



ANCHOR NEWS

Springfield Lutheran Church, ELCA, Newsletter

November 2016

Post Scripts

Here's a short list of what happens in November around here: All Saints Sunday...Veterans Day...Christ the King...Thanksgiving...Advent begins...

This is the time of year when things get "cracking" in the life of the church. (We have recently celebrated the sending of quilts and school kits to Lutheran World Relief, acknowledged Reformation Sunday # 499, and our church's 70th anniversary).

Add to the November items above: our annual pledge drive, recovering from the current local and national political issues, the college football Civil War between the Beavers and the Ducks (even in a struggling year for those teams!), and, well, we may wish for the relative "calm" of the Advent/Christmas season soon upon us! Ha!

Frankly, I like this time of year, first, as it has some predictability: we've done these things before, so we don't have to "re-invent the wheel" in order to find out what to do/be about. Secondly: these yearly events are a great mix of both the "secular" and the "holy", and our lives are richer as we pay attention to them. I think about, and I pray for, the energy and alertness to actually enjoy these things with my own family, with our Springfield Church and at-large community of neighbors in the local area, and abroad. My hope is that you will do the same. Tell me, if you like, what you find out, how this goes for you.

Along with that line of thought: this is also the time of year when the calendar can bid us to do some assessment of life, in general, and also in particular. I do that in my own way, for example, as every November since 1986 I review my ordination vows. I offer thanks, I ask forgiveness for missteps and mistakes. I ask for God's guidance in the year ahead--and I raise a glass in celebration. Any conclusions after all this time of self-reflection? Most of that I keep to myself, or share with Mary, or share with church council and colleagues.

But I can relate to you this promise: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." (1 Corinthians 15:58. KJV). May we each find out that such a promise is foundational to all of us: who we are, and Whose we, in the grace of our Lord Jesus, this "busy" month, and always.

Peace, in Christ, Pastor Erik

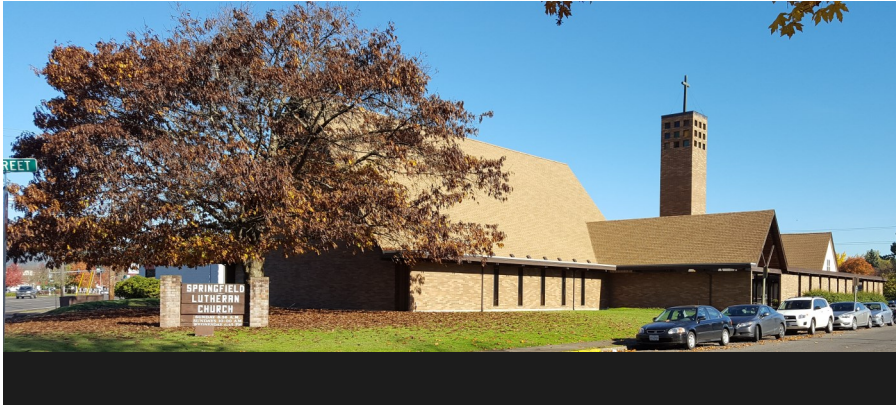
Food for Thought—

"Pay attention to the people God puts in your life if you want to discern what God is up to in your life."

Henri Nouwen, Dutch Catholic priest, professor, writer and theologian

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Meet & Greet Your Church

By Michelle Guillory—This was going to be an article about Erika Lamb...So, you think you know somebody...We all, supposedly, know Erika Lamb. Recently, she popped in the office and spouted off about how she was a recipient of an LWR quilt and that her family was sponsored by this congregation to come to the US.

Now, I don't know y'all as well as I'd like as I'm fairly new to this congregation, but I've only heard of stories like this as myth...legend...stories belonging to somebody out there. Never did I imagine I would end up working for a church that actually did it! You guys are fantastic! There should be more people like you out there!

So, speak to Erika if you don't know her story. There is a picture poster board in the Fellowship Hall entry, along with other bits of SLC history. Did you all do it again? Are there others whose lives we've impacted by sponsoring them? What are their stories, I'd love to hear them...document them for our archives.

This leads to the rest of this article as an idea...if we've done it once, can we, should we? Maybe, perhaps, do it again??? At the very least, perhaps we should contemplate joining another church, or our cluster, and talk about it as first steps...

I can imagine this is a huge undertaking, but not an impossible one. I've tinkered on the internet and discovered some resources that could help educate us to make informed decisions. Did you know that refugees and immigrants are different? Refugees move to a new country because they have no place to go. They are fleeing persecution and fear for their lives and must prove such. Immigrants choose to go to a new country because they want to and have approval from the government receiving them. They can return to their countries without fear.

LIRS.org—This site belongs to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. They have all sorts of information, stats, services, resources to help us understand the issue more clearly. Apparently, refugee resettlement in the US is a federal program. Each October the president, with consultation from Congress, sets a number of refugees allowed. For 2016, that number is 85,000 with at least 10,000 being from Syria.

LCSNW.org—This site is for Lutheran Community Services Northwest. And while they don't have an office in Springfield or Eugene, they have the ability to work here. They provide behavioral health services; family and community support; child welfare programs; refugee and immigrant services; senior and disability services; crime victims services. They work with other agencies and form connections. They work for health, justice and hope.

So, I have a small challenge for you. Go out and research the refugee situation and start talking, thinking, praying.

Chi Rho Lecture Series

November 11-13, 2016

We have been invited to attend the annual Chi Rho lectures. This year's speaker is Carl Holladay of Emory University. Dr. Holladay has just published a commentary on the Acts of the Apostles. He will be sharing his thoughts on Acts during the presentations. Specifically, he will be speaking to the topic "Deepening the Church's Sensibilities: Reflections on Acts".

More information can be found at: <http://www.welcometocentral.org/2016-chi-rho>.

- Friday, 11/11, 7:30 pm—Central Lutheran Church—"Exploring Acts - The Shape of the Story"
- Saturday, 11/12, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm—Northwest Christian University, Library, Room 203—"A Sense of History: Roots and Origins" and "A Sense of Inquiry: Searching the Scriptures".
- Saturday, 11/12, 7:30 pm—Central Lutheran Church—"A Sense of Community: Meals, Meetings, Networks, and Possessions".
- Sunday, 11/13, 9:45 am—Central Lutheran Church—"A Sense of Mission: To the End of the Earth".

LWR Projects

There is a booklet in the office that lists, in detail, all the various projects we can participate in with LWR. You may also choose some to do by yourself. You can also go to www.lwr.org for more ideas and an opportunity for online giving.

Here is a brief list of the standard projects that are always needed:

- School Kits/
Backpacks
- Baby Care Kits
- Personal Care Kits
- Fabric Kits
- Mission Quilts
- Fleece Tied Blankets

There are specific requirements for each item, so be sure to either check out the booklet or the website for that list. All items are needed all year round. All items are greatly appreciated by those who receive them.

Thank you for joining with us in contributing to the greater world in need.

www.lwr.org

Lutheran World Relief
700 Light Street
Baltimore, MD 21230



SLC Trust Fund

The SLC Trust Fund has had another great mission year as we've been able to share \$11,500 with 19 different organizations and agencies.

The trust committee (Anita Carter, Hartley Troftgruben and Kenny Eilers) will soon be meeting to select next year's recipients. *If there are any charitable groups you'd like to suggest for consideration*, please notify one of the committee members or Pastor Erik.



Free...Yes! Free!!!

Sunday, November 06, 8:00 to 10:00 am

Springfield Lutheran Church

1542 I Street, Springfield

Really! It is totally free!! The only cost is your appetite! Please join us for pancakes, eggs, sausage, coffee, juice, and milk.
We'd love to meet you!

Giving Opportunities

Edited by Michelle Guillory—Our Giving Opportunities article comes from Mark Allen Powell: [Giving to God: The Bible's Good News about Living a Generous Life](#). He is a Bible scholar and theologian...and a Lutheran! This month, our excerpt is from pages xiv and xv:

“What is Stewardship? Some Sample Definitions

‘Christian stewardship is the *practice* of the Christian religion. It is neither a department of life nor a sphere of activity. It is the Christian conception of life as a whole, manifested in attitudes and actions.’ W. H. Greever (1937)

‘Christian stewardship is the practice of systematic and proportionate giving of time, abilities, and material possessions, based upon the conviction that these are trusts from God to be used in his service for the benefit of all mankind in grateful acknowledgement of Christ’s redeeming love.’ *National Council of Churches United Stewardship Council (1946)*

‘Stewardship is what we do after we say we believe.’ *Clarence C. Stoughton (1949)*

‘Stewardship is the partnership with Christ, through the Holy Spirit, in fulfilling the purposes of God in the world.’ *A. C. Conrad (1955)*

‘Stewardship is the re-enactment of Christ’s life in Christ’s people.’ *T. A. Kantonen (1956)*

‘Stewardship is the management of life and all its resources for God and for the good of all.’ *Robert Hastings (1961)*

‘Stewardship is receiving and sharing God’s bounteous gifts and managing them for the best promotion of God’s purposes in the world.’ *Milo Kauffman (1975)*

‘Stewardship is taking care of the bounty that God continually provides us.’ *L. David Brown (1978)*

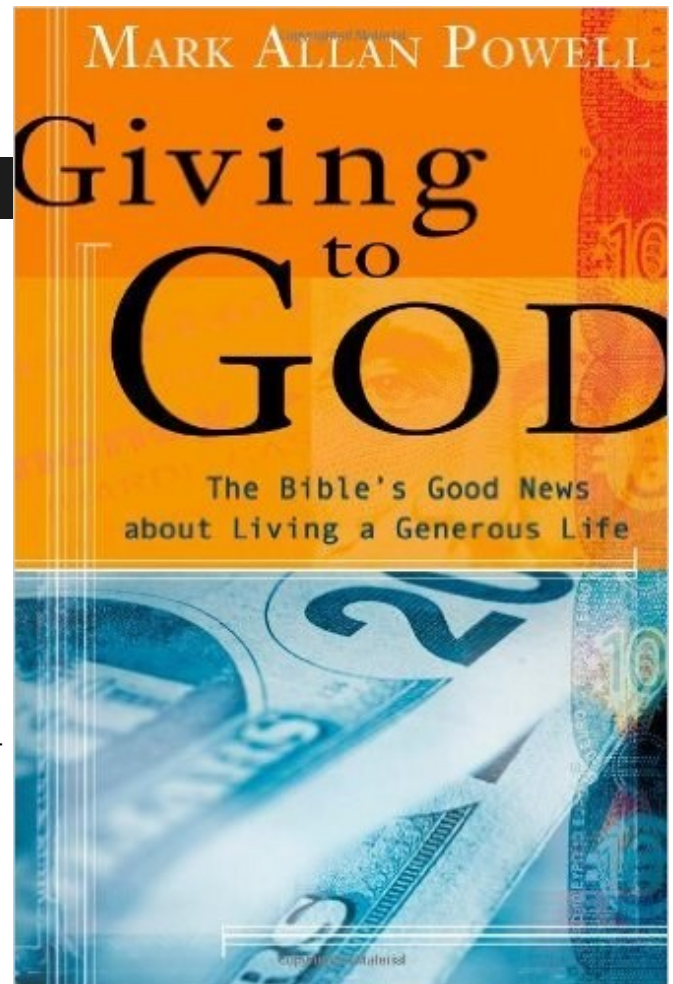
‘Christian Stewardship has come to mean ‘what we do with what we have, all the time.’ *John H. MacNaughton (1983)*

‘Stewardship is a philosophy of life and a theological form of self-management.’ *John Brackett (1988)*

‘Stewardship is God’s grace working God’s purpose out in the world, in, with and through us, who, in grateful response to God and through faith in Jesus Christ, enter into a covenant relationship with the empowering Spirit of God that blesses all of creation.’ *Rhodes Thompson (1990)*”

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That’s all for this month. I think we’ve given you plenty to ponder. The book can be found in a variety of places and Pastor Erik recommends it.



## Food Drives

By Michelle Guillory—Please contemplate, as you purchase items for the poor and hungry this autumn, the fact that a can opener is a luxury item.

Fortunately, the companies that prepare our food items are making things easier to open. There are plenty of items at the grocery stores that come with pull tabs and they’re not all beer!

Here at SLC, we are collecting food for St. Henry’s food pantry out in Dexter and for Food for Lane County. There is also a food barrel in the office that could be filled for folks that are hungry that come to the church for a meal.

The items most needed at this time of year seem to be hearty ready made meals and proteins.

## Your Council Members for 2016:

President:  
Linda Loomis

Vice President/  
Stewardship:  
Open

Secretary:  
Rita Grimes

Treasurer:  
Gail Rogers

Budget:  
Bill Maack

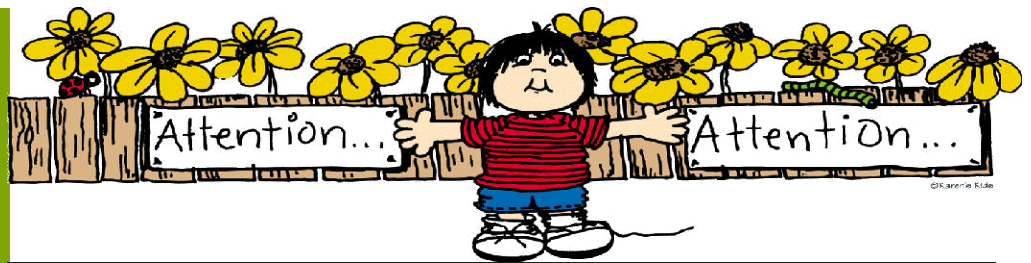
Financial Secretary  
Liz Hurley

Property/Maintenance:  
Ray Miller

Worship Committee:  
Open

Hospitality:  
Alicia Fisher

Social Concerns/  
Outreach:  
Susan Squire



## President's Corner

The meeting of our Church Council took place Sunday October 23, called to order by yours truly.

Finances: looking for more Sunday counters reported Liz Hurley, Financial Secretary.

Treasurer Gail Rogers noted that even though we are behind in our expected budget, we are getting bills paid. All attending encourage a strong, generous finish in giving to end the year these next few weeks.

President's report: we're looking forward to having the November 20 recognition (catered dinner) for Pastor Erik's 30th ordination anniversary; he doesn't want a "big fuss" about it.

Property report: a ductless heater/air conditioner will be installed in the church office on Friday, November 11!

Social Concerns/Outreach: upcoming events at church include the free community breakfast November 6, from 8-10 a.m., coinciding with the Veteran's Day Parade, Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes, and the annual Giving Tree will be available in November, Christmas Parade goody booth will again be on Dec. 3 (save/bring your extra Halloween candy to the church office).

The Pastor's report included being contacted by Mark Walker, of McKenzie Willamette Hospital, and Council approving our church as a back-up emergency/alternative care site in case a major event caused a need by McKenzie Willamette Hospital; our new musicians Alessandro Andrade de Fonseca and Fanarelia Guerrero are starting as officially hired employees soon.

Hospitality reports that 55 signed up for the dinner. Exploring "inreach" collection of resources for members needing aid, and looking for care packages for Thanksgiving distribution to needy persons/family.

Worship (aka Pastor's report part 2) We welcomed the Waltons as lay eucharistic ministers (help pastor to take communion to homebound and hospitalized). The Festival Singers a capella group will perform again December 9, 7:00 p.m., with a reception to follow.

Have a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving! We have much to be thankful for.

Linda Loomis  
President  
541-746-0869



## Prayers for Thanksgiving Day

Our family has tried to remember the value of Thanksgiving, which has become a "lesser" holiday than Christmas in our culture (I still don't get how Halloween has apparently become so revered in our day, especially by adults). We usually have an invitation out to people not related to our family—and sometimes they show up, and we (and the dogs) don't scare 'em away with our "traditions" (which means the usual foods, and a nap).

Seriously, when you meet for Thanksgiving this year, whether it be a gathering of a few or many, or if you go out to dinner at a restaurant (and have someone else do the turkey and trimmings), make some time to, well, give thanks. Use prayers of your own making (my dad's prayers at Thanksgiving were, yes, VERY long), or try one of these prayers:

"O God, in your Son Jesus Christ you richly bless us with all that we need, bread from the earth and the bread of heaven, which gives life to the world.

'Grant us one thing more: grateful hearts to sing your praise, in this world and the world to come.

'Free us from all fear and worry that, trusting in your goodness, we may always praise your mighty deeds and give you thanks for the bounty of your gifts. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.'" (from [Revised Common Lectionary](#), Vanderbilt University Library)

"Almighty God, you have given us this good land as our heritage. Make us always remember your generosity, and constantly do your will. Bless our land with honesty in the workplace, truth in education, and honor in daily life. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance; and from every evil course of action. When times are prosperous, let our hearts be thankful; and, in troubled times, do not let our trust in you fail, We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.'" (from [Evangelical Lutheran Worship](#), Augsburg Fortress)

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Blessed, Prayerful Thanksgiving to all!

Pastor Erik

SLC Quilting Schedule:

We have two groups here at SLC. SLCW LWR Quilters and the Springfield Lutheran Sewing Sisters (SLSS).

The SLCW LWR Quilters meet Tuesdays, from 9:00 to 10:30 am. We follow the LWR guidelines and make quilts for those in areas of crisis throughout the world. Miriam Jones & Carol McAllister are your contacts for the LWR Quilters.

The SLSS meets on all Mondays from 9:00 to 11:00 am. Michelle Marroquin and Miriam Jones are your contacts for the SLSS.

Come, join one group or both! Help those in need and learn new quilting techniques along the way.



**MAY YOUR STUFFING BE TASTY,
MAY YOUR TURKEY BE PLUMP.
MAY YOUR POTATOES'N GRAVY...
HAVE NARY A LUMP,
MAY YOUR YAMS BE DELICIOUS,
MAY YOUR PIES TAKE THE PRIZE,
MAY YOUR THANKSGIVING DINNER
STAY OFF OF YOUR THIGHS.**

Happy Thanksgiving

**Suggested Food
Pantry Items to
Donate:**

Fats, Oils, Sweets

- Jelly & Jam
- Honey & Sugar & Syrup
- Mayonnaise
- Vegetable Oil
- Salad Dressing

Milk Yogurt, Cheese

- Infant Formula
- Powdered Milk
- Instant Breakfast Drinks
- Canned & Boxed Pudding

**Meat, Poultry, Fish, Dry
Beans, Nuts**

- Canned Tuna & Chicken
- Canned Beef Stew & Bean
Soups & Chilis
- Canned or Dried Beans
- Baked Beans
- Canned Nuts

Vegetables

- Canned Vegetables & Toma-
to Products
- Vegetable Soup
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Baby Food Vegetables
- V-8 Juice

Fruits

- Canned Fruit
- Raisins & Dried Fruits
- Applesauce
- Baby Food Fruit
- Fruit Leather (100% Fruit)

Bread, Cereal, Rice, Pasta

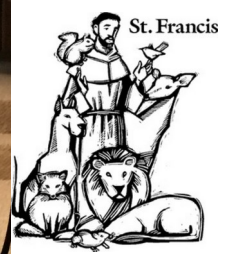
- Rice & Rice Mixes
- Canned Pastas
- Noodle Mixes
- Dry Noodles & Pastas
- Macaroni & Cheese Mix
- Cold Cereals
- Bran Cereal & Shredded
Wheat
- Infant Cereal
- Hot Cereal Mixes & Oatmeal
- Bread & Muffin Mixes
- Pancake Mix
- Granola Bars & Graham
Crackers
- Flour

The Pet Blessing

By Michelle Guillory—Sunday, October 2, was fun. We had three dogs, two cats, and a pet Lamb...Thank you to Kenny for bringing your pet Erika!

Dom Post brought Rosie who seemed to think that Peaux and Rei could be good fun for an old, blind girl. Jody Taylor was brave once again and brought her cat, Callie... who is the coolest cat when two out of three dogs at the second service were interested in being friends (real friends, not food friends)...Callie just kept an eye on them and stayed calm in Jody's arms. Gail & Donna were required to sit by Peaux and Rei...otherwise the poor dogs would hunt throughout the church for them just to be near them...Sharon Walton gives the best heinie scratches according to Peaux.

Below are some pictures. For photos, we missed out on the first service and Bootsie, Joan Boriack's cat, but we got all the pets for the second service.



Every Week

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8:30 am Worship with Communion 9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship with Communion	Office Closed 9:00 SLSS Quilting 12 noon AA 6:30 Bible Study	9:00 LWR Quilting 12 noon AA 5:30 NA	9:30 HS Cooking 12 noon AA 12:30 Nar Anon 2:00 Sr. Mat Yoga 3:30 Sr. Chair Yoga 5:30 AA 6:45 Midwk Worship	9:30 HS Cooking 12 noon AA	12 noon AA 12:30 Nar-Anon	12:30 AA

NOVEMBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 All Saints Sunday Free Community Breakfast 8-10 & Veterans' Day Parade	7	8	9 9:30 Kate Morgan's Mindfulness group in Gym	10	11 VETERANS' DAY	12
13 Pentecost 26	14 1:00 Women's Circle @ Marroquins'	15 2:00 Book Group @ Dorothy Carlson's	16 9:30 Kate Morgan's Mindfulness group in Gym	17 1:30 Fringe Benefits @ Ricksons'	18	19
20 Christ the King Pastor Erik's Anniversary Luncheon	21 Office Closed	22 Office OPEN	23 Office OPEN 9:30 Kate Morgan's Mindfulness group in Gym	24 THANKSGIVING DAY Office Closed	25 Office Closed	26
27 First Sunday in Advent	28	29 1:15 Wise Guys @ Hole in the Wall BBQ	30 9:30 Kate Morgan's Mindfulness group in Gym			

Bulletin Board

In the main hall by the church office, is a bulletin board that is for everyone. It's been titled Our Church—Our Community—Our World.

It is for news and events happening around our church, around Springfield, around Lane County, and around Oregon, and around the US, and around the World.

Not everything is applicable, but most things are. The grandson doing well in sports (our church), another church bazaar (our community), various volunteer opportunities (our community/our world), the latest newsletters from a variety of organizations (our community/our world).

Our goal is to share happenings, not to indoctrinate or recruit for something that is unrelated to the church. The big 'no' is secular politics and activism. There can be news of a meeting, but no views or opinions. We understand that politics and activism impact our church, our community, and our world; but this board is too small a forum for such a task.

Should you like something to go up, contact the church office and we will put it up if applicable.



Our Church—Our Community —Our World—

- **Council**—will not meet in November. The Executive Council will meet for lunch one afternoon. Pastor or Linda will connect with you to schedule that event.
- **Free Community Breakfast**—Sunday, **November 06**. The meal is served from 8:00 to 10:00 am. All are welcome. The parade is at 1:30 pm. Volunteers, sign up sheets will be on the Narthex Table closer to the event. Contact Susan Squire with questions.
- **Women's Circle**—The next regular Women's Circle meeting will be at 1:00 pm, Monday, **November 14**. It is going to be held at Michelle Marroquin's home.
- **Book Group**—The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, November 15** at 2:00 pm. The book is The Fisherman by Larry Huntsperger. The meeting will be at Dorothy Carlson's. Contact the church office if you need her address.
- **Fringe Benefits**—The Ricksons' will be hosting on Thursday, **November 17** at 1:30 pm.
- **Pastor Erik's 30th Ordination Anniversary** is being celebrated with a catered luncheon on Sunday, **November 20**. Please RSVP to Susan and Alicia or the church office for a more accurate headcount. All are invited.
- **Schedule for Thanksgiving Week**—The church office will only be open for Tuesday and Wednesday. There will be **NO Midweek Worship on November 23**.
- **The Wise Guys** are scheduled for Tuesday, **November 29** over at the Hole in the Wall BBQ joint at 1:15 pm
- **The MCCB's** will not be meeting in November.
- **Women's Circle Christmas Party** will be held on Saturday, **December 3**. More details to come.
- **Holiday Concert**—The Festival Singers group from last year is coming back. It is scheduled for Friday, **December 9**. The concert is at 7pm. There will be a canned food drive and a free will offering to help cover expenses. All are invited.
- **Holiday Bazaars**—On the bulletin board by the church office is a list of local bazaars to aid in a crafty Christmas.
- **Halloween Candy Collection**—If you've got leftover candy, bring it in and we will share it at the annual Springfield Christmas Parade.
- **Newsletters**—Don't forget to check our bulletin board for a wide variety of newsletters with more information than our little newsletter can handle

Giving Statements

By Michelle Guillory—As an FYI/reminder, we stopped doing quarterly giving statements this year, since very few people use them. As such, you may, at any time, request a giving statement from me and I will be happy to print it out for you.

Keep in mind that these *will not be* your final statement to be used in your taxes, but they will be an “as of such and such date” statement. The annual statements will go out mid-January after all statements have been verified.

Should they not match your checkbook, by all means, please come and see me in the office and I will see what I can do to verify/fix this situation.

Again, look for the annual statements in mid-January. Thank you.

The Narthex Table

By Michelle Guillory—For November, here’s the current list of what’s on the Narthex Table:

- **All Saints Sunday (November 6)**—The list of the Dearly Departed for the reading of their names during the worship services on All Saints Sunday. ***Please be sure to have your loved one’s name listed and properly spelled before November 3***, so the office has time to create the legible list for the Pastor and Assistant.
- **Event Sign Up Sheets**—There’s a breakfast on November 13, so the sign up sheets will be located on this table closer to the event.
- **Grocery List**—What? Well, it’s a list of **items that are good for Food Pantries**. Non-perishable items that are healthy and keep well and are good movers at Food for Lane County and the various pantries that it serves. Please remember pull tabs on canned foods if possible. Take one if you feel you need ideas...or check the green (grey if printed) column on page seven for a handy reference.
- **Christ In Our Homes**—These are quarterly devotionals that cost \$5 for an annual subscription. The money goes to the SLCW who pays the bill.
- This **newsletter** (including the monthly calendar) can be found there, as well. We provide it for folks who do not have internet access or those want a quick read while waiting. If you have access to the internet, please leave the paper copies for those who don’t. Thank you.
- On the easel near the entry to the Narthex, you’ll find **signup sheets** for bringing flowers on Sundays and for reading the Scriptures during the services...you can pick which service to read during. This bulletin board also has the selected readings so those who choose to read may have time to practice.

Periodically check there to see if there’s something new with your name on it in the basket on the table with the alphabetical tabs...it won’t necessarily be another giving statement, but perhaps something that needed to be passed on to you. Thank you.

Contact Us

If you need the church, the Pastor, the Secretary, prayer, comfort, or guidance; please contact us at:

**Springfield Lutheran Church,
ELCA**

1542 I Street
Springfield, OR 97477
(541) 746-2403

Office Hours: Closed Mondays & National Holidays.
Open Tuesday-Friday, from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

SLCAncor@gmail.com

Visit us on the web at
www.springfieldlutheran.org

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### THANKSGIVING SCHEDULE:

The office is closed November 24 and 25 for the Thanksgiving weekend.

### CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR’S:

Saturday, 12/24, Christmas Eve—10:00 pm Worship

Sunday, 12/25, Christmas Day—10:00 am Worship

The office will be **CLOSED** the week between Christmas and New Year’s.

Sunday, 01/01, First Sunday After Christmas/New Year’s Day—10:00 am Worship

Sunday, 01/08, Second Sunday After Christmas—8:30 & 10:00 am Worship with coffee and fellowship between services.