

# The EXPRESSION–November 2023

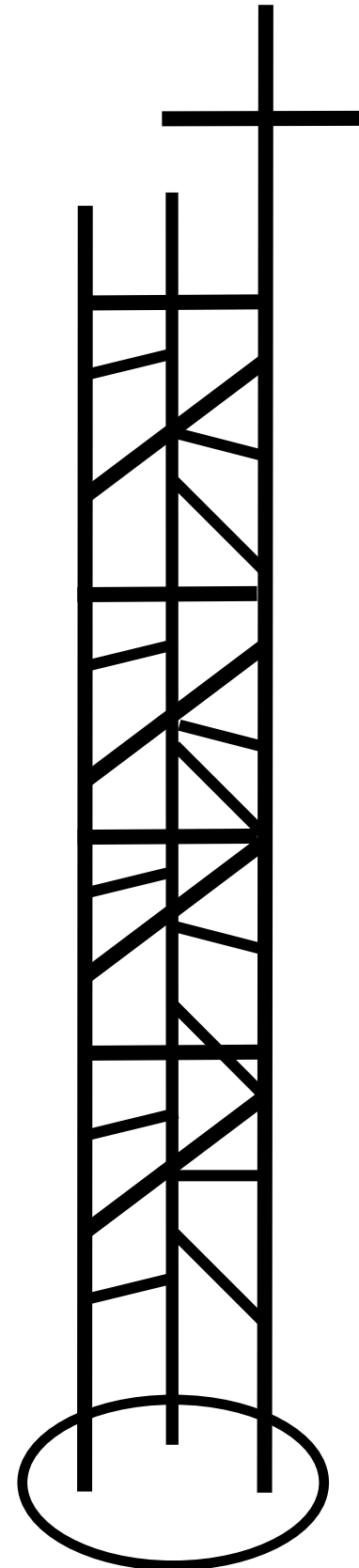
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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November is often used as a time for reflection on the past and to cherish what we have today. Thanksgiving Day celebrations at the end of the month help us to recall the blessings we have received in life and to join with others in praise of our God for His wondrous works among us. But that one day should not be the only time we set aside for such considerations. Our whole lives should be filled with opportunities seized to sit back in wonder at God's creation or His intervention in our daily struggles. As we read or remember His promises in Scripture we recount the times when He has made a difference in our lives. In all these settings we also should realize that if not for the grace of God we would be in worse conditions.

Our loving Father does care for our daily needs. Our wonderful savior, Jesus, has given His life on the cross in payment for our sins in order that we may have forgiveness and the certainty of eternal life in heaven. The Holy Spirit continues to bring these matters of faith to mind and builds us up in spiritual confidence as we grow in being godly disciples.

Our God is so good! How can I even forget to thank Him every day?! God has been good to us both as individuals and in our service in the church. Think about some of those special things you have recently experienced and utter a few words in prayer to our Wondrous Lord.



### Giving Thanks

I was struggling to write an article this month as I just wasn't sure what to write about. I have started this 3 or 4 times and nothing was going right, so that means start again. But, in true November form I came back to the thought of giving thanks. Do you only think about this at Thanksgiving? Sadly, I am afraid many in our society do.

A dear friend gave me a decorative sign that hangs in our living room that says, "What if you woke up today with only what you thanked God for yesterday?" Wow! Kind of powerful if you think about it. I thank God for the many people that ministry has brought my path across and the churches and schools He has led Pastor and I to serve. (Even though I cried when moving to Gillette, WY., but I cried when we left too.) I daily thank God for the blessings of my family and the love and protection that he gives to each of us. But I also thank him for all of the faithful servants here at Immanuel Church and School. The families who are entrusting us to educate their children, the families we are blessed to worship with each week, and those who are so faithful in helping to take care of us as well. Being in ministry can be tough work, many look at you in a different way, but there are those who look to care for their shepherd and the staff of the school and for that we are all very thankful.

A member stopped by one day to apologize that there weren't going to be extras of product this year to donate to the kitchen for the kids. Would I have noticed that those apples, tomatoes, or squash didn't come in - maybe, but I wouldn't have questioned their faithfulness of caring for our ministry here. So, to all who pray, volunteer, donate, and just find little ways to say thank you to the staff of Immanuel, We all appreciate you and are so very thankful for you all year long.

PLEASE join us for our Veterans Day celebration on November 13th at 2pm. Another great time to give thanks to these men and women for protecting our country's freedoms. God Bless you all. Mrs. King



### Immanuel Lutheran Sunday School

We had some great topics & discussions in devotion this month.

Tyler talked about choices...good & bad choices and how blessed we are that God gave us the Holy Spirit to help us make these decisions. He did a demonstration with water symbolizing the Holy Spirit...he held an arrow up that pointed to "bad choices"...as he lowered it behind the vase of water and explained the greatness of God's gift in the Holy Spirit and how it affects our lives, the arrow switched to "good". Ask your children about it...it was a favorite!

After singing on Sunday, we decorated pumpkins...which the kids had a **GREAT** time with. The Staff is still out on that one...Hahaha! Just like a candle in a pumpkin, we can be the light in a dark world! How can we do this? Share his Word, peace, & love in everyday actions and shine for Christ!

This week we will be studying the Reformation & Martin Luther.

Mark your calendars: The C.O.O.L Kids will be presenting the Christmas Program on **December 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am**. It will be AMAZING!!!

Blessings, Tyler & Julie Kranz

### Youth Group



Helping with Yard Work

### The Lutheran Hour November 2023

November 5

**"Times of Mourning, Times of Blessing"**

Guest Speaker: [Rev. Dr. John Nunes](#)

We will all go through times of mourning, but we don't all necessarily face it the same way.

(Matthew 5:4)

November 12

**"Again and Again and Again"**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)

Hearing many stories only once is not as good as hearing the same story many times. Hear again God's story of love, grace, and forgiveness.

(Matthew 18:1-4)

November 19

**"Until that Day"**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook

No one knows when Christ will return. Until that day, we live in certain uncertainty.

(1 Thessalonians 5:1-11)

November 26

**"Loving Mercy"**

Guest Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy](#)  
(Matthew 25:34-40)

