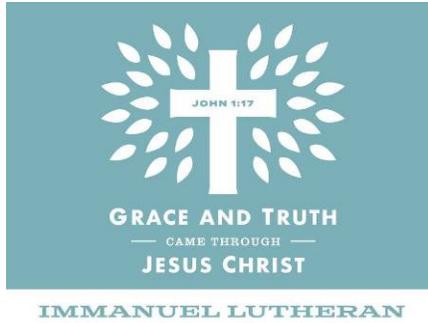


**The Messenger**  
**November 4, 2018**  
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News for and through Immanuel  
Lutheran Church & Student Center  
(LCMS), Macomb, IL.



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Today's Sunday School Lesson: **"Peter & Cornelius" Acts 10**

When it comes to stewardship, a favorite Bible verse is the account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4). It's a moving account. Our Lord praises the seemingly small gift of two copper coins given by a poor widow above the abundance of gifts given by the rich, saying, **"Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them"** (Luke 21:3).

And that is usually where we stop. But the text goes on. **"For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on"** (Luke 21:4).

"She ... put in all she had to live on." She gave everything. She held nothing back. She *trusted* that the Lord who made her and all creatures, who gave her everything she had, who redeemed her from her own sin, from death, and the power of the devil, who called her by the Gospel and enlightened her with His gifts of Word and Sacrament, would continue to do this. He would provide her with all that she needed for this body and life because that is the character of the God she had. But this is not why we give small gifts. Her gift, though it appeared small, was actually large. When we are tempted to give small gifts it is precisely because we want them to be small! We don't trust the Lord to provide for us.

We give small gifts because we lack faith in the One who created us, redeemed us, sanctifies and keeps us in the one true faith. We give small gifts because we doubt that God will really give us what we need and desire. We give small gifts because we are not content with what God has already given.

We are not slaves, children of the slave woman, under the Old Covenant (Gal. 4). *We are adopted sons of the free woman. And since we are sons, we are also heirs. And heirs receive the inheritance.* For everything is already ours in Christ. And thus, moved by the willing spirit of adoption, we do the will of God in financial matters far beyond all that done by those under the Old Covenant who were forced by legal demands.

So what have you decided to give? How do I decide what to give? **Let the Scriptures be your guide.**

- We are to give proportionally to what we have received from God's giving to us (Luke 12:48; 1 Cor. 16:1-2, 2 Cor. 8:12). But you have not been set free to give nothing. See that you excel in the grace of giving (2 Cor. 8:7).
- We are not free to live selfishly outside the Gospel, without regard for God who gives us all good gifts, without generosity for our neighbor who needs us and our gifts, without supporting the community of faith in which we live, without care for our spiritual fathers and those who teach and help raise our children in the faith, without resources for the poor and needy – in short, we are not free to live unto ourselves, hoarding what God has given us only for us.
- For love is the fulfillment of the law (Romans 13:10). And the sum of the law is this: Love God and love your neighbor (Matt. 22:34-40). **We love because He first loved us.** We give because He has given to us.



Luther once said, "Possessions belong in your hands, not in your heart" (LW 14:240). There is a reason your 10 fingers spread apart. With your hands you catch God's gifts for what you need and let the rest fall through your fingers to your neighbors – your family, your friends, your community, your church.

**"And God is able to make all grace abound to you,** so that having all contentment in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work." *2 Corinthians 9:8*

*How are our neighbors? Well, our neighbors at Prairieview Homes on the East side of Macomb are appreciative of the annual Thanksgiving Dinner we enjoy with them in the week prior to Thanksgiving. For the past five years we have partnered with the members of St. George's Anglican Church to provide and enjoy a free dinner in the Prairieview Community Center. At the time of the printing of the green sheet we were waiting for final word from the Housing Authority office that we can hold the dinner on November 14 at 5:00pm. Please volunteer! St. George's does the cooking -- we supply the funding through a Thrivent Action Team Grant. It's a cooperative effort. Setup begins at 3:30pm. Dinner is served at 5:00pm, and the cleanup is done by 6:30pm. It's a great evening. Please help!*



We had a wonderful evening for our Annual Trunk-r-treat. **Thanks for all the help!** We had over 150 children come get Arch Books, evangelism booklets, and candy.

**Student Center Anniversary Service: 2:00pm Sunday, March 31, 2019. Soli Deo Gloria!**

**Honey Sunday** Do some early Christmas shopping at church. On November 4, 11, and 18 place your order for Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch honey. Have the honey sent directly to you or to any recipient; simply provide the addresses to which you would like the bottles sent. We collect \$7-\$10 per bottle and all the money goes to the Dakota Ranch. They make great "stocking stuffers" or just a special treat!



**7:30am Sundays on WGNX 96.7 FM** ... sponsored by Immanuel! **November 11 "What is Heaven?"**  
 Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler based on John 17:1-5 **November 18 "Once And For All"**  
 Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook shares God's message of forgiveness--"In Jesus, our Great High Priest, we have found the perfect and permanent solution to our separation and sin." (Hebrews 10:11-19)



***Sunday November 11 we'll worship together in our Joint Service (10:00am at the Student Center Chapel)!***

**ONE Service that day. Remember ... and bring a friend!**

"How can we remain silent when life itself is in question? Standing firm and trusting in Jesus Christ, the Lord and Savior of life, and being willing to use our voices to speak up and share the truth about the value of human life are so very important as the world crumbles around us." *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life Regional Director of Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*



**Blaster/Nerf Night** -- our college students are organizing a unique fundraiser: a game night with nerf blasters. Each player will pay a fee to come play, and all proceeds will be donated to a charity. Elliot is in charge and has a great vision for the event. In fact, the plan is to have this kind of a fundraiser numerous times. The blasters and ammo have all been purchased and will remain property of LSF. Watch for more details, folks -- and have fun with a purpose! Supported by a Thrivent Action Team grant! Elliot thinks the first one will take place this Saturday, November 10. We'll keep you posted.

**Holiday Fundraiser on November 10 Benefitting Loaves & Fishes**  
 Sandy and Frank Kessler will be sponsoring a Holiday Expo Fundraiser on Saturday, November 10, from 2 to 4 pm at the Wesley Village Community Center. All retail profit and proceeds from the silent auction will be donated to Loaves & Fishes. They have acquired a lot of items from area merchants to be sold by silent auction. Last year the food pantry received over \$3000 from the event.

**Chili Supper!** Boy Scout Troop 315 is hosting its annual Chili Supper this Tuesday, November 6, from 4:30-6:30pm at Wesley Methodist Church. It's all you can eat, and it's fun, with all proceeds supporting a fine Troop.

**THE LORD WILLING, THIS WEEK THROUGH IMMANUEL ... IN THE NAME OF JESUS**

<b>Sunday, November 4</b>	LWML (Standards) 7:00 PM	<b>Wednesday, November 7</b>	LWML (Standards) 7:00 PM
Lutheran Hour (96.7 FM) 7:30 AM	Student Dinner (C) 6:30 PM	Student Bible Study (SC) 7:30 PM	
Worship Service (C) 8:30 AM			
Bible Class (C) 9:45 AM			
Worship Service (SC) 11:00 AM			
<b>Monday, November 5</b>		<b>Sunday, November 11</b>	Lutheran Hour (96.7 FM) 7:30 AM
Church Council (SC) 7:00 PM		**Worship Service (SC) 10:00 AM**	
<b>Tuesday, November 6</b>			SC=Student Center (303 N Clay) C=Church (906 E Grant)
College FFA (SC) 6:30 PM			

*Those serving on November 11: Greeters: Chris & Julia Frankhauser; Ushers: Counters: Michelle Wemndt & Diny Burnell; Altar Guild: Linda Standard & Mary Wolfmeyer; Altar Flowers: Ken & Amy Quinn*

Lutheran Women's Missionary League will meet this Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at Linda Standard's house, 232 S. College, at 7:00. Karen Burtch will lead the Bible Study.

Voters Assembly: Sunday, November 18, 2018. 9:45am in the Church Fellowship Hall. We will approve the 2019 Budget for the Lord's Work among us.

November 18 & 25 we will hold one Service while WIU isn't in session. Plan to worship at 8:30am at the CHURCH those Sundays!

Thanks, everyone, for all the help and support of our two Outreach Events in October. The Weiner Roast on October 19th was very well attended. It was estimated that between 65-75 people were in attendance. I estimate that at least half were students or non-member neighbors and friends. Great food, great fellowship, a great time was had by all! The Trunk-R-Treat event on October 31 was also very well attended by adorable trick or treaters and their families. We distributed 150 Christmas Arch books and 100 "Do you Know Who Jesus Is?" booklets as well as a "ton" of candy!. It was great to see how pleased the children (and their parents!) were to receive the books. A special thank you to the students who helped with Trunk-R-Treat. It would have been difficult without your help!