

# The Reformer

Lawyersville and Sharon Reformed Churches 167

**Mission Statement:** As disciples of Christ, we are empowered by the Holy Spirit to join together to worship God, to study his Word, and use our gifts to extend God's grace and love to others.

November 2015

## What's Inside:

Pastor's Page  
Church Review  
Calendar of Events  
Children's Fun Page  
Birthdays-Anniversaries



**LRC - Church Service**

**9:00 A.M.**

**Sunday School  
following worship**

**SRC - Church Service**

**11:00 A.M.**

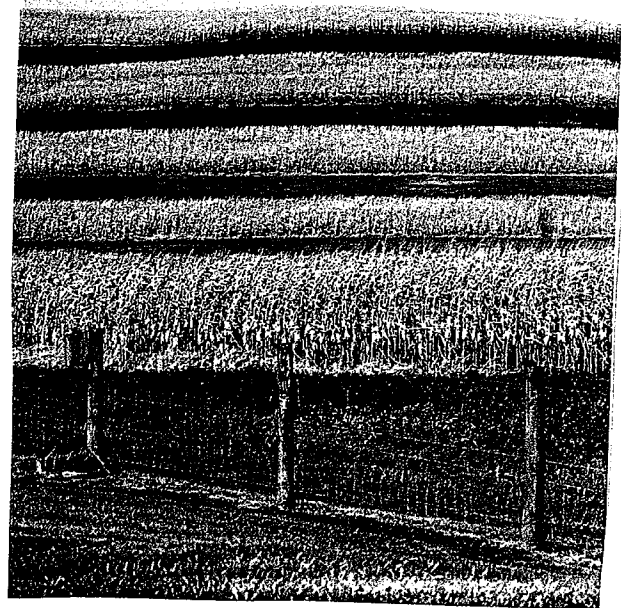
**Sunday School**

**9:30 A.M.**

**Rev. Pacia Vamvas**

"Look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting."

JOHN 4:35, NRSV



## Special dates

- All Saints' Day, *November 1, 2015*
- Daylight-Saving Time ends, *November 1, 2015*
- Veterans Day, *November 11, 2015*
- Christ the King Sunday, *November 22, 2015*
- Thanksgiving, *November 26, 2015*
- First Sunday of Advent, *November 29, 2015*

## I Love to Live the Story: A Guide to Understanding and Celebrating the Christian Church Year (by Arden Mead and King Schoenfeld)

Sunday, November 29, is the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the new Church Year. The Christian Church Year is living history, a cycle of ancient events brought to life each year. It is history that is as alive as the Church itself; it leads us to celebrate the story of our Lord as our own story.

The Church Year is an annual cycle of festivals and seasons, developed straight out of the Word of God by Christian generations before us. Christians around the world and throughout history have shaped their faith and marked their lives by the events of the Church Year, marking this cycle as new as each new year of celebration.

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, parishes may wonder about the value of such a tradition for communal worship and personal life. For those who want to explore the meaning of the Church's liturgical year and its use in congregational life, this book offers a brief overview, plus appropriate symbols for use in the sanctuary and Christian classroom.

Why should we promote an understanding and appreciation of this ancient system?

First – looking back – the Church Year connects us with Scripture through a planned series of readings, which present its great stories and themes, especially the life and words of our Lord.

Second – looking ahead – the Church Year helps the Church, the community of believers, celebrate God's forgiveness and justice for people today, living in an unforgiving and unjust world.

Roughly speaking, the first half of the Church Year (Advent through Pentecost Day), recalls the events in the life of our Lord, making them real for us in the present. The rest of the Church Year (the Season of Pentecost) focuses on Jesus' teaching and on discipleship – the new life in Christ in which we are living and growing.

When Christians all over the world come together to celebrate the same festivals and seasons of the Church Year, they

- learn the words and acts of God that have changed history;

- remember the birth, life, death, and resurrection of our Lord which gives us a rebirth, new life and hope of the resurrection;

- relive these saving events through which our Lord created his Church and transformed lives.

The Church Year revolves around three great festival days – Christmas, Easter and Pentecost – and the seasons that connect them – Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent and Pentecost, or Ordinary Time.

### Colors of the Church Year

The Church's liturgical "color scheme" began in the earliest centuries simply with white, and later, red for all occasions. Apparently it was during the Middle Ages that a set of specific meanings came to be attached to certain colors for Church usage. These meanings undoubtedly came out of an ancient culture, and while not specifically Christian, were adopted and in the 16<sup>th</sup> century mandated for use throughout the Church. [There are many customs and beliefs that emerged out traditions begun by the Church, and are not Scriptural].

**Green:** life. Green appears during the Pentecost and Epiphany seasons. Think fresh sprouts, green leaves.

**White:** purity, holiness. White appears on Christmas and its season, the Day of Epiphany, Transfiguration Sunday, Easter and its season, Trinity Sunday, All Saints' Sunday, and Reign of Christ Sunday. White is also used for many specifically Roman Catholic holy days. Think snow and clothing for certain celebrations.

- : blood, fire, the Holy Spirit. Red appears on the day of Pentecost, Palm Sunday, and several special occasions (ex. an ordination). Think flames and sacrifice.

**Violet:** royalty, repentance (though the association with repentance has somewhat faded over the years). Violet appears through Advent and Lent. Think kingly robes.

**Blue:** hope. Blue has become the color of Advent for many faith communities. Think fall skies and deep oceans.

**Black:** death, mourning. Used only on Ash Wednesday and/or Good Friday.

- : used as a substitute for any of the other colors, often on "high" festival days (ex. Transfiguration Sunday). Think jewelry, precious coins and the sun.

- : joy. A Rose-colored candle is used on the third Sunday of Advent ("Joy"). Think roses and bouquets.

## Advent

The word Advent, which means "coming," is a good word with which to begin the Church Year, when we are tempted to ask, "What's coming?" A more correct question would be "Who is coming?" The answer, of course, is "Jesus!"

The entire Old Testament points to Jesus as the one who is coming, when God's time is right. For many centuries, prophets had foretold the coming of God's Messiah, the one whom God had promised to save God's people from their sins, and teach us God's will. Some of the Scripture readings during the Season of Advent quote those ancient promises (note the weekly Old Testament prophecies of Isaiah during the Season).

All this happened in history, of course, about 2,000 years ago. Another message of the Advent season is that the One who has come is coming again. How does the (Apostles') Creed put it? "To judge the quick [living] and the dead." How did Jesus himself put it? "To take you to myself, that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14.3). So the Advent season actually deals with the two comings of Christ, one when Jesus was born hundreds of years ago, and one when he comes again in the future to reveal himself as our Savior.

## Images and Words of the Season of Advent

Advent – A Latin word meaning a "coming" or "arrival."

Advent colors – Purple is the ancient color of royalty, signaling the coming of our King. Some faith communities use blue for the Season of Advent, reserving purple (which can also symbolize penitence) for Lent.

Advent wreaths – Many churches use an Advent wreath to mark the four weeks of the season. Three purple candles and one pink candle (used the third Sunday of Advent) are lit, one candle on the first Sunday of Advent, two on the second Sunday, three on the third Sunday (including the pink candle), and four on the fourth Sunday. The four candles are placed in a circle to symbolize the completeness of God's presence. An inner, white candle, symbolizing the Light of the World, is used to light the four candles.

Candles – Celebrate the Light of the World (John 1.3-5), God's Son, who overcomes the darkness and the long winter of our souls.

Advent weekly themes – The themes of each week are Peace, Hope, Joy and Love (look for those themes on each weekly bulletin).

Emmanuel (or Immanuel) – is Hebrew for "God is with us." Isaiah the prophet promised that the Lord would come to be with his people. As a sign of this promise, the baby in Isaiah 7.14 called "God is with us" is echoed in Matthew 1.23.

Messiah – is the Hebrew word meaning "anointed one", that is, the "chosen one." Christ is the Greek translation of Messiah.

Son of David – is the title of a descendant of the great Old Testament King David. From David's family (Isaiah 11.1 – Jesse was the father of David), and town (Micah 5.2) the Lord God raised up the Messiah, Jesus.

Advent Calendars – count the days of Advent in December until Christmas. The daily opening of the windows of the Advent calendar reminds young and old where our eternal hope lies – with the holy Child in the lowly manger.

Jesse Tree – Named after King David's father, the tree is decorated with symbols displaying Old Testament heroes and Christian symbols.

### Christmas and Epiphany

In the western Church, December 25 was chosen as the birth date for Jesus as an alternative for the secular holiday declared by the Roman emperor for that day. This Christian festival day – Christmas – gradually became more important than Epiphany. Among the earliest Christians in the Eastern Church, January 6 was the important festival day celebrated around Jesus' birth. Called the Epiphany ("revealing"), it marked the showing off of the baby Jesus to the Magi – foreign visitors – who represented all of us from other nations who worship Jesus. [Many Hispanic cultures have embraced this practice in celebrating "Three Kings' Day"]. Christians today try to reclaim Christmas from the commercial world which has worked – very successfully – to turn it into a secular holiday, Xmas. Xmas means hectic activity; Christmas means time-out and quiet moments. Xmas may mean the dreaded burden of high expectations that are seldom met; Christmas means setting our hearts at peace and fulfilling our inmost longings. (Ironically, the celebration of Chanukah in the U.S. has suffered the same fate, becoming commercialized, moving away from the true celebration of the holiday).

### The Little Season of Christmas

The twelve days of Christmas from December 25 through January 5 are our opportunity to celebrate God's greatest gift to us and the hope that he brings into a world troubled by unrest, hunger and darkness. The following saints' days are celebrated in the Roman Catholic Church: December 26 is the festival of St. Stephen, deacon and first martyr (Acts 7). December 27 is the festival of St. John, the apostle and Gospel writer. December 28 is the day of the Holy Innocents (Matthew 2.16-18), who were the boy children killed by Herod's soldiers as they searched for the baby Jesus. January 1 is the festival of the Name of Jesus. The days of Christmas end on January 5, Twelfth Night, the Eve of the Epiphany of our Lord. [The carol the Twelve Days of Christmas, is thought to have been used to teach about elements of the Christian faith - four Gospels, twelve Apostles', etc.].

### Images and Words of Christmas

Christmas: a shortened form of the Old English term "Christ's Mass", the festival worship service for Christ's birth.

Luke 1 & 2 contain the story of Jesus' birth in great detail. This is what we most associate with Christmas Eve.

Matthew 1 lists a genealogy in three sets of fourteen generations: Abraham to King David, King David to the deportation to Babylon, and the deportation to the Messiah. The remainder of the chapter recounts the angel's visit to Joseph. (The angel Gabriel's visit to Mary is found in Luke 1).

Matthew 2 contains the story of the Magi, the escape to Egypt, the Massacre of the Innocents, and the return from Egypt to Nazareth.

*[Neither Mark nor John contain a birth account].*

The stable behind the inn is remembered as the humble place for Jesus' birth. Recreating the Nativity scene has been a tradition among Christians since the days of St. Francis of Assisi.

Nativity scenes are a focus of the spiritual celebration of Christmas around the world. Also referred to as the manger, or crèche, the scene of our Lord's birth with its figures of Jesus, Mary, Joseph, angels, the shepherds, animals and the magi, is available in many versions by craftspeople of many countries (many of you have seen the dozens of scenes I have from all over the world). During the 12 days of Christmas, some introduce the figures of the magi, moving them closer to the Holy Family day by day, until they arrive on January 6, Epiphany. Some also leave the baby Jesus out until Christmas Eve.

Christmas trees and wreaths of evergreens are symbols of eternal life which Christ brings to us. Tree lights (candles back in the day) and ornaments remind us of the gifts brought to the baby Jesus by the magi.

Blue Christmas/Longest Night of the Year Prayer

"Comfort ye my people"(Isaiah 40.1). The opening words of Handel's Messiah are a familiar sound at this time of year. Yet for many anticipating and preparing for holiday celebrations, the need for comfort is somehow overlooked. Others are well aware of that need as they struggle through the increasing physical darkness that leads to the winter solstice, our longest night. That physical darkness is sometimes reflected in the dark, lost feelings we have as we contemplate Christmas without loved ones, a holiday made uncertain by economic concerns, or the brokenness in our lives that separates us from others. On December 21, the Longest Night of the Year, some will gather to acknowledge this darkness, to share their hurts with God, and to open their hearts to the light God has promised us in Jesus. Use this prayer if you need to be reminded of the Light that has come into the world, the Light that the darkness will never overcome. grace and peace; pacia

Holy God of Advent:

you became weak so we could find strength in moments of heartbreak;  
you left the safety of heaven to wander the wilderness of the world,  
holding our hands when we felt so hopeless; you set aside your glory  
to hold our pain so we might be healed, even when there seemed to be no hope;  
you became one of us, so we could never be alone in any moment, in any circumstance.

So come now, Child of Bethlehem, to strengthen us in these days.  
May we feel your presence in a way we have never known,  
not just as One born in a stable long ago and far away, but as One born  
in our hearts, in our hopes, in our spirits, in our weakness.  
You have promised to go before us: into our brokenness, into hospital rooms,  
into empty houses, into graveyards, into our future held by our God,  
and you are here, even now, waiting for each of us:  
to serve us, to hold us, to comfort us,  
to live in us, now and forever. Amen.

November Worship

11.01.15 All Saints' Day (white)     Sacrament of the Lord's Supper  
Isaiah 25.6-9     Revelation 21.1-6  
Psalm 24     John 11.32-44 +

11.08.15 Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost (green)  
Ruth 3.1-5; 4.13-17     Hebrews 9.24-28  
Psalm 127     Mark 12.38-44 +  
Lay Leader     Kelly Sperbeck

11.15.15 Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost (green)  
1 Samuel 1.4-20;     Hebrews 10.11-14 (15-18), 19-25  
1 Samuel 2.1-10     Mark 13.1-8 +  
Lay Leader     Kelly Sperbeck

11.22.15 Reign of Christ Sunday (white)  
2 Samuel 23.1-7     Revelation 1.4-8 +  
Psalm 132.1-12, (13-18)     John 18.33-37 +  
Lay Leader     Lola Fletcher

11.26.15 Thanksgiving (white)  
Joel 2.21-27     1 Timothy 2.1-7  
Psalm 126     Matthew 6.25-33

11.29.15 First Sunday of Advent (purple)  
Jeremiah 33.14-16     1 Thessalonians 3.9-13  
Psalm 25.1-10     Luke 21.25-36 +

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## Thanksgiving prayer

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Author and radio host Garrison Keillor put a unique spin on expressing gratitude for special meals. He painted the following table prayer on his dining-room wall, encouraging guests to sing it together before eating:

O Lord, we thank Thee for this food,  
For every blessing, every good.  
For earthly sustenance and love  
Bestowed on us from heaven above.  
Be present at our table, Lord.  
Be here and everywhere adored.  
Thy children bless and grant that we  
May feast in paradise with Thee.

"It's inspiring to hear 15 people find harmony around the Thanksgiving table," Keillor writes. Singing together "sets a tone. No crying in the cranberries. ... There is much to be grateful for."

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## A sacrifice of praise

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When Joni Eareckson Tada was first paralyzed, she had a rough time offering God "a sacrifice of praise" (Hebrews 13:15). As Tada recounts in *A Quiet Place in a Crazy World* (Multnomah), she was resentful and couldn't "understand how a good God could allow something like my accident to happen to one of his children."

But when a hospital visitor read aloud 1 Thessalonians 5:18, which says to give thanks in all circumstances, he offered Tada a challenge: "It's about time you got around to giving thanks in that wheelchair of yours." She said that wouldn't feel spontaneous or genuine, given her current condition. But the friend assured her she didn't need to feel great — or even grateful — to be grateful.

Eventually, "God rewarded me with the feeling of gratitude for having obeyed and 'given thanks,'" Tada writes. "Praise came more easily after I saw the effects of such a sacrifice."

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## Heartfelt thanks

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He who thanks but with the lips  
thanks but in part;  
the full, the true Thanksgiving  
comes from the heart.

—J.A. Shedd

Halleluiah! Meta Watts has given us the gift of playing the organ for the Christmas Eve Service. She is forming a choir to sing for the service, and perhaps before Christmas. Choir rehearsals begin Sunday, November 22, after worship. Come, make a joyful noise. For further info, contact Mete at 254-0915.

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## Bible Quiz

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Of what ethnicity was the one leper out of 10 healed who returned to thank Jesus?

- A. Syrophoenician
- B. Samaritan
- C. Syrian
- D. Judean



Answer: B (See Luke 17:16)

[image above: LEPER\_13172, LEPER\_13172C]

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## I'm grateful for

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In November 2014, many Facebook users accepted a gratitude challenge, posting what they were most thankful for. An anonymous analysis of the posts revealed the top answers: friends (not surprisingly, for a social-media site), family and health.

State-by-state results garnered the most interest, though. Arizona residents were most thankful for the rain, for example, while Hawaiians gave thanks for rainbows. People in the Northeast were grateful for living near the beach, while those in the Bible belt expressed gratitude for mercy, salvation and God's Word.

Top thankfulness topics in other states ranged from YouTube and country music to "upbringing" and in-laws. What are you most thankful for, and why? How has that answer changed throughout your life?

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## Experiencing gratitude

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To be grateful is to recognize the love of God in everything he has given us — and he has given us everything. Every breath we draw is a gift of his love. Every moment of existence is a grace, for it brings with it immense graces from him.

Gratitude, therefore, takes nothing for granted, is never unresponsive, is constantly awakening to new wonder and to praise of the goodness of God; for the grateful person knows that God is good not by hearsay but by experience, and that is what makes all the difference.

—Thomas Merton

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## In sync

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Need another reason to join the choir? Consider this: Neuroscientists in Sweden discovered that singers' heartbeats tend to synchronize, which leads to a sense of emotional calm and bonding.

"Joint action leads to joint perspectives," write the researchers. "In other words, singers may change their ego-centric perspective of the world to a 'we-perspective,' which causes them to perceive the world from the same point of view."

So start singing — and enjoy the many benefits and blessings of being part of a choir!



[image above: CHOIR\_13170, CHOIR\_13170C]

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## Thanksgiving Beatitudes

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Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire. If you did, what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don't know something, for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times. During those times you grow.

Be thankful for your limitations, because they give you opportunities for improvement.

Be thankful for each new challenge, because it will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes. They will teach you valuable lessons.

Be thankful when you're tired and weary, because it means you've made a difference.

—Author unknown

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## Some perspective

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We can be thankful to a friend for a few acres, or a little money; and yet for the freedom and command of the whole earth, and for the great benefits of our being, our life, health and reason, we look upon ourselves as under no obligation.

—Seneca the Elder (54 B.C.–39 A.D.)

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## From harm to good

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Squanto, the Native American who helped the Pilgrims, has a background remarkably similar to that of Joseph in Genesis.

Years before the Pilgrims arrived in America, English traders kidnapped Squanto and other Native Americans and sold them as slaves in Spain. Incredibly, Squanto was bought by monks, who set him free and taught him about Jesus. Later Squanto sailed to England, hoping for passage to America. But he had to wait years, so he worked as a stable hand and learned English. Finally able to travel home, he was devastated to find his tribe wiped out by smallpox.

A couple of years later, the Pilgrims came ashore, tired, sick and having lost many shipmates on the way. Implausibly, they met an English-speaking Native American, who shared his friendship and knowledge. Like Joseph going from his homeland to Egypt and from slave to expert leader, Squanto experienced God's leading — even when the path was littered with misfortune.

Using Squanto, God saved a whole community. What some intended for harm, God turned into good (see Genesis 50:20).

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## Guide my words

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Father, I face another day in which I will be called upon to use my words wisely and well. May they encourage those who listen. May they speak truth but also be said in love. May I pause before I pounce. May I be bold enough to speak when I would rather run away. Lord, I give my mouth to you today. May what comes forth be sweet and not bitter. May the journey each word takes from my mind to my heart to my lips be guided by your hand. May what comes out be life-giving rather than causing death. May my words make you proud and bring you glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.

—Karen Ehman, *Keep It Shut* (Zondervan)

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## A saintly party

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A priest told the children of his parish they could come trick-or-treating at the rectory, but only if they dressed up as a saint. So a group arrived on the eve of All Saints' Day: one dressed as St. Anthony, one as St. Joseph, another in a St. Clare costume — and then a child dressed as a dog.

"My boy," exclaimed the priest, "you were supposed to come as a saint!"

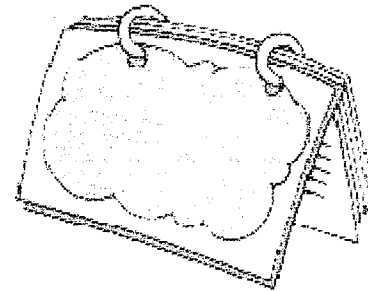
"I did!" replied the child. "I'm St. Bernard."

Please join with our sisters and brothers in Christ in the greater Cobleskill area for a Community Thanksgiving Service, November 22, 4:00 P.M., @ Zion Lutheran, 615 E.Main St., Cobleskill, N.Y.12043. A supper will follow.



- NOVEMBER**
- 3 Lee Empie
  - 8 Brandy Becker
  - 8 Shailene Van Aller
  - 16 Nathaniel Stuart
  - 23 Margaret Becker
  - 24 Christine Hibbard
  - 25 Tina Ward
  - 29 Lee Empie III

- NOVEMBER**
- 3 Dick & Joan Palmer
  - 11 Steve & Linda Di Cicco



**Prayers  
are the  
Stairs  
To  
GOD!!**

### The power of gratitude

Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow.

**grat·i·tude**  
[grat i tood]  
noun  
the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness

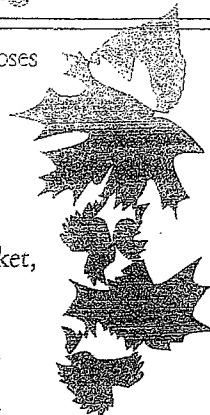
—Melody Beattie

### "Autumn Song"

Now's the time when children's noses  
All become as red as roses  
And the color of their faces  
Makes me think of orchard places  
Where the juicy apples grow,  
And tomatoes in a row.

Come then, find your ball and racket,  
Pop into your winter jacket,  
With the lovely bear-skin lining.  
While the sun is brightly shining,  
Let us run and play together  
And just love the autumn weather.

—Katherine Mansfield





### Food donations

Thank you to all who contribute donations of Food for the Food Pantry, held at the Baptist Church. We know, due to the economy, that there is an increase in requests. Some who have donated in the past find themselves in need of help. Please continue to give as you are able. Thank you for participating in this ministry of care. First Sunday of each month.



Office Phone #: 234-9811  
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Pacia's e-mail:  
[pastorpacia@Ircandsrc.org](mailto:pastorpacia@Ircandsrc.org)



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Phone: 518-234-2283  
E-mail [lola756@wildblue.net](mailto:lola756@wildblue.net)  
**Deadline: November 25th** Thanks to all for your information and contributions.

## MEMO BOARD

November  
1,8,15,22,29

- 1,8,15,22,29 LRC Worship 9:00 A.M.
- SRC Sunday School for all ages 9:30 A.M.
- SRC Worship 11:00 A.M.
- 1** **Daylight savings Time Ends**
- 4,11,18 Bible Study 9:00 A.M., Evening Study 7:00 P.M., both @ the Parsonage (white house across the park from LRC, next to JWS Automotive)  
**(No Studies November 25)**
- 5 LRC Consistory 5:15 P.M.
- 8 LRC Congregational Luncheon & Meeting 12:00 P.M. (Bring place settings and a dish to pass)
- 9 SRC RCWM 6:30 P.M. Hostess Ruth Mereness, Program - Ecclesiastes  
Finding Meaning in Life, Justice, Lesson 5  
Word - Justice
- 15** **Special Offering (SRC)**
- 15 SRC Congregational Luncheon and Meeting following Worship (Bring place settings and a dish to pass)
- 23** **December Reformer Deadline (note earlier date)**
- 25 {Thanksgiving Eve Service TBA}
- 29** **Collection for Living Gospel Ministry (LRC)**

December

- 5 LRC Christmas Bazaar 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.;  
Lunch 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. (Snow-date 12.12.15)
- 5 SRC Winter Fun Day 10:30 A.M.
- 6,13,20,27 LRC Worship 9:00 A.M.
- SRC Sunday School for all ages 9:30 A.M.
- SRC Worship 11:00 A.M.
- 6 LRC Breakfast 8:00 A.M.
- Elks' Memorial Service immediately following Worship (LRC)
- 6** **Collection for Living Gospel Ministry (LRC)**
- 12 MacFadden's Auction
- 12 SRC Christmas Program 6:00 P.M.

Join us.



December 5th  
9-3 P.M.

Lunch starts  
11:00 A.M.



Prayer Requests

Church

Lee Empie, Jr./cardiac surgery/shingles  
 June Slater/compression fracture  
 Muriel Homes/St. Johnsville Nursing Home  
 Helen Brown/Palatine Nursing Home/  
 declining  
 Elli Schubert/cardiac

Family/Loved Ones

Prayers of the family and loved ones of Dodi  
 Cechnicki  
 Margaret Springstead/cancer on face  
 Matt and Zawisza (Living Gospel Ministries)/  
 Health issues  
 Karissa Town/complicated broken arm  
 Sylvia-Ferrell Jones/lung cancer  
 Paul Kleinberger/bone cancer  
 Gregory Kleinberger/difficult time  
 Daniel Mereness (8 years old)/Stroke/in re-  
 hab/improving  
 Richard Nirschl/ testing/St. Johnsville Nurs-  
 ing Home  
 Patty Lowry/back spasms/strength  
 Isaac/Cat Scratch Fever  
 Sue Jones/Marchand Manor

**Updates on those on the prayer list are  
 needed, so that we know how best to  
 pray. Inactive requests will be taken  
 off the list.**

Those homebound/in nursing homes:

Helen Brown (LRC)  
 Palatine Nursing Home  
 154 Lafayette St.  
 Palatine Bridge, NY 13428

Helen Holmes (LRC)  
 153 Hansen Rd.  
 Cherry Valley, NY 13320

Muriel Holmes (LRC)  
 St. Johnsville Nursing Home  
 7 Timmerman Ave.  
 St. Johnsville, NY 13452

Community

Our sisters and brothers in Christ from the Dorloo,  
 Hyndsville, Mineral Springs and Warnerville United  
 Methodist Churches  
 All Teachers and students  
 Family situations impacting students' performances  
 in school  
 Grand-parents serving as guardians for their grand-  
 children  
 All families impacted by alcoholism and/or substance  
 abuse  
 Increased heroin addiction in our county  
 All families and marriages in crisis  
 All children suffering from physical, emotional and/  
 or sexual abuse  
 All God's children impacted by hunger and food inse-  
 curity  
 All those impacted by Irene, Lee and Sandy  
 Schoharie Area Long-Term Recovery (SALT)  
 Concerns about the economy, unemployment and  
 foreclosures  
 All soldiers (esp. those deployed) and their families

Nation and World

Crisis of refugees and migrants  
 Extremists' intolerance and violence  
 Persecuted Christians  
 Hatred and violence in the hearts of God's children  
 The global economy  
 All unrest in God's world  
 Local, state national and world leaders  
 Peacemaker groups  
 Government dysfunction  
 \*There is a group of pray-ers who receive prayer  
 requests. If you would like to be added to either list  
 (phone or e-mail), simply contact pastor pacia  
 (234.9811 or [PASTORPACIA@LRCANDSRC.ORG](mailto:PASTORPACIA@LRCANDSRC.ORG)).

Josephine King (SRC)  
 418 Ridge Rd.  
 Broadalbin, NY 12025

Richard Nirschl (SRC)  
 St. Johnsville Nursing Home  
 7 Timmerman Ave.  
 St. Johnsville, NY 13452

# Kid's Page

## Thankful Hearts

Make table decorations that serve as Thanksgiving conversation-starters.

### What you need:

- Paper and pencil
- Scissors
- Cloth or felt
- Needle and thread
- Sewing machine (optional)
- Fiber fill, cotton balls or rice
- Adult help

### What you do:

1. Cut out a heart pattern (any size) on paper. Allow 1/4" for a seam if you'll be using a sewing machine.
2. Cut out material hearts, placing pieces right sides out if sewing by hand and right sides together if using a machine.
3. For hand-sewing, use a running stitch or an overcast stitch. Leave an opening for stuffing.
4. With a machine, sew along a 1/4" seam, allowing a 1" opening so you can turn the heart inside out and insert stuffing. Trim close to seam but don't cut stitching.
5. Fill with stuffing. Sew the opening shut by hand.
6. Put a heart at each place setting. Before dinner, have guests pick theirs up and say why they have a thankful heart.

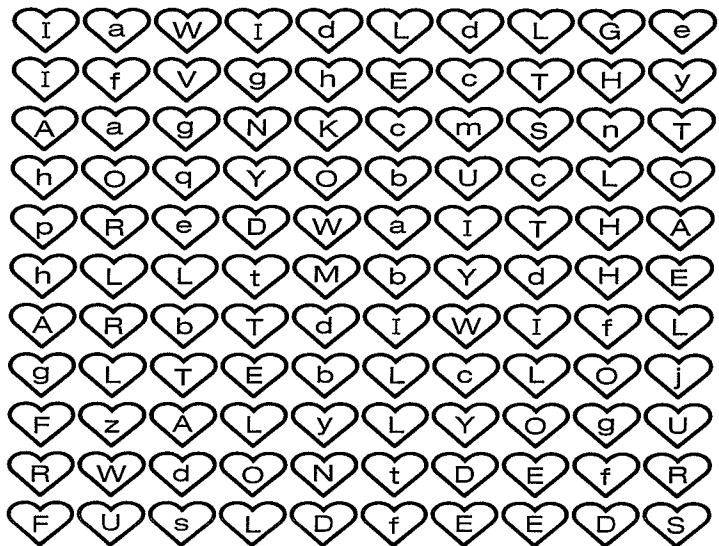


## With all my heart



This Thanksgiving — and every day — let's thank our heavenly Father for all he has done.

Directions: Write the capital letters in order on the lines below to complete Psalm 9:1, NIV.



“ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_,  
 \_\_\_\_\_;  
 \_\_\_\_\_”

PSALM 9:1, NIV

Answer: "I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds." Psalm 9:1, NIV