout the United States.

Dear Friend of Orphan Grain Train,

The needs never end. To all, Orphan Grain Train responds as we have the capability, sending life-giving aid, food, clothing, medical supplies and equipment. All to save and enhance lives that are marginal. Not marginal in value, for every life is one given by God and redeemed by Christ. But marginal in terms of living on the edge of life itself, not knowing whether tomorrow or next week they might breathe their last. The Central Nebraska Branch of Orphan Grain Train has been greatly blessed. In our fifth year we have continued the growth which we experienced in our previous year. This growth would not have happened without support for m our volunteers and supporters like you.

To such needs a wonderful donor has responded for the third year, offering a matching challenge of \$100,000 for gifts given to Orphan Grain Train by November 30. This lady, whose love for the Lord has moved her to reach with compassion to those whose lives have been devastated by poverty or disaster seeks to encourage others to reach out with the same mercy that our Lord demonstrated and to which she has responded. She was thrilled with the response the last two years and thus wished to renew that challenge this year. *A matching gifts challenge of \$5,000 as been allocated to the Central Nebraska Branch Division.* Every gift, whether \$10, \$500 or \$10,000 will count toward this \$100,000 challenge. If you wish to support the **Central Nebraska Division**, your donation must be sent to P.O. Box 1565, Hastings, NE 68902-1565 note on your check Central Division Matching Gift Challenge. Send donations for **OGT International** to P.O. BOX 1466, Norfolk, NE 687002-1466.

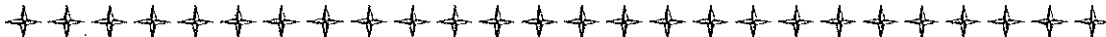
And be assured that Orphan Grain Train will use each and every gift as effectively as possible, meeting the needs of "the lease of these my brethren," as Jesus put it, with only 3% of what's given going for administration and fund-raising.

We the people of God living today, are the hands and feet of Jesus, extending his arms of mercy to all who suffer through no fault of their own. Their lives are enriched by the care shown others.

Please join us in meeting this challenge once again and help countless numbers of people whom we will never see this side of heaven, but whose thanks ascend to our God for the people He moves to help. May our dear Savior bless your consideration!

In His Service and yours,  
Rev. Ralph G. Schmidt, OGT International Director of Development  
Gary Wieck, OGT Central Nebraska Branch Manager

**P.S. Remember, every gift by November 30 will count toward meeting this challenge!**



Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you very much for your generous contribution of \$267.00 recorded on 9/16/2015 to Orphan Grain Train for Orphanage Priozersk 2 Kenesaw. Your donation helps provide basic necessities such as clothing, food, medicine, vitamins, school needs, hygiene supplies and other necessary items. Because of generous donors like you, poor children in 63 orphanages are now being shown God's mercy through the work of Orphan Grain Train. Thank you for helping to improve the lives of these precious little ones.

Sincerely in the Lord, Rev. Ray S. Wilke, President



*Relief for Human Need Worldwide*