

# The Reformer

Lawyersville and Sharon Reformed Churches 188

**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 2017

## What's Inside:

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



**LRC - Church Service**  
9:00 A.M.

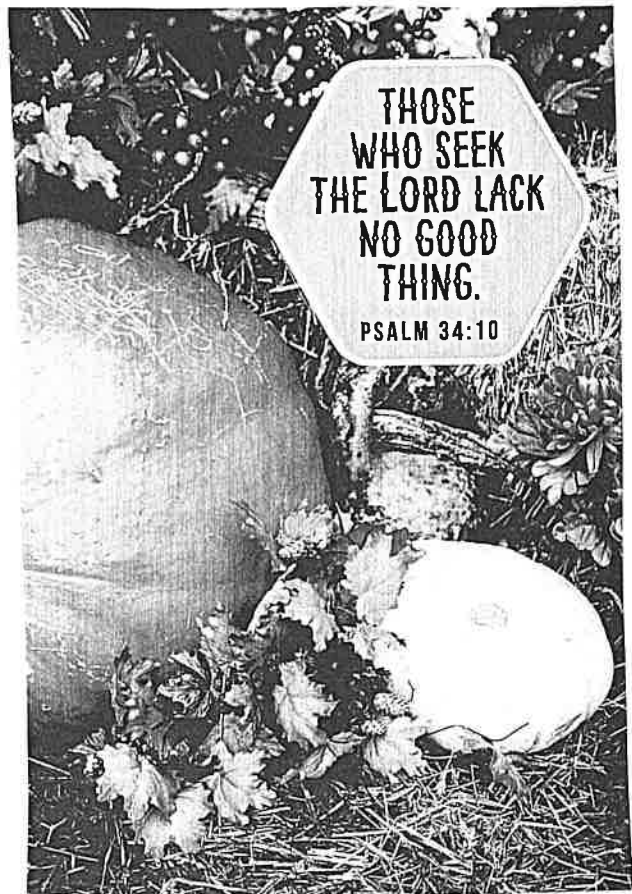
**SRC - Church Service**  
11:00 A.M.

**Sunday School**  
9:30 A.M.

**Rev. Paul Ferenczy**



NOVEMBER 2017



## Special dates

- All Saints' Day, November 1, 2017
- Daylight-Saving Time ends, November 5, 2017
- Veterans Day, November 11, 2017
- Thanksgiving Day, November 23, 2017
- Christ the King Sunday, November 26, 2017

## **Pastor Paul's Commandments for Lawyersville and Sharon Reformed Churches**

**Commandment One** - Thou shalt not define the church by what the Pastor will do but in what God is calling this congregation to do.

**Commandment Two** - Thou shalt accept with conviction and certainty that God has a clear and definite purpose for both congregations here and now.

**Commandment Three** - Thou shalt exemplify and share an eagerness and enthusiasm as you live the Christian life.

**Commandment Four** - Thou shalt recognize and acknowledge the influence, possibilities and future effects that children and will have upon the future of of our congregations.

**Commandment Five** - Thou shalt not live as if church membership is attendance at worship alone, but recognize that prayer, bible study, fellowship, service, stewardship and worship are all part of being a follower of Christ.

**Commandment Six** - Thou shalt make an assessment of every member determining their God-given talents and skills, and then enable every member to discover their gifts and affording opportunities to use them.

**Commandment Seven** - Thou shalt make it a priority to get to know each other as brothers and sisters in Christ remembering that when you have something to say about another member, you are talking about family.

**Commandment Eight** - Thou shalt refrain from expressing defeatist attitudes and doubts about your faith family.

**Commandment Nine** - Thou shalt pray for one another, worship God with each other and nurture one another in faith, thanking God for each other and every now and then thanking each other for all that they do for you.

**Commandment Ten** - Thou shalt communicate and communicate and communicate



Prayer Requests

Church

George Watts/hospital/med  
Treatment

Kathy Venette/health issues

Tina Ward/foort surgery

Jean Wormuth/home bond

Muriel Homes/St. Johnsville Nursing  
Home

Jan Liberti/new chemo treatments

Joe King/nursing home

Family/Loved Ones

Carol Coltran/aneurysm/improving

Marcy Holmes/hernia surgery

Margaret Springstead/health issues

Linda Slater/cancer surgery

Nadine/acute care unit

Debbie/cancer recovery/Helen

Brown's daughter/doing a lot better

Rachel/good health results

Charlotte/cancer (Meta's friend)

Joe Garufi/health issues/tests

Hal Buddle/long term health issues

Those homebound/in nursing homes:

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

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

Josephine King (SRC)  
c/o Wilkison Nursing Home  
Amsterdam, N.Y. 12010

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

Community

All Teachers and students

Family situations impacting students' performances  
in school

**Children helping parents relocate and adjust to  
new surroundings**

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  
insecurity

All soldiers (esp. those deployed) and their families

Farmers struggling with weather issues

Nation and World

**All those affected by all the hurricanes**

Crisis of refugees and migrants

Extremists' intolerance and violence

Persecuted Christians

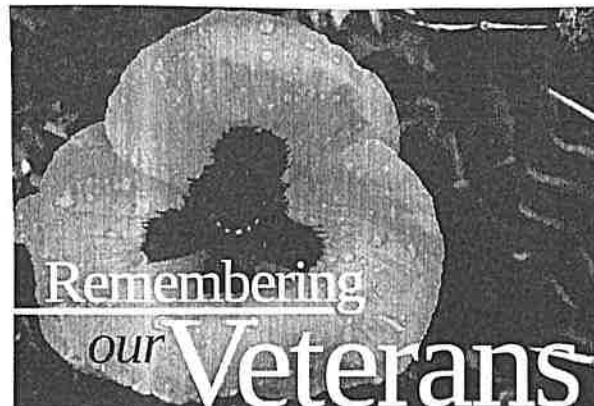
The global economy

All unrest in God's world

**Local, state national and world leaders**

Peacemaker groups

**Please let me know of any updates or  
additions so we can direct our prayers  
to them.**





# NOVEMBER

## BIRTHDAYS



# NOVEMBER

## ANNIVERSARIES

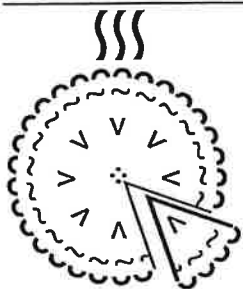
### NOVEMBER

**3 Lee Empie**  
**16 Nathaniel Shuart**  
**23 Margaret Becker**  
**24 Christine Hibbard**  
**25 Tina Ward**  
**29 Lee Empie III**

### NOVEMBER

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

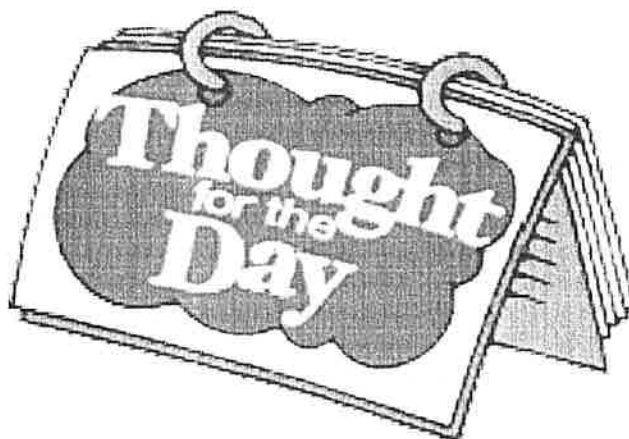
### "Time to Thank, Time to Share"



Thanksgiving is a time to share. A roasted turkey stuffed with care, potatoes, yams and buttered rolls are passed around in festive bowls. But first we thank our God above and share with others his great love. The dish served last is always best — a slice of pie for every guest.

—MaryAnn Sundby

- "No one has ever become poor from giving."  
—Anne Frank
- "Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."  
—Henry Ford
- "An optimist is a person who starts a new diet on Thanksgiving Day."  
—Irv Kupcinet



**IT'S**  
**NOT WHAT**  
**YOU**  
**LOOK AT**  
**THAT MATTERS,**  
**IT'S**  
**WHAT YOU**  
**SEE**

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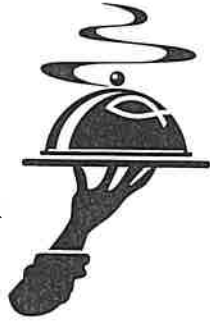
## Christ our feast

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Christ is not only a remedy for your weariness and trouble, but he will give you an abundance of the contrary, joy and delight. They who come to Christ do not only come to a resting place after they have been wandering in a wilderness, but they come to a banqueting house where they may rest, and where they may feast. They may cease from their former troubles and toils, and they may enter upon a course of delights and spiritual joys.

—Jonathan Edwards



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## A wake-up call

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The good God permits such small evils to befall us merely in order to arouse us snorers from our deep sleep and to make us recognize, on the other hand, the incomparable and innumerable benefits we still have. ...

With [our misfortunes] God gives us a light by which we may see and understand his goodness and kindness in countless other ways. Then we conclude that such small misfortunes are barely a drop of water on a big fire or a little spark in the ocean. Then we understand and love the words: "O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!"

—Martin Luther

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## Counting blessings

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Numbered lists grab our attention. In the checkout aisle or on the internet, we gravitate toward headings such as "10 ways to lose weight by summer!" or "3 simple steps to aching that test!"

Ancient Jewish sages urged people to count out and speak at least 100 statements of gratitude each day. What would happen if we intentionally listed 100 blessings daily? What if the first blessing we counted was simply the day itself? "Thank you, God, for this brand new day!" "Bless my use of this day, Lord, that I might glorify you."

Scripture encourages such awareness and promises an additional blessing in return: "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (Psalm 90:12, NIV).

—Heidi Mann

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## Autumn wardrobe

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The leaves fall, the wind blows and the farm country slowly changes from the summer cottons into its winter wools.

—Henry Beston

# Puzzle!

This matching challenge involves words from stories in John's gospel. Draw lines to connect the pairs that *best* belong together.

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|          |                |
|----------|----------------|
| ANDREW   | WINE           |
| DOVE     | SIMON PETER    |
| ELIJAH   | JESUS          |
| JOHN     | CANA           |
| LIGHT    | MONEY CHANGERS |
| PHARISEE | NATHANAEAL     |
| PHILIP   | NICODEMUS      |
| RABBI    | DARKNESS       |
| TEMPLE   | TEACHER        |
| WATER    | THE BAPTIST    |
| WEDDING  | PROPHET        |
| WORD     | SPIRIT         |

Answers: Andrew/Simon Peter; dove/dove/Spirit; Elijah/prophet; John/the Baptist; light/darkness; Pharisee/Nicodemus; Philip/Nathanael; Rabbi/Teacher; temple/money changers; water/wine; wedding/Cana; Word/Spirit

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## Everyday saints

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Everyday things, relationships with other people, daily work, love of our family — all these may breed saints.

Jesus of Nazareth taught us to live every hour of the day as saints. Every hour of the day is useful and may lead to divine inspiration, the will of the Father, the prayer of contemplation — holiness. Every hour of the day is holy. What matters is to live it as Jesus taught us.

And for this, one does not have to shut oneself in a monastery or fix strange and inhumane [regimens] for one's life. It is enough to accept the realities of life. Work is one of these realities; motherhood, the rearing of children, family life with all its obligations are others.

—Carlo Carretto, *Letters From the Desert*

### **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.



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**Deadline: November 22nd** Thanks to all for your information and contribu-

## **MEMO BOARD**

**November**  
**5,12,19,26**

**5 & 19**  
**12**

**LRC Worship Service @ 9:00 A.M.**  
**SRC Sunday School @ 9:30 A.M.**  
**SRC Worship Service @ 11:00 A.M.**  
**LRC Christmas Collaboration Collections**  
**10:00 A.M. LRC Congregational Brunch**  
**All members urged to attend!!**

**Reminder: Anyone who wants offering envelopes for 2018 please speak to Chris or Lola. Thank You**

**Reminder: Day Light Savings Time changes Sunday, November 5th. Turn clocks BACK 1 hour.**

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### **Re-e-“value”-ation**

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I was brought up in a Christian environment where, because God had to be given pre-eminence, nothing else was allowed to be important. I have broken through to the position that because God exists, everything has significance.

—Evangeline Paterson





In memory of Wilbur Ivins, we, the consistory, decided to give a loving donation to a man that touched so many. We are honored to be able to aide in the completion of setting the headstone in Wil's memory. Please see the photos attached of the stone. Praise God !

