



## “The Thanks is in the Giving”

The peace of the Lord be with you! As with most of our holidays, Thanksgiving has undergone some revision in recent years. In other words, what we thought we knew about our Thanksgiving holiday may not be exactly the way it happened! For example, have you heard that

- Thanksgiving holiday didn't really get going until Lincoln declared it a national holiday in 1863?
- There was **no turkey** at the “first thanksgiving” in 1621? (There was, apparently, lobster and venison!)
- Winter 1620-21 wasn't that tough? The pilgrims were just lousy farmers (they were mostly city folk!)
- There were no cranberries and stuffing at the table? (They did have corn, though.)
- Roosevelt set the permanent date of Thanksgiving as the 4th Thursday in November? He did this partly to stimulate the economy in the Depression year of 1933 to extend the Christmas buying season.

Well, sorry to burst your bubble. But there's a main point to all of this: As Christians, we KNOW what Thanksgiving is all about! And we give thanks, whether or not there were a holiday called “Thanksgiving.”

There are no less than 73 passages in the Bible that contain the phrase “Give thanks.” That's pretty hefty evidence that this is important for God's people. We believers also know that true thanksgiving means we give something back. For example, in Psalm 54:6 we read, “With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O Lord, for it is good.” So what is this “freewill offering” that we render as thanks to the Lord? Leviticus 7:11-12 instructs the Israelites to give peace offerings for the purpose of thanksgiving. This involved a costly animal sacrifice. It also involved unleavened bread doused with oil- signifying that it was to be a sinless offering. What on earth does that have to do with us today? Simply this: God loves our free-will offerings! As the title says, “The Thanks is in the Giving.” There are three basic ways to render thanks to God for all His benefits:

1. **YOUR REGULAR, WEEKLY PRESENCE IN WORSHIP.** In other words, **just show up on Sundays!** God is worthy of your regular, weekly attendance in worship. And, it is a huge witness to your families, friends and neighbors, that you value the Lord enough to set aside a day each week to worship Him. This is the BASIC involvement we ask of our church members- to receive God's Word and Sacrament, and to stay in fellowship with God's people. “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another...(Hebrews 10:24-25).”

2. **YOUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS.** Is your pocketbook converted? Remember, where your “treasure” is, there will your heart be. A 10% tithe is a good way to determine where you are at- whether it is the

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

“The Thanks is in the Giving” ..2  
 November Greeters & Ushers..2  
 Designated funds .....2  
 Live Nativity.....3  
 Biblical Roots.....3  
 Operation Christmas Child.....4

Thanksgiving  
 Eve Worship  
 November 22  
 6:30pm

Christ the  
 King Sunday  
 November 26  
 One Service  
 @ 10am



## “He’s Been Faithful” Continued....

Lord or the love of money that possesses you. When Jesus said “You cannot serve both God and Mammon,” He was referring to the actual name of a demonic power. Be generous in regard to the Lord, and in regard to His church and work in the world.

**3. YOUR GENEROUS SHARING WITH OTHERS.** You don’t have to tip every panhandler you come across. But a truly converted person knows that God has blessed them incredibly, whether their resources are great or modest. If you know of someone with a genuine need, you have an opportunity to serve that person. Jesus said, “Whoever gives one of these little ones **even a cup** of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward (Mt. 10:42).”

The GREATEST generosity we can share with those around us is this: **We can be instrumental in sharing the Gospel- the Good News of Jesus- with them.** With Thanksgiving, Advent and the Holidays coming up, consider WHO you are reaching out to, and WHO you can bring or invite to church, so they can hear the Gospel! **Bringing someone to Jesus is the greatest thing we can do for others.**

This month, have a happy holiday season. And remember: **The Thanks is in the giving!**

Blessings through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Pastor Eric

## DESIGNATED FUNDS

### YTD & Carried Forward Designated Funds as of September 2023:

Building:	1,381.01
Adult Education:	(75.54)
Sunday School:	49.25
Scholarship:	314.88
Youth Group:	(2525.50)
Memorial:	9,014.58
Mission tithe:	12,261.32
Mission Offering:	360.00
Quilters:	1270.31
Property:	1705.78
Property Sub Account	
Building Impr.	395.00
A.C. Fund	\$ 300.00
Pastor’s Fund	5,000.00
Audio/Visual:	3,640.72
Evangelism:	13.23
Evangelism Sub Acct	
Pastor’s Moving	25.00
Light House Worship	12,715.62
Office Tech. Fund	750.06
Worship Fund:	<u>126.49</u>
<b>TOTAL DESIGNATED</b>	<b>46,722.21</b>

**Year-To-Date General  
Fund Budget Totals as of  
9/30/23**

Budget  
GF Offering: \$162,197.34  
GF Budget: \$187,231.73  
GF Short: (\$25,034.39)

Actual  
GF Offering: \$162,197.34  
GF Expense: \$170,299.19  
GF Short: (\$8,101.85)

### GREETERS &

#### USHERS FOR November

(1st Service)

*Nov 5: Terry & Deb  
VanderHorst*

*Nov 12: Wendy Mays &  
Kay Marie Rahman*

*Nov 19: Jim & Carol  
Carter*

*Nov 26: Jerry & Jane  
Guggisberg*

1st Service Nov Ushers:

*The Roesler Family*

2nd Service Ushers:

*The Honstad Family*

## Live Nativity

We will again have a live nativity this year, however, it will be done a little differently.

The live nativity will be on Wednesday, December 13 & 20 from 5-6:15pm.

Many volunteers will be needed to make this a successful event. There is a sign up poster in the narthex on the bulletin board. Please



prayerfully consider helping out in one or more of following areas.

**Dec 2nd 8:30am:** Set up manger & outdoor platform

**Dec 13th or 20th 3:00pm:** Set up table for meal

**Dec 13th or 20th 4:30-6:15pm:** Assist serving meal

**Dec 13th or 20th 4:30-6:30pm:** Traffic Control

**Dec 13th or 20th 5pm & 5:45pm:** Charters (Mary, Joseph, wisemen, etc)

*We will also need reader to be recorded during the month on*

*November.* If you have any questions, please reach out to Karen Neu.

## BIBLICAL ROOTS OF COMMON PHRASES

Phrase: *“An Eye for an Eye”*

Meaning: Revenge or retribution, repayment in kind.

Origins: This phrase comes from Mosaic Law as expressed in the Books of Exodus (21:24) and Leviticus (24:20), and in Deuteronomy (19:21) we read: “Your eye shall not pity. It shall be life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.”

While often seen as a harsh form of justice, an “eye for an eye” was actually the merciful ‘Law of Punishment in Kind’ known as “*Lex Talions*”. It meant that the punishment must fit the crime – the degree of vengeance could not exceed the degree of original injury. In short, God seeks to prevent exaggerated revenge (e.g. I lost an eye so you must lose your life.)

Note: These words did not originate in the Old Testament, as most people believe. They come from the legal Code of Hammurabi, the sixth king of the first Babylonian Amorite dynasty, which was found carved upon an eight-foot diorite column dating back to about 1750 B.C. The exact words on the column are “If a man destroy the eye of another man, they shall destroy his eye.” Some 350 years later this phrase became the biblical “an eye for an eye” found in the five Books of Moses – The Pentateuch.

The Word and Phrase Origins, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition and the Lutheran Study Bible

THERE ARE MANY COMMITTEES AND GROUPS FOR YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN AT OUR CHURCH. ALL COMMITTEES AND GROUPS COULD USE MORE PEOPLE. THIS IS A WONDERFUL WAY TO GIVE OF YOUR TIME & TALENTS. PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING. NO INVITATION NEEDED, JUST SHOW UP.

PROPERTY:  
NOVEMBER 7, 6:30PM

STEWARDSHIP:  
NOVEMBER 7, 5:30PM

WORSHIP:  
NOVEMBER 8, 5PM

SAT., NOVEMBER 11  
MEN'S BIBLE: 8 AM

WOW: 9:30 AM

EVANGELISM:  
NOVEMBER 28, 6:30PM

EDUCATION:  
NOVEMBER 28, 6:30PM

QUILTERS:  
TUESDAYS 10:00AM

CHOIR:  
WEDNESDAYS @  
6:30PM

## Bible Studies

7am Wed. Men's  
Bible Study

9:30am Thur.  
Women's Bible  
Study

7pm Nov 6 & 20  
Bibles & Brews

8am Nov 11 Men's  
Group

9:30am Nov 11  
WOW

6pm Nov 16  
Parent's Group

It's back! **Operation Christmas Child** has returned to Christ the King with 100 boxes ready to be filled by **November 19<sup>th</sup>**. Operation Christmas Child has always been dedicated to sharing the Gospel with children the world over, and in the past 30 years, over **200 MILLION** boxes have been stuffed with Christmas gifts for hurting children. How it works: You simply pick up a box to fill and a pamphlet in our Gathering area. The pamphlet shares gift ideas for "your" child in 3 age groups. You'll have fun filling one (or more) boxes and can even follow your box to its ultimate destination. Remember, the children who receive these boxes may not get **ANYTHING ELSE** for Christmas, and many a child has been brought to Christ through the joy of these gifts. This is **YOUR** chance to spread the Gospel and share the joy of our beloved Savior with children the world over. The boxes can be returned to the back pew in the Gathering Area. **THANK YOU** for your thoughtfulness and generosity. Remember, **you** are blessed to be a blessing.



Christ the King Lutheran Church  
309 6th ST NE  
Waseca, MN 56093  
507.835.9176  
[www.ctkwaseca.org](http://www.ctkwaseca.org)



## Advent Worship Schedule

**Dec. 6      6:30pm**

**Dec. 13     6:30pm**

**Dec. 20     6:30pm**

