

**ROYCE CHEADLE**

# BENEFIT DINNER

**NOVEMBER 16,  
2024**

Zion Lutheran Church  
413 East Ave. D  
Bismarck, ND 58501  
from 5-7pm

- Taco Bar
- Silent Auction
- Bake sale

Royce and his family want to invite EVERYONE, especially his friends from school to this event.



Royce was so excited to start kindergarten in August 2024, but his life took an unexpected turn just a month before on July 26, 2024. He was taken by ambulance to Sanford Children's Hospital in Fargo. While in Fargo, Royce was diagnosed with Lymphoblastic Leukemia, B Cell Cancer (also known as B-ALL). Royce has undergone many surgeries, procedures, blood transfusions, platelet infusions, and has started chemotherapy. Royce has also had many infections and many hospital stays since July. Royce will continue treatment for the next 3 years.



Dorrie is raising funds until the night of the benefit. At the benefit, Dorrie, along with Royce's dad Jeremy plan on shaving their hair by raising funds in support for Royce.



Royce's dad, Jeremy along with some friends will also be raising funds and shaving their heads in support of Royce and his treatments.

## Service Event Idea for December

Looking for youth grades 5-12 interested in helping out at Heaven's Helpers Soup Kitchen for a youth service event!

When: Sat Dec 7 between from 9-11 or 11-12

If you are interested contact Pastor Woodside



## YOUTH SERVICE EVENT!!!

All Middle School and Highschool Students grade 5-12 are invited!

Where: We will meet at Shepherd of the Valley  
Sunday 11/17 from 1:00- 2:45

We will have a Bible Study and Lunch followed by a service event in which our youth will make Christmas Cards to be delivered to our Bethel and Shepherd of the Valley Shut-ins!

RSVP: Pastor Woodside



**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE ITEMS TO THE SILENT AUCTION OR  
CONTRIBUTE TO THE TACO BAR, MESSAGE  
DEACON JANIE HAGUE AT 701-301-9917**

# Happy Birthday!

Joy D	11/1
Daniel D	11/5
Marlinda B	11/8
Lester W	11/8
Lana R	11/10
Lee R	11/11
Darlene K	11/14
Gloria D	11/16
Denise W	11/16
William H	11/17
Bryce O	11/18
Danny H	11/20
Ann Marie C	11/21
Jim L	11/21
Sydney I	11/25
Arlan K	11/25
Ella C	11/29
Max N	11/30

## Baptism BIRTHDAYS

Sara N	11/7
Brandy P	11/12
Grace W	11/13
Mark P	11/15
Molly F	11/18
Joy D	11/21
Kim R	11/23
Jeremy G	11/30



Doug & Deb B	11/6
Brad & Ronda N	11/19
Jim & Sherry H	11/24



### November 2024

Nov. 3	Sylvia D.
Nov. 10	Sam N.
Nov. 17	Evan. P
Nov. 24	Nolan P.

**1-15 Dick Dever**  
**16-31 Rob Burkhardsmeier**



*First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior." And because God has established Civil Government for the good of our fallen world (see Romans 13), it is very important that we as Christians actively participate in the structure of government under which we live. We are therefore to work for laws, and to elect civil representatives that will best represent God's revealed will and the good of our neighbor. If you have*

not yet voted, you are encouraged to first be informed as a Christian citizen, then vote, and then continue to pray for those who are elected to serve as our civil representatives.

Please continue to share information about our LCMS "Main Street Living" media ministry with others. In addition to being broadcast each Sunday morning, you can view archived programs anytime at [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com) – then click on the link identified as "Fargo / Bismarck". Worship services from the five other MSL broadcast areas, as well as the weekly "This Is the Life" programs, are also available for viewing on the website.

Thank you for your needed financial support! Checks may be sent to "Main Street Living NORTH," 821 -5th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103, or donate by Credit Card or your PayPal account on the website. God's blessings in Christ!

-Ken Koehler / MSL North Volunteer Coordinator

### "MSL North" Programs for November 2024:

**Nov 3:** Rev. Daniel Provost, Trinity Lutheran Church, Drayton, ND, and Zion English Lutheran Church, Grafton, ND, presents the message: "What Will Heaven Be Like?" based on Revelation 7:2-17. "This Is the Life" program: "The Priceless Book" - Money and health troubles on the farm lead a father to God's Word for comfort.

**Nov. 10:** Rev. Vernon Meyer, Retired, St. John's Lutheran Church, Thief River Falls, MN, presents the message: "Jesus Treats Us All Lovingly" based on I Kings 17:8-16. "This Is the Life" program: "In Search of Dignity" - Two factory workers struggle to find meaning after they are replaced by machines.

**Nov. 17:** Rev. Mark Chepulis, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Cavalier, ND, St. Paul Lutheran Church, St. Thomas, ND, and Redeemer Lutheran Church, Langdon, ND presents the message: "Amidst Trials and Tribulations, Jesus Is Coming" based on Matthew 24:15-28. "This is the Life" program: "Which Way Grows the Vine" - A father struggles to accept the consequences of his actions and set an example for his son.

**Nov. 24:** Rev. Rev. Brady Finnern, President of the Minnesota North District LCMS, Baxter, MN, presents the message: "We Will See", based on Mark 13:24-37. "This is the Life" program: "Prescription TLC" - Injuries after a plane crash cause a couple to seek God for comfort and healing.

"MAIN STREET LIVING" is a locally-produced TV program that includes a 30-minute worship service led by participating pastors of the Minnesota North and North Dakota Districts of our LCMS, along with a 30-minute Lutheran Hour program (normally "This Is the Life," along with occasional church-season specials).





The Human Care focus for the fourth quarter of 2024 is Lutheran Family Service.



The next Men's Network will take place on Saturday, November 16th at 8:00 am.

30 Acts of Service:

What better way of giving thanks for our 30th anniversary than by serving others and sharing the love of Christ? Our students will celebrate by offering 30 acts of service during the school year. We'll share these with the congregations as they take place. Who knows? We might be serving at YOUR church for one of these events!

"\$30 for 30 years"

You are invited to help celebrate the 30th anniversary of Martin Luther School and to give a one-time gift of \$30 in thankfulness and celebration for our 30th anniversary. MLS will announce the total amount received at the kick-off on September 28th.



"Mark your calendars! The Sunday School students will present the nativity story during evening worship on Wednesday December 18, 2024. The Sunday school students will sing, ring, and read through their performance of the Christmas program as part of the 6:00 p.m. worship service. Please plan to attend with your family and friends!"



"Offering: Shepherd of the Valley Sunday School is gathering their morning offering to be donated to Soul57, a local group who works with local youth through the grieving process with meet ups and workshops. Learn more about Soul57 at their website <https://www.soul57.org/>"



## THE CONSEQUENCES OF SHALLOW THANKFULNESS

Can you imagine a Thanksgiving dinner without turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy and pumpkin pie? I know I can't! To not have these on the menu, or worse, to run out of them with the family around the table, would be a culinary sin of epic proportions. An attempt to serve bratwurst and hamburgers in place of the standard fare would ring hollow and seem totally inappropriate and out of place. It isn't that the food would be bad; brats and burgers are pretty tasty. But not for Thanksgiving — they just don't go together!

This month, as we continue to walk through the stewardship hymn, "Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness" (LSB 788), we turn our attention to verse three. Here, William Watkins Reid, Sr., the man who penned this text, draws attention to some things that do not go along with faithful, thankful stewardship.

*Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise ...*

We see this often with small children. They greedily snatch the candy out of a grandparent's hand, savagely destroy the wrapper, and attempt to stuff the entire delicacy in their mouth in one bite, only to have a parent say, "Tell grandma thank you." This is followed by the pro forma thanks that is uttered between chocolate chews. It isn't really thankfulness; it is simply checking a box to keep mom or dad off their backs.

We never really outgrow this either. Our shallow thankfulness takes the form of feigned humility when praise is being offered. We are thankful that our admirers noticed and called us out: "Look at me! Aren't I special?" No thought at all is given to the fact that the Lord was the One who gave us the ability and opportunity for accomplishment. Our false blush is really only masking our selfish, credit-seeking gain. Once again, we find ourselves idolatrously thanking ourselves.

*For words that speak at variance with deeds ...*

What carries more weight: words or action? The steward who gives voice to the Gospel in the Divine Service but then lives like a pagan in the world does great damage, not only to others but to the Gospel itself! This is the consequence of failed stewardship. It is idolatry that separates the steward from the Lord.

Worse yet, it also impacts others negatively. When the failed steward is the reference point outside the Christian community, there are those who want no part of being Christian or

following the Christ they claim. We see this play out in the impact of overt political activity among Christians based on governing policy as opposed to fidelity to the Word of God. When our lips and our lives are out of sync, like what used to happen with old movie projectors, the impact isn't funny — it obscures the Gospel!

*Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways*

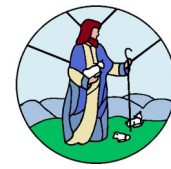
*unmindful of a broken brother's need ...*

Our creature comforts often become an obstacle to faithful stewardship. This is true of both individual and corporate stewardship. Financial stewardship is often limited by our desire to be comfortable and have the latest toys and gadgets. Congregational stewardship is often limited by the desire to focus on what is best for the congregation as opposed to how resources might be best stewarded to reach the community with the Gospel.

When we see someone in need, or broken by the world, we often look at them as freeloaders. We admonish them to get a job. We insist that they learn our language, learn our customs, and make them their own. But this gets in the way of seeing every human being the way that Jesus sees them. Remember, that broken person is one for whom Jesus went to the cross to die and rise. When we are unmindful of these needs, our shallow thankfulness also stands in the way of the Gospel.

This stanza reminds us of the challenge we face. Our hearts are master idol-makers. Our shallow thankfulness threatens our souls and hinders others from seeing Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Stewardship is serious business. It is a task for which we were created. In our sinful failings, we are never relieved of these duties. In our Baptism, we are restored to be stewards of the Gospel. Our faithful stewardship is all about that Gospel.

Forgive us when our thanks are shallow, O Lord! In this month of Thanksgiving, grant us the grace to offer heaping helpings of this stewardship so that others may see Jesus!



## Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

*"A church family that shares, nurtures, and lives our faith in Christ"*

### The Word "Love"- Part 2

Last month we began consideration of the word "love." What does it mean? Love, in English, can have a wide range of meanings. These meanings can include everything from simple "like" or preference (as in one's favorite color) to physical attraction and lust, to adoration, or love of friends and family. It has come to the point that when a person says "I love \_\_\_\_" one has to first discern what kind of "love" is being spoken of. It is usually clear from the context, but not always.

Scripture tells us that God is love. What does this mean? Remember last month's article about one church's promotion of a Gay Pride Parade? The advertisement said: *"God is love, and love wins. It is Amazing Grace, and tomorrow we celebrate grace in action at Gethsemane . . . Gethsemane members and friends will be participating in the Gay Pride Parade downtown at 12 noon. What a remarkable time to celebrate!"*

Here we saw a clear confusion of meaning in regards to the word "love", in which the *agape* love of God is equated with the Greek type of love called *eros* (agape being a more self-sacrificial love as opposed to eros, from which we get our English word for erotic or sexual "love".) This is more than just confusion, however. It is deliberate deception, if not on the part of the leadership of that church body, then certainly of the devil himself. For he is, as Jesus called him, **"a liar and the father of lies."** (John 8:44b, ESV)

Therefore, let's submit to scripture, letting the sword of the spirit cut through the lies. What does it mean when scripture says that God is love? Well, first of all, it has nothing to do with eros, or erotic love! What then? Does it just mean that God wants us to be "happy"? That's not right either. In an earlier article we talked about the false God of Moral Therapeutic Deism, that is, the idea that *God is like a friendly grandfather; the "Big Guy Upstairs."* He is powerful. He wants me to be good, but He also accepts me as I am. He is not judgmental. We are all children of God, and ultimately He wants me to be a happy and successful good person. If I am, He will bring me to heaven when I die. This is a false notion of God (see previous article.) Not that God wants us to be sad, but worldly happiness is not His primary motivation, and it is not what defines His love for us. So what does? Let's look back at the passage in I John 4.

**<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. (I John 4: 7-8, ESV)**

God is love. But what is this love, and how does He show it? Read on.

**<sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.<sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**

This is the love of God. This is what we, as Christians mean by the word "love." It is self-sacrificial love. As Jesus said, **"Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."** (John 15:13, ESV) John 3:16 tells us that **"God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son."** "God so loved" does, not, by the way, mean "God loved the world SO MUCH". It actually means something more like God 'so loved'; in this way God loved; loved the world in such-and-such a manner, that He gave His only begotten Son. It describes the love of God! It is self-sacrificial! True love has nothing to do with worldly pleasure or Pride parades. It is Jesus on the cross for the sins of the world! John continues:

**<sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us." (I John 4:7-12, ESV)**

"Love", then, is our second "God" word. We dare not allow the world to redefine, mix up, and confuse language in these matter, for true love is found on the cross! True love is **"from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God."**

In Christ,

Pastor Woodside

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2 <u>10:00am</u> Soup Packing
3 <u>9:00am</u> Divine Service <u>10:30am</u> Education Hour <u>6:30pm</u> Take Heart in your Grief	4	5 <u>10:00am</u> Bible Study <u>6:00pm</u> Bible Study	6 <u>6:00pm</u> Confirmation <u>6:00pm</u> Worship	7	8	9 <u>8:30am</u> Board of Ed
10 <u>9:00am</u> Divine Service <u>10:30am</u> Education Hour <u>1:00pm</u> Middle School Youth <u>6:30pm</u> Take Heart in your Grief	11 <u>6:00pm</u> Women's Bible Study	12 <u>10:00am</u> Bible Study <u>6:00pm</u> Bible Study	13 <u>2:30pm</u> Stewardship <u>6:00pm</u> Confirmation <u>6:00pm</u> Worship	14	15	16 <u>8:00am</u> Men's Network <u>10:00am</u> Trustees <u>4:30pm</u> Hang Out <u>5:00pm</u> Royce Cheadle Benefit @ Zion
17 <u>9:00am</u> Divine Service <u>10:30am</u> Education Hour <u>1:00pm</u> Senior High Youth <u>3:00pm</u> MVCO	18	19 <u>10:00am</u> Bible Study <u>6:00pm</u> Bible Study	20 <u>6:00pm</u> Confirmation <u>6:00pm</u> Worship	21 <u>6:30pm</u> Elders	22	23
24 <u>9:00am</u> Divine Service <u>10:30am</u> Education Hour <u>7:00pm</u> Council	25 <u>6:00pm</u> Women's Bible Study	26 <u>10:00am</u> Bible Study <u>6:00pm</u> Bible Study	27 <u>6:00pm</u> Confirmation <u>6:00pm</u> Worship	28	29	30