



STROMSBURG COV NEWS

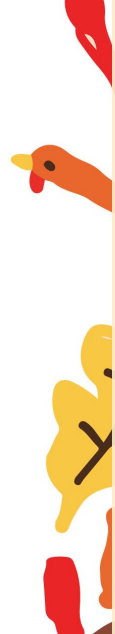
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A WORD FROM PASTOR CRAIG



It was on a Facebook post, the reminder that on the day we moved our clocks forward this year, it was on a night with a full moon and shortly thereafter COVID-19 hit with a vengeance. And the hope was that on the aftermath of Halloween (on a Saturday, also with a full moon scheduled), our clocks would move forward here in the Midwest one hour and we'd recalibrate life back to the way it was before our little illness pandemic and all would be well again.

Mary and I got a laugh over this post, but, sadly, I don't think the clock changing at 2 a.m. on November 1 is going to cause that much change. But it DID get me thinking about the lore of Halloween and the celebration we have in the Christian year of All Saints Day, which begins the month of November and happens to land on a Sunday.

The basic lore of Halloween (or All Hallows Eve) is that for one night, the evil forces of the world get free reign and the world is chaos. But the next day, All Saints Day, the good takes back the world and all is well. And I think the idea of this has a scriptural basis – at least in my mind – as we're often reminded in scripture of the dark forces at work in this world and that we (as Christ followers) are 'the light of the world,' that Jesus said that we are to **'let our lights shine before all, that they may see our good works and praise our Father in heaven.'** (Matthew 5:16) The Apostle Paul discussed this struggle in Ephesians 6:12, telling the church in Ephesus, **"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in heavenly places."**

Paul then put it differently to a fledgling church in Corinth, stating in 2 Corinthians 4:4, **"The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."** In other words, this battle between the light and dark is real – the dark forces of Satan keeping the gospel from people and the forces of God/good are the lights illuminating the gospel message, by word and deed.

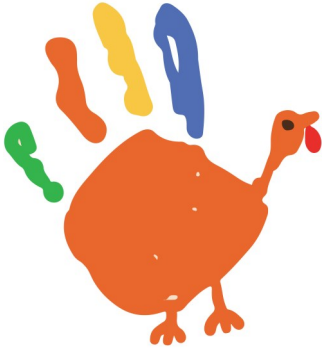
And so All Saints Day takes on special significance for me, particularly now. One saint in our extended family, Mary's mom, OraLee Kirkham, passed away into glory just two months ago. She lit the way for a number of people to find Jesus – as a missionary teacher, Bible study leader, matriarch of the family, to name three ways – and knowing that she and my mother Rhea Maurer (who died four Novembers ago) are in heaven battling together for the light is a comforting thought, even though having her here on earth would be helpful to Mary and I.

But there are others I would consider saints in my spiritual development and All Saints Day always is a marker to keep them in my mind's eye too. Bud and Hazel Carlson were family friends from church whose model of marriage and faith impacts my life. Russ Zetterlund was church chair when I served as a youth pastor at College Center Covenant Church in San Diego. His kind doctoring, patient suffering with cancer, and genuine care for me was noticed. An 11-year old girl

Continued on Page 2



STRENGTHEN FAITH, CULTIVATE COMMUNITY, CARE FOR NEIGHBORS



A WORD... — CONTINUED

named Natalie Johnson died when I was one year into my ministry in Paxton, IL; she was a girl with natural leadership skills and a heart for Jesus and a childlike faith that possessed more wisdom than most adults. Earlier this year, I lost two saints from my hometown, both devout Catholics whose sons I was friends with, male role models whose encouragement of my athletic endeavors and community-minded nature will never be forgotten.

Who are those saints that have guided your life? How are their legacies affecting what you are currently doing today as you live out your faith? And, for those of you perhaps struggling with the emotional ups and downs of living during these times, how can you re-frame things so that you can more fully appreciate that how you live today may be someone's example to emulate tomorrow?

IN CHRIST,

Pastor Craig

NEWS FROM THE PEWS



Grief Share: A 13-week grief support group that offers help and encouragement after the death of a loved one began on Monday, October 19. If you are interested in attending it is not too late. It is on Mondays at 6:30 pm at Osceola United Methodist Church, 121 N. State Street, Osceola. If you are interested in finding out more please call 402-747-2671 or talk to Jan Randell. There is also a brochure explaining more on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.



Thank you from the Pinleys: Thank you so much, church family, for all of the ways you have loved on us the past few months. We appreciate all of the cards and memorials we received after losing my mom, the food brought and kind words and most of all, the prayers. Thank you for the errands run and the groceries and food brought when we were sick. We appreciate you so much and are so grateful to God for you.



Cindy Orsborn	Nov 1	Wesley Larson	Nov 13
Austyn Ostrom	Nov 2	Jan Randell	Nov 21
Dan Nielsen	Nov 5	Herb Hanson	Nov 27
Nikki Rystrom	Nov 8	Ken Everingham	Nov 28
Johanna Nielsen	Nov 11	Joyce Lucas	Nov 29
Braylyn Rystrom	Nov 11	Bob Orsborn	Nov 29
Lori Willhoft	Nov 11	Nichole Patrick	Nov 30



Craig & Mary Pinley Nov 18

NOVEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER



Sunday, Nov 1: All Saints Day
Worship with Communion, 10:30 am



Sunday, Nov 15: Lead Team Meeting, 6:30 pm



Thursday, Nov 19: Rescue Mission Meal, 5:30 pm

Sunday, Nov 22: Talk Back Sunday, right after worship.



Thursday, Nov 26: Thanksgiving Day



FINANCIAL UPDATE:

2020 Budget Summary (1/1/20 through 9/30/20)

Needed Income: \$95,657.97
Actual Income: \$69,925.79
Difference: **\$25,732.18**

Budgeted Exp: \$95,657.97
Actual Exp: \$86,051.95
Difference: **\$ 9,606.02**

ONLINE GIVING: To make a one-time or scheduled recurring gift to our church, please visit:
www.stromsburgcov.org and click on ONLINE GIVING.



MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS:

Lead Team:
Dennis Nuttelman
402-366-9803

Worship Ministry Team:
Sue Rosenbaum
402-560-6759

Fellowship & Hospitality:
Pat Everingham
402-764-0345

Christian Formation:
Judy Hanson
402-764-6681

Outreach:
Dave Schram—402-710-8858
Shayla Hier—402-764-0261

Properties:
Kent Erickson
402-765-6721

Prayer Concerns? Please contact Connie Nuttelman to have a request go out on the prayer chain or to be included in the bulletin. Connie's number is 402-366-9045 or you can send an email to prayerchain@stromsburgcov.org.



MINISTRY PARTNERS

Sunday, Nov 1

Coffee: Pat Everingham

Scripture: Bob Orsborn

Worship Team: Dennis & Connie Nuttelman, Mary Pinley, Sue Rosenbaum

Audio/Visual: Dale Hennessy, Kohen Hier

Sunday, Nov 8

Coffee: Johanna Nielsen

Scripture: Mary Wadell

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Sue Rosenbaum

Audio/Visual: Dale & James Hennessy

Sunday, Nov 15

Coffee: TBD

Scripture: Dianne Nielsen

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Sue Rosenbaum

Audio/Visual: Dale Hennessy; Kohen Hier

Thursday, Nov 19—Rescue Mission Meal—Shayla Hier & Youth

Sunday, Nov 22

Coffee: TBD

Scripture: Neeli Noyd

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Dianne Nielsen, Sue Rosenbaum

Audio/Visual: Dale & James Hennessy

Sunday, Nov 29

Coffee: The Hiers

Scripture: Julie Hennessy

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Neeli Noyd, Sue Rosenbaum

Audio/Visual: Dale Hennessy, Kohen Hier





NOVEMBER

2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Fall Back 1 8:30—Worship Team 9:30—Sunday School 10:30—Worship with Communion 11:45—Fellowship	2 All Saints Day	3 7:00 pm—BSF Election Day	4	5 9:30 am—BSF (Free Church)	6	7
8 8:30—Worship Team 9:30—Sunday School 10:30—Worship 11:45—Fellowship	9	10 7:00 pm—BSF	11	12 9:30 am—BSF (Free Church)	13	14
15 8:30—Worship Team 9:30—Sunday School 10:30—Worship 11:45—Fellowship 6:30—Lead Team Mtg	16	17 7:00 pm—BSF	18	19 9:30 BSF 5:30 Rescue Mission Meal SERVING MEALS TO THE HOMELESS	20	21
22 8:30—Worship Team 9:30—Sunday School 10:30—Worship 11:45—Talk Back Sunday Talk Back Sunday	23	24 No BSF this week	25	27 HAPPY Thanksgiving GIVING DAY	28	 Give Thanks
29 8:30—Worship Team 9:30—Sunday School 10:30—Worship 11:45—Fellowship	30					