



**500th Anniversary of
the Reformation
October 31, 2017**

Grace Notes

For All the Saints

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses.... let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.”

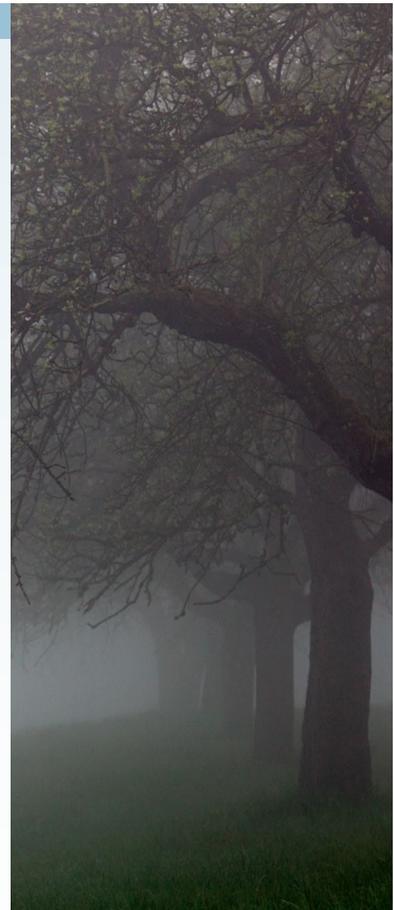
Hebrews 12:1

It had become a custom for us to gather as a community of faith at various times during the year. To gather during Ash Wednesday, on occasion during Lent, Holy Week and Reformation Sunday did not seem unusual. Year round preparations were made to raise up these holy times of the year. It wasn't until the suggestion was made that we gather for All Saints Day. Different but doable. The talk and plans were made; style of worship and parts were decided upon and then the day, or more appropriately, the night came.

The sanctuary was bathed in candle light. An eerie sense came over the place. Shadows were cast and moved about as the wind teased the flames. Faces that could be seen clearly during the day or even in a well lit room, were now hidden in the half shadows. It was as if we were there, but not quite. Or, something was there just outside of our ability to see clearly.

The pastoral train began its slow procession to the nave. About half-way up the aisle we came to a stop and the first name of the long list of those who had died in the past year was read. In the quiet the name echoed off the walls. As this first name began to fade and we prepared ourselves to hear the next, a response was heard. “Here!” Collectively there was an inhaling at the response.

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For All The Saints*



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Special points of interest

- this first name began to fade and we prepared ourselves to hear the next, a response was heard. “Here!” Collectively there was an inhaling at the response.
- You fed our souls as well as bodies as we worshiped together and then broke bread together (not to mention bratwurst, German potato salad, sweet-and-sauerkraut, cucumber salad, and German chocolate cupcakes)!

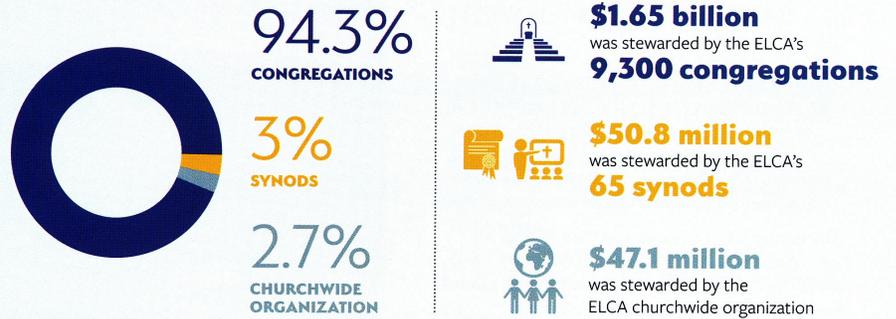


Working Together

In 2015, ELCA members gave \$1.75 billion

in unrestricted offerings* to support God's mission and ministry through the three expressions of the ELCA.

Thank you for your generosity!



*Unrestricted offerings do not include special offerings (e.g., congregational capital improvements or gifts to ministries like Lutheran Disaster Response).

Lutheran World Relief

Ingathering

Mission Quilts—91

School Kits—44

Personal Care Kits—30

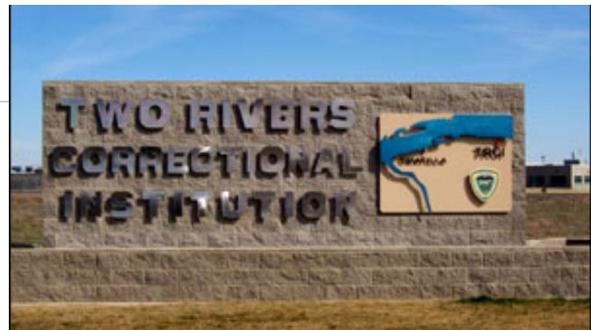
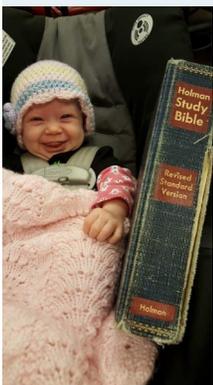
Baby Care Kits—8

November Benevolence

ELCA World Hunger Appeal

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with them among

God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, place in their hands the holy scriptures...



To our friends at Grace and Mercy Lutheran:

What a beautiful outpouring of love, generosity, and much-missed good home cooking was shared with us yesterday, on Reformation Sunday! Your kindness and caring really made a difference—both those of you who were here, and those who helped out behind the scenes. You fed our souls as well as bodies as we worshiped together and then broke bread together (not to mention bratwurst, German potato salad, sweet-and-sauerkraut, cucumber salad, and German chocolate cupcakes)! Occasions such as this are not soon forgotten, and help to sustain us through the difficult times. Thank you for braving the wires, gates, clanging steel doors and lots of time spent waiting (before and after!) to be with us and make Christ's love visible and tangible. Please come back soon!

With our sincerest gratitude, love and appreciation—the men of the Lutheran Church at Two Rivers.

Be a friend of the Triennial Gathering



Join the conversation as we explore the triennial gathering theme "All Anew." Listen to inspiring speakers; participate in worship and praise; learn by attending workshops, viewing films and engaging in servant events. Visit the exhibit hall where you can gather, shop and connect. And don't forget our special events where women in their 20s and 30s can eat chocolate and join others to run it off later. And where's it all happening? In Minneapolis, at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

While this is an official event of Women of the ELCA, all women in the church are invited to attend. One need not be a participant in Women of the ELCA. In fact, we invite all our ecumenical partners to attend as well, so share this invitation.

Mark your calendars for the Tenth Triennial Gathering, **July 13-16, 2017**, at the Minneapolis Convention Center in Minneapolis, Minn.

We are real women talking about our faith. About our doubts and challenges. About joy and what inspires us. We'll experience simple conversations between friends—old and new—that will develop into a movement sweeping the church, inspired and infused with the Holy Spirit.

Oregon SWO Convention

Women of the ELCA

Bend, Oregon

October 7-8, 2016



Please see the reader board for information about registration and theme.

Church Happenings

Tapping Into Faith

Scheduled for the last Friday of the month, that would be November 25th we gather at the Hermiston Tavern @ 7pm to engage in a lively discussion and friendship. Topics run the gamut from what is currently in the news to the 2nd Amendment to the meaning of fulfilled. Join us. Bring your friends. Join the patrons of the Hermiston Tavern as we tap into faith.

Novel Ideas Book Club

Wild by Cheryl Strayed is the novel for the month of December. Discussion will be led by Dustin Hunter.

At twenty-two, Cheryl Strayed thought she had lost everything. In the wake of her mother's death, her family scattered and her own marriage was soon destroyed. Four years later, with nothing more to lose, she made the most impulsive decision of her life. With no experience or training, driven only by blind will, she would hike more than a thousand miles of the Pacific Crest Trail from the Mojave Desert through California and Oregon to Washington State—and she would do it alone. Told with suspense and style, sparkling with warmth and humor, *Wild* powerfully captures the terrors and pleasures of one young woman forging ahead against all odds on a journey that maddened, strengthened, and ultimately healed her.

Join us Tuesday evening, November 29th @ 5:30ish for Novel Ideas.

Local Action

Thank you to EVERYONE who participated in the gathering of hats, gloves, and other supplies for local children.



Grace and Mercy Welcomes You

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services and ministries.

Grace and Mercy L.C.

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(509) 398-0258 (pastor's cell)

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Visit us on Facebook at Grace and Mercy Lutheran Church

Dwelling in the Word

21st Sunday after Pentecost - October 9, 2016

"Then Jesus said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well." Luke 17:11-19.



Ten lepers are healed by Jesus. Only one is made well. I find that interesting.

Bp. Dave

(Continued from page 1)
For All The Saints

As I look back on that particular event I remember the response of many of the people that night. As names were read and responses were heard, tears began to be shed and heads nodded as the truth became known. Though dead, these people had been raised. Though gone, these people were very much present. Though sinner, these people are the saints of God.

All Saints Day/Sunday is a festival of connection. Rich in history, it reminds us of our history as part of a larger community of faith, a community that transcends time and space. The writer to the Hebrews reminds us that we are surrounded by this cosmic community, a community that serves as witness and encouragement in the life we live in Christ.

This day also serves to remind us that the Saints are not just the "greats" of faith like Peter and Paul, but they are also you and I. In our baptism and by our lives we witness to the faith, to the Christ. You and I also respond with, "Here!" when the roll call of saints is listed.

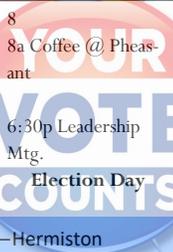
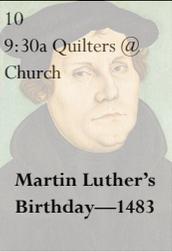
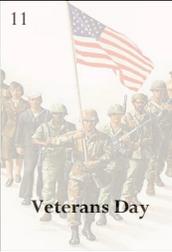
In this light we remember those from our congregational family who have been gathered unto God in the past year, those who have been faithful and run with perseverance the race that was set before them, who now celebrate the life promised to them in their baptisms.

We do so in the name of the Father, and + of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



November 2016

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

		 <p>1 8a Coffee @ Pheasant 6:30p Chris Ed @ Starbuck</p> <p>All Saints Day</p>	2	3	4	5
Pastor Inch—Hermiston						
 <p>6 All Saints Day 9a Worship & Communion 10:15a Ed. Hour</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time Ends</p>	<p>7 6:32a Next Text Classic @ Pheasant 10a Next Text 2.0 @ Church</p>	 <p>8 8a Coffee @ Pheasant 6:30p Leadership Mtg.</p> <p>Election Day</p>	9 10a Gather Study	 <p>10 9:30a Quilters @ Church</p> <p>Martin Luther's Birthday—1483</p>	 <p>11</p> <p>Veterans Day</p>	12
Pastor Inch—Hermiston						
<p>13 26 Pentecost C 9a Worship & Communion 10:15a Ed. Hour</p>	<p>14 6:32a Next Text Classic @ Pheasant 10a Next Text 2.0 @ Church</p>	<p>15 8a Coffee @ Pheasant</p>	16 9:30a Foot Clinic	<p>17 9:30a Quilters @ Church</p>	18	19
Pastor Inch—Hermiston						
 <p>20 Christ the King 9a Worship & Communion 10:15a Ed. Hour</p>	<p>21 6:32a Next Text Classic @ Pheasant 10a Next Text 2.0 @ Church</p>	<p>22 8a Coffee @ Pheasant</p>	23 10a Gather Study	 <p>24</p> <p>Thanksgiving Day</p>	25	26
Pastor Inch—Hermiston						
<p>27 1 Advent A 10:30a Worship & Moving & Communion</p>	<p>28 6:32a Next Text Classic @ Pheasant 10a Next Text 2.0 @ Church</p>	<p>29 8a Coffee @ Pheasant</p>	30			
Pastor Inch—Hermiston						

Serving God's People

<i>Date</i>	<i>Reader</i>	<i>Refreshments</i>	<i>Acolyte</i>
Nov 6	Kathleen Madore	Madore Family	
Nov 13	Dot Hensley	Dot & Dick Hensley	
Nov 20	Regina Marks	Cooper Family	
Nov 27	Steve or Phil	Jean & Cindy Ruhl	

Celebrations

<i>Date</i>	<i>Celebration</i>	<i>Celebrant</i>
Nov 1	Birthday	Midred Kasari
Nov 13	Birthday	Ruth Konningrud
Nov 15	Birthday	Jonathan Larson
Nov 19	Birthday	Micah Madore
Nov 22	Birthday	Bill Hill
Nov 25	Birthday	Cindy Ruhl
Nov 26	Birthday	Mary Wendling
Nov 27	Birthday	Kj Inch
Nov 29	Birthday	Shirley Pettit

LWR Health Kits are readied for shipping. Thanks to everyone who helped support this vital ministry.