



Footsteps to Faith



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1-4 Messages from Pastor Pam
- 4-5 Church Messages
- 6 Looking Forward
- 7 Sister Church Messages

NOVEMBER 2018

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR PAM

To everything there is a season.

I really like the scripture from Ecclesiastes 3 that reminds us that life has a rhythm; creation has timing. God does everything with a purpose and reason. The Christian church also has a timing that we call the liturgical calendar which guides us through learning about Christ's life and ministry.

November is kind of a transition month in the liturgical calendar. Beginning with All Saints Sunday on November 4 and ending with Christ the King Sunday on November 25, November is the month we look back in remembrance of the saints, but also look forward as we await Christ's coming again, expressed in the season of Advent.

The Christian liturgical calendar begins with the first Sunday of Advent, then Christmas and Christmastide, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Eastertide, and Pentecost. Within each season, specific days have particular significance to help us remember meanings and stories from the Bible and the life of Christ. Each season, and sometimes specific days, have different colors related to how the worship space is prepared, again, providing a visual cue that there is a unique emphasis for this time of the year or this day. While each church has their own traditions, the meaning of liturgical seasons is based in scripture and thousands of years of church history.

On All Saints Sunday, at each worship service, we recall the names of those who have left this earthly existence since November 1, 2017. God is our Alpha and Omega, the beginning and end. It's a humbling reminder. At the end of the month, we place our confidence in Christ our King, Christ, the high priest who sacrificed for us all and who reigns forever. Symbolically, on the afternoon of this last day of the spiritual year, I burn the palms which were dried from the previous year's Lent and Easter celebrations. The old is gone and we are ready to begin our Christian New Year with Advent and the coming of our Savior.

The seasons of the Christian year are intentional and purposeful ways to teach our children, and to help us connect deeply to the lessons of our faith. Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, the Alpha and Omega, the Almighty.

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR PAM (Continued)

Each day of the week, use this simple prayer starter as part of your conversation with God. Copies of these prayers are distributed on the last Sunday of each month in the bulletin; extra copies are available to place in different locations to help us remember to pray.



PRAYERS FOR NOVEMBER

Monday: All around I see reasons to be thankful, Creator God. As the trees release their leaves, thank You for reminding me to also release the things I don't need anymore: guilt, pain, grief, anger, selfishness, all the things that weigh me down and keep me from opening myself to You.

Tuesday: Holy Spirit come to me. Fill me with joy to overflowing. I am complete when I rely on You. Lead me from falsehood to truth, from despair to hope, from fear to trust, from hate to love, from war to peace. Let that peace fill our world, beginning with each person relying on You.

Wednesday: I live in such bounty, such rich and plentiful harvest. Not just from the land, but that harvest is everywhere. Not just from my country, but I am blessed to enjoy so many freedoms. You have placed me here and given me the opportunity to share your love with others who wait for the harvest that is found in relationship with the Savior.

Thursday: Christ, You are the light in my darkness, the staff of support in my weakness, the rock of stability in the weariness of my life. Christ, Your words inspire me with holy wisdom.

Friday: My Lord and God. Have I wronged one of your children? Have I failed to live as Christ showed us we should live? I have lost my temper or thought something that was not encouraging about another person. Align my mind, my heart, my words, my actions to praise you always and to uplift and encourage others.

Saturday: Lord, please bless those unfortunate in our community who do not know you. Give me words to testify to your goodness and be the voice of the Son to them. Help me show Your kindness and raise up the spirit of someone else who is in pain.

Sunday: On the seventh day, God completed His work that He had done and He rested. God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it. Blessed are You, Lord, our God, Sovereign of the universe.

Anytime throughout the day:

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

You are my refuge and my strength.

I am one child of God, related to all other children.

Pastor Pam's Calendar for November

November 5	1 p.m. Faith SPRC
November 6	1 p.m. Women of Faith at Mary Forde's
November 7	6:30 p.m. Faith Ad Board
November 10	10 a.m. Crafters at Nelsons (Retreat-New Hope)
November 11	Baptism at New Hope
November 12	10 a.m. New Hope Board
November 14	5 p.m. New Hope/Retreat SPRC
	6:30 p.m. Retreat Board
	6:30 p.m. Westby Board
November 28	10 a.m. Women of Faith Cookie Bake

Pastor Pam's Weekly Office times:

Monday-Thursday 8:30-4:30

Friday Sabbath

Saturday by appointment.

Pastor is often away from the office for visitation or meetings. Please call the parsonage 608-648-2528 and leave a message or contact by cell phone (text or call) 989-666-1277.

Remembering the Saints

Please tell Pastor Pam about any church members who passed in the last year so we can honor them in our service on All Saints Day. We will also have the opportunity to remember family and friends who have gone before us but who were not members of our church family.

Substitute Musicians

Every now and then a church has a need for another person to assist with music leadership during worship when the regular musicians are on vacation. If you have a musical talent such as keyboard or guitar, and a willingness to step in from time to time, please let Pastor Pam know. You may be asked to serve at a different church, if you are willing. Thank You

MESSAGES FROM PASTOR PAM (Continued)

Thank you to all who took care of Tutti while Pastor was away during September and October. She is a positively spoiled parish cat. And thank you also for your gracious welcome to Tutti on those times she wanders into worship or meetings at New Hope. All creation praises the Lord.

Thank you to the Retreat and New Hope family for your support of the Fuhrman family in the service for Glen. The luncheon and the love of the church family wrapped the Furhmans in peace.

Charge Conference Followup

There are a few remaining reports to be completed following the charge conference and a few remaining committee positions open at each church. If you would like to serve, please talk to the ad board chair or to Pastor about how you can be involved.

CHURCH MESSAGES

If you receive your newsletter by snail mail, please contact Jean at 608-606-4582 or hassjean@hotmail.com. Beginning January 2019 we are hoping to “go green” and email as many of our newsletters as possible. If you have email and are not currently receiving your newsletter by email, please send Jean your email address. If you do not have email and wish to continue to receive our newsletter, let Jean know. If she does not hear from you, she will assume you no longer wish to receive our publication. P.S. If you are on our email list and wish to be removed, also let Jean know. THANKS!

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS

Christmas is just around the corner. Women of faith will be providing food baskets to area families in need and we anticipate a larger than normal need this year. We ask that you help as much as you can. There will be a donation jar from November 4 to December 2 at church or if you prefer you may send your donation to Jean Hass at 205 Highland St., Westby WI 54667. WOF will also collect donations at the LaFarge Craft Show and the WOF Christmas party. Marla Lavold will be taking names of families that you feel need a basket. She will need the name of the family, address, phone number and how many adults and children are in the home. We will be shopping, packing and delivering baskets on December 14.

CHURCH MESSAGES (Continued)

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

November 12 Ron Willis
November 13 Zenneth Clark
November 26 Orpha Hughes
November 27 Florence Wilkison



Craft Show in LaFarge December 1

Women of faith will have tables at the Craft Show at LaFarge High School on December 1 starting at 9:00 AM. We will have crafts and baked goods, featuring hand decorated sugar cookies that we will create on Wednesday, November 28th at Faith starting at 10:00 AM. We can use extra help baking and decorating the cookies and appreciate any additional donations for the event! We also need help tending tables at the craft show. If you are available to help us, please let Jean or Bev know. The proceeds will be used to help pay for our Christmas food baskets.

Women of faith Christmas Celebration

WOF will hold their annual Christmas celebration at Borgen's in Westby on Tuesday, December 4 at 1:00 p.m. All Driftless Ministries women (and men) are invited to attend. We order from the menu and everyone pays for their own meal. We do not exchange gifts, but instead suggest that everyone donate \$10 toward the Christmas baskets we distribute before Christmas. Please call Sheri Ballard at 608-632-9007 or Marla Lavold at 608-689-2590 to let us know you are coming. It is a fun fellowship time and we hope you will join us.



LOOKING FORWARD....

Thursday, November 1	6:30 PM	Faith Board Meeting
Sunday, November 4		Daylight Savings Time Ends (Fall back)
Tuesday, November 6	1:00 PM	Women of Faith meet at Mary Forde's home
Thursday, November 22		HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
Wednesday, November 28	10:00 AM	WOF bake & decorate cookies to sell at the LaFarge craft show on Dec. 1st
Saturday, December 1	9:00-3:00	WOF at LaFarge craft show
Saturday, December 1	9:00-12:00 noon	Cookie Walk at Westby UMC
Tuesday, December 4	1:00 PM	WOF Christmas lunch/party at Borgen's Everyone welcome
Friday, December 14	1:00 @ church	Shop, pack and deliver Christmas food baskets to families in need



SISTER CHURCH MESSAGES



Westby UMC will hold their annual Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 1 from 9:00 AM until 12:00 noon. Cookies will sell for \$6 per pound. Other baked goods will be available. Proceeds benefit the Youth and Outreach Ministries.

Online Study for November – Contagious: The Generous Gospel

Come and join us for a 28-day study to find out what would happen if we, the Church, started to respond to God's generosity and began living it out. What would happen if we became extravagant in our generosity? Would people around take notice? Come and explore what living generously looks like as it pertains to various aspects of our lives and discover how God can use generosity to change lives.

Go to <https://bible.com/p/8253718/86f9ac1e030af53d49c28276870c9698> to sign up for this month's online study session. The session starts on Nov. 3 and goes through Nov. 30.

