

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

November is a month that, in my life, has been characterized by one thing: turkeys! Every year the family would gather together, cook up a turkey (in some years, my brothers became deep frying aficionados, and then there were two turkeys), and share a delightful meal together, one that left everyone overstuffed. Likewise, in my late teens and early college years, as I worked in a grocery store, it seemed every other person was coming in to buy a turkey. Turkeys have been a big part of November.

I also had a good friend growing up whose father liked to call us a “bunch of turkeys”: especially if we were doing something we shouldn't and getting into trouble. Of course, we weren't “turkeys” just in November. We could manage to get into mischief any time of year.

It is not just kids, like my friends and me, who are “turkeys” in the way my friend's father used the word. Being a turkey comes from wrongdoing. And Romans 3:23 states that “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Reworded into my friend's dad's language, “all are turkeys and fall short of the glory of God.” This means that you and I are turkeys, too.

November is a pretty rough month to be a turkey. I cannot imagine any other month being the cause of the end of more turkeys than November. Romans 6:23 says that “the wages of sin is death.” The end result for a turkey is death – for most turkeys, it means becoming someone's dinner, but for us, it means that sin has caused us corruption and death.

There is an interesting custom carried out by the President of the United States as well as some governors. Each year, the leader takes an ordinary turkey and gives it a pardon – it is spared from becoming a meal, spared from the death intended for it. This custom somewhat serves as an analogy for the pardon that all of us “turkeys” receive from our Lord Jesus. We also receive a pardon, but instead of being spared from becoming a holiday meal, we “turkeys” are spared from sin, death, and hell. The pardon that our Lord won for us by His death on the cross and His rising from the dead means that our sins are forgiven. We are no longer “turkeys,” but sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father, and heirs of the kingdom of His grace. Because we have been remade, not as turkeys but as children of God, death and hell cannot hold us. Instead, God has promised us resurrection and everlasting life with Him. The pardon that our Lord grants to “turkeys” like us is cause for great Thanksgiving.

This November, we celebrate the holiday of Thanksgiving. As Christians, we truly have a lot to be thankful for, and we know to whom we give that thanks. We don't just speak about how, in general, we are thankful for this, that, or the other thing. Instead, we give thanks to our Almighty God, who has created us, redeemed us, and who provides us with all good things to support this body and life.

Make giving thanks to the Lord part of your Thanksgiving celebration plans. He's the One who provided that turkey that you plan to eat, who gave you the gift of family to enjoy the day with, who created football so that you could spend half the day watching it (if that's your thing), and has given you life and breath all your days. We will have Thanksgiving Eve worship at Trinity at 6 pm on November 22, and I would love to give thanks to our gracious and merciful Lord with you!

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Lieske



Trinity Tribune
November 2023

Bible Study Opportunities

- † **Sunday Mornings**— 10:30 am Adult & Teen Bible Study
- † **Tuesday Mornings**—8:00 am Men's Morning Bible Study
- † **Tuesday Afternoons**— 2:00pm Women's Bible Study

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALVATION ARMY COLLECTION: Trinity will be collecting “Hoodie Sweatshirts for Teens”, again this year for the Salvation Army Christmas. Our deadline is Sunday, Dec. 10th Thank you for sharing your Christmas with the Teens at the 4 Salvation Army. Place your hooded sweatshirts for teens on the table in the Narthex. Thank you Human Care Board

FOOD SHELF: Fergus Falls Community Food Shelf is requesting donations to purchase Ham or Turkey breast or boneless ham for people who come to the Food Shelf over the holidays. Our goal is to purchase 150 hams and 150 turkeys. If you, your family, school or organization would like to join this effort send money to: Fergus Falls Community Food Shelf, P.O. Box 136, Fergus Falls, MN 56537 Enclose a note: Meat for the Holidays. We will begin purchasing the Ham and Turkey in October. If we receive a good response we may be able to provide for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

MISSIONARY MOMENT: Pray for Ashley as she serves the church and the people in Puerto Rico. Ask God to work through Ashley to bring the Good News to people who are desperate for words of hope. Pray for God's guidance and faithfulness in her endeavors. In addition, ask God to give her strength and endurance as she continues to learn Spanish. Let us give thanks to God that Ashley is serving His children in this part of the world.



SOUP COOK-OFF: The November 19th potluck will be hosted by the Stewardship & Fellowship Boards. We will be having a Soup Cook Off. Bring a pot of your favorite soup. Those choosing not to bring soup are asked to bring food that goes well with soup or a dessert. The Children's event will be a cake-walk. Congregation members are asked to bring “Small” cakes for cupcakes to give as prizes for the children.

HELP NEEDED: Quilters are looking for people to assist in sewing and ironing. This can be done at home or at the church. Come Thursday's at 12:30pm. Further questions contact Nadine (218) 770-3679 or Char (218) 517-0114

BIBLE STUDY: Entitled “Mission of Love-His Love Our Response” at the LWML Lydia Circle meeting Wednesday, Nov. 1st at 1:00pm & Evening Circle Nov. 2nd at 6:00pm. Come join either group.

THE NORTH COUNTRY FOOD BANK: located in East Grand Forks, supplies local food shelves (includes ours) with bulk commodities. They are able to purchase food at a reduced rate and receive 4 times the amount i.e. \$10 provides 40 meals. Please see their website or Brenda Johnson for more info. A basket offering will be available this Sunday and next. Please make any checks payable to North Country Food Bank.

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

			1 1:00pm Lydia Circle 4:00pm Confirmation 5:15pm Bell Choir 6:00pm Vocal Choir	2 12:00pm Crafters 12:30pm Quilters 6:30pm Evening Circle Meeting	3	4																																																																																																									
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2023

Homebound Birthdays

- 11/4
Fern Rau
802 S. Mill St. #118
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
- 11/12
Wallace Lubben
808 S. Sheridan #301
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
- 11/19
Donna Kolle
802 E Skogmo Blvd #105
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Ongoing Concern:

Janet Maack, **David** Boese, **Brian** Fitzner, **Jeremy** Elshaug, **Elaine** Culp, **Gene** True, **Kim** Dewey (Laura Dewey's mother-in-law), **Jennifer** Wood (Jerald & Tami Gerhardson's daughter), **Jim** Anderson (Cal & Helen Johansen's friend), **Jon** Jastram (Phyllis Jastram's son), **Dylan** Maack (Bob & Janet Maack's grandson), **Robin** Roberts (Austin & Elaine Culp's daughter), **Doug** Litrich (Melvin & Marlene Reed's son-in-law), **Missy** Emerich (daughter-in-law of Cal & Helen Johansen) **Alex** Trinkle (friend of Jakob Ness's), **Stephen** Hauser (David Hauser's brother), **Paul** Schutte (Karl Hohenstein's Cousin); **Blake** Johnson (Joyce Hitchcock's son-in-law)

Homebound:

Gary Froehlich, **Donna** Kolle, **Fern** Rau, **Dick** Anderson, **Lois** Helm, **Lucille** Harworth, **Wally** Lubben, **Marlys** Lueders, **Ron** Schulz, **Evelyn** Rud **Lorraine** & **Gerry** Drews, **Lucille** Scramstad, **Chuck** Dale

Military:

Lieutenant Colonel Dennis Gerold, U.S.A.F., Travis AFB, CA (Lori & Leon Dawkins' son-in-law), Tech Sargent Isaac Christopher, U.S.A.F., Andrews Air Force Base, Washington D.C. (Donna Christopher's grandson); MMN2, Major George Hauser, DDS U.S. Army, Ft. Bliss, El Paso, TX; (David & Mary Hauser's son) Gabe Johnson, MN National Guard, (Ken & Toni Erlandson's son); Major Dinsmore, MD MN National Guard (Al & Marcie Koennicke's grandson)

Call the Church Office with special prayer requests