November, 2013

Mark Your Calendar

11/2,3 - All Saints Worship
11/8,9 - Rummage Sale at Nativity
11/9,10 - Veterans Recognition
11/27 - Thanksgiving Eve Worship at First Lutheran
12/29 - Concert “Christmas at Nativity”

ALL SAINTS WEEKEND
November 2-3

On the weekend of November 2-3, 2013 as part of the All Saints worship services at both churches, we will be honoring members of our congregations who have passed away since All Saints Day in 2012. We will be lighting candles in their memory and encourage you to join us in worship on that day.

Stewardship
2013

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Dear Friends in Christ;

“To this end we pray for you...that the name of our Lord Jesus be glorified in you.”

II Thessalonians 1:11 & 12

November is such an exciting month in our church. The first Sunday of the month is All Saints Sunday. On all saints we remember Gods work in us all to make us true saints of God. We sing the hymns of heaven. As we worship we are joined with all those who now worship in the near presence of God.

This year November is Stewardship Month, the time when we commit ourselves to giving and serving. The stewardship (management) of our lives for the glory of God is such a privilege. We will be watching short video vignettes of people telling about their walk with Jesus Christ. The month ends with Christ the King Sunday when we remember that Jesus Christ is King and Lord of all creation. This Jesus Christ, who was born in a humble stable, walked this earth teaching, healing and being the love of God made human, will come again to renew all things and claim his own.

May God bless you in your worship,
Pastor Peterson

In Memory Of….
Marlene Bradway who passed away on Oct. 9th.
Barbara Bayer who passed away on Oct. 21st.

In Celebration Of…….
Ayra Sigler and Nadia Bivens who were confirmed at First Lutheran on October 27th.

First Lutheran Church Council/Committee Members for 2013

PRESIDENT: CARLA ULLERICH
VICE PRESIDENT: ADRIANA REES
SECRETARY: JAQUELIN BAYER
TREASURER: WERNER BAYER
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Jamie Schoberg
EVANGELISM: Joy Dowd
FINANCE: Werner Bayer
MEMORIAL FUND: Marie LePage
MISSION INTERPRETER: Shirley Cogan
SOCIAL MINISTRY: Earl Casto
STEWARDSHIP: Lavone Reis
WORSHIP & MUSIC: John Bennethum

Nativity Lutheran Church Council Members for 2013

PRESIDENT: MAUREEN JONES
SECRETARY: LILLIA RIBNEK
TREASURER: JILL MICKELSON
MISSION INTERPRETER: Shirley Cogan
Worship and Study

**Worship Matters by Shirley Cogan**

Brrr! November is here! Can winter be far behind? The snow blowers are getting tuned up and our cars need to be winterized. Sometimes I think I need to be winterized, too. Along with shorter days and cooler nights, we begin the start of the holiday season. Two of those special holidays occur in November.

On November 11th we observe Veteran’s Day. Please take time to honor all of our men and women who have served or are serving in the military. Without their services and sacrifices, we would not enjoy the freedoms we have. If you see a member of the military in uniform, thank them for their service. Keep all of them in your prayers every day.

Thanksgiving, of course, is a day to remember all of the blessings and bounty that God has bestowed upon us Americans. Take time this Thanksgiving to give thanks for all you have. Remember the poor; and if you can, give a donation of food or money to help those not as fortunate as you are. The food pantry at First Lutheran can use breakfast cereal, canned vegetables, canned tuna and soup, as well as rice, pasta, dried beans, boxed stuffing and potatoes. Toiletries are necessary items as well. Thank you for your help. It will be very much appreciated.

In closing, this Thanksgiving may your heart be content, your home happy and your life filled with His abundant grace and blessings.

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**Bible Study Opportunities**

**TUESDAY BIBLE CLASS**

As October began our Bible class turned its attention to the study of the **Book of Revelation**. During November we will continue this most interesting study. Coupled with a wonderful **Day of Discovery** video set, we are visiting the Seven Churches described in Chapters 2 and 3. We are examining the seven letters sent to those churches and are talking about the Scroll described in Chapters 4 & 5.

All are welcome to join us in our study. We meet Tuesday mornings from 10:00am to 11:00am in the Fireside Room at First Lutheran. Bring your thoughts and Bibles and join in the discussion. Many handouts are provided to help you understand this Apocalyptic Book filled with interesting images. Reflecting the Hope of the world it is an interesting adventure! John Bennethum is our Teacher.

After class, several of our members usually go to a local restaurant for lunch. All are welcome.

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**For Women Only....**

*The Saturday Morning Women's Bible Study meets most Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. in First Lutheran's Fireside Room. Enjoy fellowship, snacks and dig deeper into the Bible. If you have any questions, or to check the schedule, call the church office. New members are always welcome!*

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**Prayer can help...**

If serious illness or other life factors affect you or those you love, contact the church office and we will send your request through our prayer chain. We have people who will pray for your need. If you are interested in joining a prayer chain, contact Marie Le Page (First Lutheran), Laverne Breed (Nativity Lutheran) or the church office.

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*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.*
The early church recognized many of the early Saints, and each were given their own feast day. Examples include: June 29th Peter and Paul Apostles, August 15th Mary Mother of God, September 29th Michael and All Angels, December 26th Stephen the First Christian Martyr and December 27 John Apostle and Evangelist. November 1st is the day when we recognize all saints, whether they have their own day or not. The origin of the festival of All Saints celebrated in the West dates to 13 May 609 or 610, when Pope Boniface IV consecrated the Pantheon at Rome to the Blessed Virgin and all the martyrs; the feast has been celebrated at Rome ever since.

In Western Christianity, All Souls' Day, also known as the Commemoration of All Faithful Departed, is observed principally in the Catholic Church, although some churches of Anglican Communion and the Old Catholic Churches also celebrate it; the observance occurs on Nov. 2. Our Lutheran worship now combines both of these days into one. We sing “For all the saints who from their labors rest”, but also remember our own dear departed loved ones.

The Feast of Christ the King, properly the Solemnity of Christ the King, is a relatively recent addition to the western liturgical calendar, having been instituted in 1925 by Pope Pius XI. In 1970 its observance was moved to the last Sunday of the Church year and adopted by Anglicans, Lutherans, and many other Protestants. Again the church, in the readings for the day, gives us a glimpse of Christ on his throne and surrounded by guess who? All Saints!

During November, in between these two looks into heaven and All the Saints, the church will treat us to several weeks of readings leading toward the end times. November 17 will give us Luke’s warnings about the “frightening signs and events” that are coming.

Please take the time to enjoy, listen, meditate and pray during this introspective time in the church year.

Stewardship is about more than money. But it is about money. Your use of money and your other possessions are an important part of your discipleship as followers of Jesus. The word "steward" comes from the Anglo-Saxon term "steward," the person who took care of the pig sty! The term has evolved to describe anyone who is the keeper of another person's possessions. We are the stewards of all that we are, and all that we have, blessings from God! These include your time, attention, physical health, energy, talents, possessions, attitudes, relationships, and money! That includes the sharing of your financial resources to support the ministry of the church.

When you are invited into "stewardship," you are invited into the will of God for the world, as revealed in the Scriptures and especially in Jesus. What a privilege! Stewardship is an important daily activity in the life of a disciple of Jesus. He spoke throughout the Gospels about money and possessions. Mostly he warned about the power and ability of possessions to separate you from your relationship with God. Your possessions have the power to get in the way of your relationship with God. You might look to them for security, put your trust in them, and therefore treat them as idols worthy of worship. Your possessions may be joined in this idolatry by your work, your recreation, or your use of time when they replace your relationship with God! Do you find yourself under pressure to over-extend and find yourself over-scheduled, over-worked, over-spent, and over-committed? You may long for a slower-paced calendar, for simpler times, for less busyness.

The annual response is a focused period of time when the life of our congregation is centered on a stewardship response program. This includes an opportunity for congregational members to indicate through a Commitment Card what their anticipated giving, based on the blessings they have received from God, will be to support the ministry of the congregation for the coming year. The purpose of the annual response or commitment, is to encourage the congregation members to consider, prayerfully and mindfully, their stewardship of the blessings they have received.

We must remember that Stewardship is not just during the month of November, but every day of the year. We are growing as disciples of Jesus, strengthening our faith practices, and together, encourage generosity in the faithful stewardship of God's abundant blessings!

Lavone Reis -
Stewardship Chairperson, First Lutheran
MAKE IT SIMPLE

"Simple", the opposite of complicated! How often do we think that life has become too complicated, and long for a more simple way of life? What does "simple" mean to you? Read the following quotes. What do they mean at this point in your life?

Quotation 1: "I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me". (from Phil. 4:11b-31)

Quotation 2: "Sometimes we become the flimsies people. We vest our hopes in the "fleeting flimsies" of this life - a new car, new clothes, new equipment. Our search for hope is sufficiently desperate that we cannot see hope in the present, the immediate, or distant future. We do not even see hope beyond the river. When we feel cut off from all of these sources of hope, we move from one fleeting flimsy moment to the next, seeking solace in the material things of this life. The problem of our time is primarily a vacuum of hope, not a focus on materialism. People invest their hopes in material things not because they think there is something enduring in them but because they are looking for hope - even when it is fleeting, flimsy, and momentary". (from writings by Rev. Kennon Callahan)

Quotation 3: "Simplicity sets us free to receive the provision of God as a gift that is not ours to keep, and that can be freely shared with others". (from Celebration of Discipline, by Richard J. Foster) Simplicity is more than time management, quality time versus quantity time, self-care versus social reform. It requires us to become more focused and to serve on God instead of many. Simplicity coaxes change in the core of our being.

MAKE IT SIMPLE is the subject for the our Stewardship Campaigns beginning the first weekend in November (Nov.2-3, 2013). There will be four themes: Following Jesus, Acting Together, Facing the Truth, and Sharing Enough.

Covered by Prayer

As a battle raged around them, soldiers huddled in a trench during the Vietnam War. Their commander had ordered them to stay put, but one soldier noticed a buddy lying wounded in an open area, crying for help. The soldier in the trench kept checking the time. Suddenly, he dashed for his injured friend, bringing him back to safety.

When the commander asked his daring soldier why he’d risked his life this way, the soldier said his mom had promised to pray for him at the same time every day. Because he knew he was covered in prayer, he had the courage to save his friend.

—Ellen Banks Elwell,
The Christian Mom’s Idea Book

ROLL WITH IT!

Are you wondering what the little blocks are all about? They’re prayer cubes - a fun way to enrich the prayer climate in your home. There are three cubes. Each of the three have 6 prayers: 6 bedtime, 6 mealtime, and 6 friendship. Use your imagination for ways to use them! They will be available at Saturday and Sunday services, and through the office. They are $3.00 each or, for a set of three, $9.00 or the special donation of $10.00! Proceeds from the sale of the cubes go toward First Lutheran’s General Fund to cover the cost of the cubes.

The cubes would make wonderful gifts for family, friends, neighbors, teachers, etc. They could be stocking stuffers, tucked in with another gift, or be a gift by themselves. They would be something different and help to enrich the prayer life of those you love, care for, or your family!
Keynote Series - Please register at least one week in advance. Call 546-7302. Members $3 / Guests $5.

**Thurs., Nov. 21, 1:30-3:00 p.m.** - “Memories of Samson the Gorilla” with Sam LaMalfa, Samson’s former zookeeper.

**Lifelong Learning Book Club** - 1st Tue. at 12pm
- Nov. 5 - *Good Graces* by Lesley Kagen
- Dec. 3 - *The Forgotten Garden* by Kate Morton

**Matinee Movie Series**
- Nov. 9, 12:30 p.m. - “42” - about Jackie Robinson
- Club Loominers - A No-Needle Knitting Group - 1st Wed. of month. 12pm. No charge.
- **Bridge Group** - Every Tues. - 9-11 am

Call Clement Manor at 546-7302 for registration or info.

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**Regency-New Berlin**

13750 W. National Ave.

**Living Well With Chronic Conditions**
6-part series on Tuesdays starting Nov. 5 through Dec. 10, 1:30-4 p.m., giving nutritional guidance ways to deal with pain & fatigue, how to talk to your doctor and more. Pre-register at (262)928-2745.

**Sir Winston Churchill** - History buff Randy Otto impersonates and entertains. Tues., Nov. 12, 6:30 p.m.

Call (262)789-1699 for more information on programs.

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**Clement Manor Center for Enrichment**

9405 W. Howard, Greenfield


**Thurs., Nov. 21, 1:30-3:00 p.m.** - “Memories of Samson the Gorilla” with Sam LaMalfa, Samson’s former zookeeper.

**Lifelong Learning Book Club** - 1st Tue. at 12pm
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**That’s GREAT!**

**Open Faced Turkey Sandwiches!**

Heritage Senior Living
7901 W. National Ave., West Allis
Thursday, November 14th
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. or 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Stop in for an open faced turkey sandwich.
- $5 meal includes sandwich with mashed potatoes and green beans
- Also includes your choice of beverage and a freshly baked cookie.

**PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT**

**First Lutheran’s Food Pantry!**
Many Thanks...

Thank you Nativity and First Lutheran for your wonderful generosity in providing supplies for the school kits. Your kindness provided 100 kits sent out. Special thanks to Lil Ribnik, Jill Mickelson, and Jim Ribnik for your extra generosity when we ran out of supplies. Also special thanks to Bev Nuesen and Jean Leppien for helping to fill and pack the kits. You both were invaluable help, thanks again and again. ..........Maureen Jones

Thank you to everyone who sent me birthday and clergy appreciation cards and wishes. They were greatly appreciated! ..........Pastor Peterson

Thank you so much for the donation of food for the Habitat for Humanity workers. The variety of food was wonderful and very appreciated. ..........Jan

FALL RUMMAGE SALE
Friday and Saturday
Nov. 8th & 9th
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Nativity’s fall Rummage Sale will be here before we know it! So for all those who keep asking, “When do I bring in all of my wonderful treasures to sell to help support my church?”, the answer is “NOW!”

Baked goods and volunteers are also needed to make our sale a success. There are sign-up sheets in the narthex. There’s always something to do for everyone!

Flyers are available in the narthex. Please take some to your local stores, banks, clubs, family gatherings.... wherever you go, and help us spread the word. Don’t forget your Facebook and e-mail friends!

The next WELCA meeting will be held on Sunday, Nov. 17th, at 10:15 a.m.

Did You Know?
Barb Reed, our Church Secretary, her husband Bill and son Brian just got back from a wonderful trip to the Holy Land. Ask her to tell you about her adventures! She (and John Bennethum) also just finished taking a Seminary Course from Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN, dealing with the Book of Revelation. Dr. Eric Barretta, a Southern Baptist ordained minister, taught the class which was very well done. Never a dull moment in our lives!

In Numbers 17:1-8, God settles a dispute among the Israelites by directing Moses to obtain a staff from each of Israel's 12 tribes and to place the staffs in the Tent of Meeting. The one representing the tribe God chose would sprout. The next day, not only had the staff of Aaron, representing the tribe of Levi, sprouted, but it had blossomed and borne ripe almonds. Thus, the almond came to symbolize God's approval. By extension, it has also been used as a symbol of the Virgin Mary, who found divine favor and was chosen to bear God's Son.

E.L.F.F.
is Looking for More Participants!
E - Exercise (chair)
L - Listening
L - Learning
F - Fellowship
(could also stand for Food!)
Meet at 9:15 a.m. on Mon. & Thurs.
in the Fellowship Hall at Nativity

God Bless America

Thank you Nativity News
Evangelism on the Move....

Honoring Vets on Nov 9 & 10
In recognition of Veteran’s Day, we will be honoring veterans with special prayers during services on Nov 9 & 10. Everyone is invited to join us for a special reception on Sunday during Coffee And... Enjoy coffee and treats and help us address and sign Christmas cards to our active duty members and to a group of veterans living at the VA hospital who have no family and few visitors. Thanks to Mike Temke and staff at the VA for providing us with the names of veterans in the hospital.

Movie Night for Kids – Friday, Nov 22nd, 6-8pm in the Fireside room. Join us for a great family movie, food and a short discussion following the movie.

See us on the web
Check out our website at www.firstlutheranelca.org. You can find information on all of our activities and view an online version of this newsletter (saves postage costs). If you prefer viewing electronically, please notify Barb in the church office at (414) 476-4664. Thank you.

Thinking of becoming a member of First Lutheran??
If you are reading this newsletter for the first time and are interested in becoming a member of our church, we welcome you! Please contact our church office at (414) 476-4664, email to firstlutheranelca@att.net, check out our webpage at www.firstlutheranelca.org or ask our greeters or ushers. They would be happy to help.

Social Ministry Corner

Simply Giving Thanks

- Thanks to our congregations, friends of our congregation and community partners for the continuing support of our food pantry. Each week we provide 35-50 bags of non-perishable food to local families and have available free bread, fresh vegetables and dairy products for our visitors. Much of the non-perishable food is received through local organizations such as the Women’s Club, other churches, School food drives, community food drives and vendor donations.
- Thanks to generous local food donors such as GFS Marketplace, Brownberry, Pick n Save and Feeding America. Their donations or discounts allow us to serve lunch to about 100 visitors each week (thank goodness we have a big refrigerator and freezer!)
- Thanks to the Thrivent Foundation for selecting us to receive an Economic Outreach Grant, to All Saints Lutheran Church for partnering us in on the Post Office food drive, to Heritage Senior Living for sharing proceeds from 3 lunches and dinners and to our “Souper hero” walkers who raised $427 for our Feeding America account.
- Thank God for all of our volunteer shoppers, kitchen staff and food donors who commit their time to cook, serve and clean up every week. Thank God for Pastor Peterson who welcomes and cares for those who struggle with life.

We’d like to give a special “Thank you” to Barbara Bayer and Ralph for all they’ve done to support this ministry. Barb served as our Treasurer for many years and recently passed away. She will be missed.

We are thankful for all of the ways that God has blessed our food pantry and we are honored to serve our community.

Thanks to the following members and friends of First Lutheran/Nativity who have donated or prepared food for the food pantry lunches in the past month: Peggy and Glen Phillips, Pat and Mike Temke, Delores Hurst, Natalie Jaeger, Cindy Labadie, Jamie Schoberg, Carol Leonard, Judi Mueller, and John Hrovat and his farmer friend (we love fresh veggies). Special thanks to the Todd Post-Sons of the American Legion, Darryl Wnuk, Steve Brady, Brigitte Brady and Pauly for cooking ribs for a lunch. All are welcome to donate food, such as homemade soup, cookies, brownies, salads, etc. We will provide the ingredients, including cake mix, flour, noodles, meat, etc., if you want to prepare the dish. Contact Joy Dowd if you have questions.

We are called to love one another....

Hymn “We are called”

Stewardship and Thanksgiving

In this season of thanksgiving, a sincere ‘thank you’ is in order to everyone who supports our congregation throughout the year with their attendance, service and regular financial contributions.

For those of you who are interested, the church offers electronic giving options for making donations on a scheduled, automated basis. It’s convenient for you and provides much-needed financial consistency for the church. Pick up an authorization form in the narthex or the church office.

Our Stewardship campaign will conclude with a meal following the November 24th service, as we celebrate our intended giving to the ministry of First Lutheran Church. Join us for brunch and fellowship!

It’s that time again! We’re taking orders for poinsettias through Dec. 1. The cost will again be $8 for a single, $15 for a double. Sign up in the narthex.
**Greater Milwaukee Synod**

**Searching for Tom Sawyer**

How Parents and Congregations Can Call Boys into Heroic Manhood

2 FREE SEMINARS: Thurs., Nov. 7th
St. John's Lutheran, 20275 Davidson Rd., Brookfield


Seminar #1: 9:30a-12p - Building a Boy-Friendly Church. This seminar is geared to pastors, youth leaders, children’s ministry directors, private school educators and administrators, and lay leaders.

Seminar #2: 7-8:30p - How to Call Boys into Historic Manhood. This seminar is geared to parents, grandparents, educators, and church leaders. It will give insights into how a boy’s brain works, how he relates to life, and how to call him into good, noble manhood.

Contact the church office or go to www.makedisciples.com to register.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The GMS office is hoping to create a group of people that would like to volunteer their time to assist with registration and various Greater Milwaukee Synod events. Each volunteer would be trained and we would only schedule you to assist with events as you volunteer to help. If you're interested in assisting us with event registrations, please contact the Synod office at 671-1212.

**Neighborhood Store & Coffee Shop**

Reformation Lutheran Church, 2201 N. 35th St. (35th and Garfield) is home to the Neighborhood Store & Coffee Shop. The store is open Tues., Wed., and Sat. from 10am-2pm and provides a friendly, welcoming place for people to shop with dignity for affordable items for their home and family. If you know of an individual or family who might be in need of reasonably priced clothing, coats, shoes, living and dining room furniture, kitchen table and chair sets, dressers and mattress sets/bedding, appliances, pots and pans, sheet sets and towels please tell them about the Neighborhood Store and invite them to come and shop. Our coffeepot is always on and friendly conversation is always available.

We are happy to accept clean, gently used items in good repair as well as coffee and treats for our hospitality area. Please contact Diane Roznowski, volunteer coordinator 807-7451 for further information about items that are needed and drop off times.
On October 5th, both churches held pet blessings. South Side Christian offered hayrides to visitors and their pets at Nativity. A special dog (L) showed up at Nativity for his (or her?) own blessing!
BIBLE QUIZ…

Paul urged Philemon to welcome back his runaway slave as a brother in the Lord. Name the slave.

A. Onesimus
B. Timothy
C. Aristarchus
D. Barnabas

Answer: (See Philemon 1:10.)

FIRST LUTHERAN ATTENDANCE

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<th>2012</th>
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<td>88</td>
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Note: Expenses YTD include payments for bathroom remodeling.

FIRST LUTHERAN FINANCES 2013

<table>
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<th>INCOME</th>
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November Birthdays

First Lutheran:
11/3  Bryan Jaeger
11/3  Romelle Wilson
11/6  Karlie Marquez
11/7  Katlynn Trader
11/10 Richard Reinhard
11/12 Jamila Fisher
11/13 Kevin Siskoy
11/18 Thomas Wilson
11/19 Tyler Schultz
11/22 Jacquelyn Grauberger
11/26 Elsie Boese
11/26 Lois Peterson
11/28 Kristin Rudy
11/30 Angel Gonzalez

Nativity Lutheran:
11/3  Jean Leppien
11/5  Agnes Kuenkler
11/6  Makinon Herbert
11/9  Helen Peterson
11/14 Jeanette Mortier
11/20 Ruby Horst
11/22 Marion Jurgens
11/22 Marlene Smith
11/23 Rebecca Reinert
11/25 Gene Reynolds
11/26 Lois Peterson

November Birthdays

First Lutheran:
11/3  Bryan Jaeger
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11/3  Jean Leppien
11/5  Agnes Kuenkler
11/6  Makinon Herbert
11/9  Helen Peterson
11/14 Jeanette Mortier
11/20 Ruby Horst
11/22 Marion Jurgens
11/22 Marlene Smith
11/23 Rebecca Reinert
11/25 Gene Reynolds
11/26 Lois Peterson

Ayra Sigler and Nadia Bivens were confirmed on Oct. 27th at First Lutheran.

Anniversary Blessings

Nativity Lutheran:
No Anniversaries in November

First Lutheran:
11/13  Sandra & James Wymelenberg  41 yrs.
11/19  Kenneth A. & Lona Masch     27 yrs.
Worship With Us
Saturday
5:30 p.m. at
First Lutheran

Sunday
9:30 a.m.
at First Lutheran
11:00 a.m. at
Nativity Lutheran

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

Wednesday, Nov. 26th, 7:00 p.m.
at First Lutheran Church

If you no longer wish to continue receiving this newsletter, please contact the church office.