

# **NATIVITY NEWS – NOVEMBER 2013**



## **PASTOR'S PONDERINGS**

“Sticks and stones may break my bones but words can never hurt me” was probably our first lesson in ontology. Said another way, words can’t touch my being. This childhood chant is built on the assumption that words in themselves are powerless to do anything of significance. Words point to something that is real and is capable of doing something to our being but they can’t do the actual deed. Such is not the case with God’s word. For God to speak is to do. His word is sharper than a two edged sword the writer of Hebrews tells us. God’s word will not return void but will accomplish God’s purpose the prophet Isaiah reminds us. God said let there be light and there was light. God said let there be oceans and dry land and animals and plants and all these things came into being. And so we come to you. God has words for you. The first is a word of law. You probably recognize it as something like the fact you are a sinner, the evil one’s accusations against you are quite true, and the grave stalks you constantly. All of this is a word of law and it is quite effective in touching your being. God’s word of law actually kills you in that it is undeniable and it leaves you no recourse. There is nothing you can do to improve, alleviate, or eliminate his word of law. You are what it says period. God’s second word to you is a word of gospel or good news. In spite of your sin, the accusations of the evil one and your mortality, God has decided to be your God and all for Christ’s sake. His word of promise is given of all things through words. “You are forgiven unconditionally for Jesus’ sake” is a word from God as powerful and authoritative as the word that spoke creation into existence. In fact, that is exactly what God word has done to you. You are a new creation because God said so. You are a new creation in spite of what you see, do and feel. You are what God calls you and he calls you his child shining with the very righteousness of Christ. Add that to your list of things to be thankful for this month!

Peace  
*Scott*

## A THANK YOU NOTE.....

Thank you for the prayers, cards, phone calls and words of encouragement you have shared with Rick & me. Your support has been a source of strength to both of us. We are blessed to be part of this Church family.

Thank you again,

Ann & Rick Schultz



## THANKS TO ALL OUR CRAFTY SOULS

The fall's main fund raising event for Social Ministry projects, the annual Craft Fair, was once again a success thanks to all the clever crafters, busy bakers, "wurst" workers, volunteers and shoppers. With the additional support of our great vendors and the community the event raised about \$2000. Over \$300 was raised in sales of the Lutheran World Relief international fair trade items. Your great baked goods brought in around \$600 and the youth raised several hundred dollars for their projects.

All church proceeds go toward Social Ministry's Outreach Programs including Habitat, the Center for Violence Prevention, Grace House, Stewpot, Harbor House, Rankin County Human Resources and Lutheran Episcopal Services.



## RUFFLE OUR FEATHERS

Each year Nativity has helped support the Rankin County Human Resource Agency Thanksgiving food drive for senior citizens. Once again you are encouraged to bring a contribution to dinner boxes that will be taken to the Rankin County agency for distribution. Pluck some feathers off the turkey in the narthex and bring back the listed item. Items need to be at the church no later than Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. The Social Ministry Committee will purchase frozen turkeys to complete the boxes.



### UPCOMING ADVENT ACTIVITIES

Watch for the angel tree to appear November 24th with the names of children from area families and their Christmas needs and wishes. Each child will have an angel with toys and another with clothing items listed.

Sign up sheets for the Live Nativity (on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> with setup on the Sat. before Thanksgiving) will also be posted in the narthex during November. Volunteers will be needed for cast members, costumes, set up and strike crew and to prepare and serve refreshments.

Both of these annual activities require the help of lots of Nativity members. Please plan to be one of the secret Santas and participate in our traditional community outreach event.



### Nativity Prayer List

#### Please pray for:

Trieu Lam, Linda Terry, Ann Schultz, Pastor David Mancuso, Carol Tucker, Alan Fos, Ann Wood, Casey Pace, Annabeth Davis, Ann Wood, Fay Miller, Richard Schnell and Brian Johnson

### TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF 09-30-2013

Planned YTD Budgeted Tithes & Offerings (excl. special funds)	\$113,165
Received YTD Budgeted Tithes & Offerings (excl. special funds)	<u>\$115,568</u>
Difference	\$ 2,403



## November & December

### Birthdays

Katie Kirby	11/01
Marlyn Hatten	11/03
Alton Lewis	11/07
Robbie Seward	11/07
Wendy Ketchum	11/08
Jennifer Seward	11/10
John Schnell	11/13
Mitch Leavell	11/18
Marcia Weaver	11/18
Joyce Stroh	11/20
Keith Anderson	11/21
Linda Tucker	11/22
Ruth Burgess	12/06
Kenzie Seward	12/07
Alex Weisser	12/09
Dorothy Leavell	12/11
Hack Walston	12/16
Cindy Braatz	12/19
Lauri Gregory	12/20
Claudia Sendelweck	12/22
Chuck Gallagher	12/27
Charlie Thatch	12/29
Pat Anderson	12/31

### Anniversaries

Clyde & Marlyn Hatten	11/03
Alton & Kathy Lewis	11/07
Tony & Sue Caldwell	12/12
Jake & Carly Koch	12/18

If you wish to participate, please look for the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex and provide your birthday and/or anniversary **month & day only** by your name so we can **wish you a Happy Day!**

**Happy Birthday & Anniversary to All !!!!!**

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

November 3	8:00 & 10:30 AM Services with Holy Communion 9:15 AM Sunday School Service of Healing & Anointing with Oil following 10:30 service Choir practice immediately following this service (Daylight Saving Time Ends)
November 6	12 Noon – AI-non
November 7	7:00 PM Social Ministry Meeting
November 10	8:00 & 10:30 AM Youth Led Service 9:15 AM Youth Sunday School 11:30 AM choir practice
November 13	12 Noon – AI-non 12 Noon and 7:00 PM Bible Study
November 17	8:00 & 10:30 AM Services with Holy Communion 9:15 AM Youth Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 11:30 AM choir practice Seniors Thanksgiving Dinner Food Due
November 20	12 Noon – AI-non 12 Noon and 7:00 PM Bible Study
November 24	8:00 & 10:30 AM Services with Holy Communion 9:15 AM Youth Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 11:30 AM choir practice Angel Tree names available Stewardship Drive begins – Packets available in Narthex
November 27	12 Noon – AI-non 12 Noon and 7:00 PM Bible Study
November 30	8:30 AM – Brewed Awakenings at CUPS

## **NLC November, 2013 Volunteer List – 10:30 Service**

### **November 3**

Greeters – Joyce Stroh  
Ambassador – Meade Entrekin  
Pew Buddy - Susan Landrum  
Ushers – John Schnell & Renate Hunt  
Lector – Sandy Bettiga  
Comm. Asst. – Sandy Bettiga  
Nursery – Lynn & Haley Templeton  
Counters – Sandy Bettiga & Renate Hunt  
Acolyte – Eli Bettiga  
Altar Care – Lauri Gregory

### **November 17**

Greeters – John & Pat Schnell  
Ambassador – Mitch Leavell  
Pew Buddy - Ellen Noble  
Ushers – Bettiga Family  
Lector – John Halverson  
Comm. Asst. – John Halverson  
Nursery – Cindy & Fred Braatz  
Counters – Tom Loland & Norma Swanson  
Acolyte – Kate Mae Rials  
Altar Care – Lauri Gregory

### **November 10**

Greeter – Debbie Pruett  
Ambassador – Lynn Templeton  
Pew Buddy – Ruth Burgess  
Ushers – Mitch Leavell & Linda Tucker  
Lector – Lydia Weisser  
Comm. Asst. – John Schnell  
Nursery – Sue Caldwell & Olivia Halverson  
Counters – Sue Caldwell & Pat Schnell  
Acolyte – Matthew Templeton  
Altar Care – Lauri Gregory

### **November 24**

Greeter – Jim & Pat Moulds  
Ambassador – Linda Tucker  
Pew Buddy – Dorothy Leavell  
Ushers – John Halverson & Hack Walston  
Lector – Keith Anderson  
Comm. Asst. – Keith Anderson  
Nursery – Ruth Burgess / Savannah Stevens  
Counters – Cindy & Fred Braatz  
Acolyte – Fred Braatz  
Altar Care – Lauri Gregory

*If you cannot serve on the dates shown, please try to swap with someone and let the office know of the change. Thanks.*