

November



Shepherd of the Pines Lutheran Church

1950 125th Street NW

Rice, MN 56367

Phone: 393-4295

Email: office@sotpministries.com

Church Website: sotpministries.com

2023

Dear friends in Christ,

Have you ever heard of an “acrostic poem”? It’s when the first letter of each new line in the poem either spells out a word, message, or the alphabet. In the book of Psalm there are several acrostic poems. For example, Psalm 119 is organized into 22 sections, one section for each letter of the Hebrew alphabet. All together there are nine of the Psalms which are acrostic poems. There’s even an acrostic in the book of Proverbs. The 22 verses in chapter 31 (verses 10-31) which describe the virtuous woman, begin respectively with the letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

So, why all this talk about acrostic poems and sections of the Scripture? It’s to suggest to you a possible way to prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving.

Here’s my thought. Psalm 136, while it is not an acrostic poem, does have some resemblance to being one. The first three verses each begin with “Give thanks to the Lord.” And all 26 verses of the Psalm end with the phrase, “His love endures forever.” And, while the Hebrew alphabet has only 22 letters, our alphabet has 26 letters. Therefore, we can think of Psalm 136 as being an acrostic for there are just as many verses as we have letters in our alphabet.

Well, whether or not you are willing to concede that Psalm 136 could be considered to be an acrostic poem, here’s what I want to suggest to you by way of preparing for Thanksgiving.

Take the time to come up with a list of 26 blessings that you are thankful for. If you want, you can challenge yourself to come up with one blessing that begins with each letter of the alphabet, thanking God from “A to Z”! Or, your list can simply be 26 blessings, regardless of what letter each blessing begins with. The idea is to come up with your list of 26 blessings which give you cause to be thankful and to specifically thank God for.

For me, I’ll begin my list with this. I am thankful for “All of you at SOTP and our partnership in the Gospel”!

In Christ,
Pastor Dave

Annual Congregational Meeting

The annual congregational meeting of SOTP will be held after service on Sunday, November 19, 2023 at 10:20am in the church sanctuary. Thank you for attending and lending your voice. Feel free to contact any current board member with any questions you may have.

The SOTP Church Office will be closed on
November 23rd and 24th (Thanksgiving)





Education / Small Group Team

Blessings and Happy Thanksgiving to you all!

We continue to be ever so thankful for all that our volunteers do here at SOTP! Without your helping hands, we could not have the opportunity to reach the children! I appreciate all the teachers and the subs for Sunday School and we continue to look for 2 more subs to be on call for our kids. If God is moving your heart...please sign up, winter and colds are just around the corner and so we NEED volunteers! That being said, we will not have class time when we have our annual congregational meeting. The kids will be playing BINGO in the fellowship hall while the adults attend the meeting! I am looking at ideas for the Children's Christmas message and we are shooting for the 12th or 19th of December. We will not have class the following 2 weeks in honor of Jesus and His birth. Plans are in the making so please watch for announcements!

May God bless your time with family as we enter the holiday season, may His 'Son' shine around you and bless your days!

Happy Thanksgiving all!

Brenda Hackett
EDU Team Leader

Bible Studies have begun!

After service Sunday mornings

* A study of the book of Genesis led by Pastor Dave Strohschein

9:30 Wednesday mornings

* A study led by Lois Perleberg - all are welcome!



We are encouraging Bible studies, search a wide variety of resources which are available in our BOLM room and on line at Right Now Media (Free through Shepherd of the Pinesm

Please contact Colleen Woods if you find one you are interested in and I will help gather others and find a leader.

Colleen Woods



Have you asked yourself, "How can I have a variety of inspiring Bible based information and teaching on many topics & issues for kids, teens and adults available on my smartphone, I-Pad, TV, computer, etc?" Shepherd of the Pines offers you, for no charge, all of that on RightNow Media. [Just Click here to set it up](#), and you will be able to use all this wonderful stuff to help you grow in your faith! You can refer your friends and family members too!



Worship Team

2023 Worship Help Schedule

November	SERVICE	GREETERS	PROJECTIONISTS	READERS	USHERS	WORSHIP LEADERS
11/05/23	9:00am	Shelley Pintok	Mackenzie Ramey	Ruth Brutcher	Bev & Al Gerads	Jane Nelson
11/12/23	9:00am	Joyce Saldana	Dennis Amtson	Richael Weinand	Ron & Barb McKeever	Keith Hackett
11/19/23	9:00am	Bruce & Sandie Resch	Levi Brenny	Jerry Nelson	Keith & Roxanne Peterson	Steve Ree
11/26/23	9:00am	Scott & Peg Manea	Denise Leahy	Wyatt Alstrup	Keith & Kathy Craft	Dennis Amtson
December	SERVICE	GREETERS	PROJECTIONISTS	READERS	USHERS	WORSHIP LEADERS
12/03/23	9:00am	Tom & Jen Ollman	Julie Kiraly	Janet Maleska	Brenda & Keith Hackett	Brenda Hackett
12/10/23	9:00am	Milton & Marlene Popp	Denise Leahy	Lois Perleberg	Brad & Holly Jasmer	Jerry Nelson
12/17/23	9:00am	Dean & Karie Giese	Sarah Anderson	Paul Tschida	Jeremy & Candace Dingmann	Steve Ree
12/24/23	9:00am	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
12/31/23	9:00am	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer

Join us on **Wednesday, November 22nd, at 6:30pm** for our **Thanksgiving Eve Service at Shepherd of the Pines.**



In Ephesians 5:19 - 20, the Apostle Paul encourages us to, "speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." We welcome you to join together with your SOTP family as we give thanks to our Lord.

Holiday Worship Schedule

Thanksgiving Eve Service –

November 22nd at 6:30pm

Advent Services –

December 6th, 13th, & 20th 6:30pm

Children's Sunday Service- Date TBD

Christmas Eve Services with Holy Communion –

December 24th 9am and

Candlelight Service at 3:00pm and 5:00pm

We will be having Advent Soup Suppers!



THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Please consider signing up.

Looking for Groups/People to sign up for Advent Suppers. Suppers will be served from 5pm to 6:15pm. Service will be at 6:30pm

December 6th OPEN

December 13th OPEN

December 20th OPEN

November 22nd

Psalms 67

1 Timothy 2:1-4

Luke 17:11-19



2024 God's Creation Calendars will be for sale this year and proceeds will be going to the VBS fund. Calendars cost only \$10 each and we have limited supplies. These calendars will make great Christmas gifts! Thank you for your support!



SOTP will be the church of the month for Terebinth Refuge



Check out the table in the narthex for items in need which include:

- Gift Cards to Walmart or Kwik Trip in amounts of \$10 or \$20
- Grocery Gift Certificate or cards in amounts of \$10 or \$20
- Toilet Paper
- Napkins
- Desk Lamps
- Radio Alarm Clocks
- 2024-2025 Day/Monthly planners
- Cute 3 ring binders
- Picture Frames 5x7 or 8x10

Items can be brought to church office all month long. We will also have a Noisy offering on November 19th for Terebinth Refuge.



November NOISY OFFERING!

We will be taking up our noisy offering on **Sunday, November 19th** for the **Terebinth Refuge**. Thank you for your support and your generous donations!

November Birthdays		
Ilexa	Merten-Flagstad	November 01
Isabella	Ramey	November 02
Mackenzie	Ramey	November 04
Kyle	Barringer	November 06
Mitchell	Merten	November 07
Karlee	Popp	November 07
John	Alstrup	November 11
Brody	Soltis	November 12
Eric	Abraham	November 13
Bev	Gerads	November 14
Shelley	Pintok	November 14
Darlene	Albrecht	November 15
Peggy	Herman	November 17
Dale	Skajewski	November 18
Nathan	Wagner	November 18
Samie	Dubbin	November 19
Mädchen	Smallfield	November 19
Dave	Brannen	November 20
June	Plumski	November 21
Donna	Klaphake	November 21
Linda	Omann	November 22
John	Elliott	November 22
Sheri	Douvier	November 22
Diane	Barringer	November 24
Lois	Perleberg	November 25
Don	Diehl	November 26
Doug	Newman	November 27
Marlene	Shane	November 27
Lloyd	Walburn	November 27
Marlys	Lenarz	November 27
Noah	Hackett	November 27
Hannah	Eggert	November 28
Kyle	Hemple	November 28
Milton	Popp	November 29
Cole	Douvier	November 29

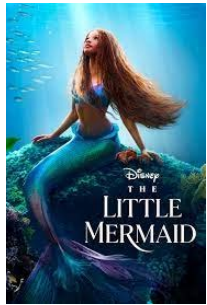
November Anniversaries		
Nick & Jenna	Gangl	November 17
Charles & Nancy	Anderson	November 27

September Church Income Statement

	September	Year-to-Date
Contributions	\$17,736	\$180,806
Expenses	<u>(\$12,864)</u>	<u>(\$122,435)</u>
Over/(Shortfall)	\$4,872	\$58,371

Rice Area Food Shelf

November Distribution is
Thursday, November 9th
from 3:00-5:30pm
at the Old Village Hall!



Movie Night @ SOTP! Join us on November 17th for The Little Mermaid. Come in Pjs, bring a blanket, and snacks if you would like. Some snacks are available to share as well.

Homework Hour

Looking to see if there is an interest in a homework hour at SOTP. Thinking of 5:30-6:30 on Wednesday Nights. Kids would come with homework and questions, and we would have people here to help them with whatever they are struggling with.

Please sign up or reach out to the Church office.



First Communion Class

First Communion Class is scheduled for Tuesday, November 7th, 6:30-7:30pm. Pastor Dave would like your 5th grader or 6th grader and a parent to attend this class. As of now a First Communion Sunday has not been scheduled. Please email if you have any questions or concerns. Also, email to notify us if your child will be attending the class.



1 Thessalonians 5:18 "give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Colossians 3:17 "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

We have so much to be thankful for! We are thankful for another wonderful year of activities with you including the sweetheart breakfast, the lock in at the church, filling Bags of Love, youth group meetings at church including a murder mystery night, and a fun night of summer activities at Pastor Dave & Karen's house, the Garage Sale fundraiser, cleaning the church sanctuary, the Rice Parade, Fall Fling (which was a blast!) and Trunk or Treat. We are thankful for each one of you who has participated. We are thankful that you are a part of our church family. We are thankful for each of your individual personalities, because God made you exactly as He intended to. What are you thankful for?

We've learned about Prayer targets in the past couple of months and we want to remind you to PRAY! What do you Praise God for? What do you need to Repent of? What are you Asking God for? What will you Yield to God in prayer?

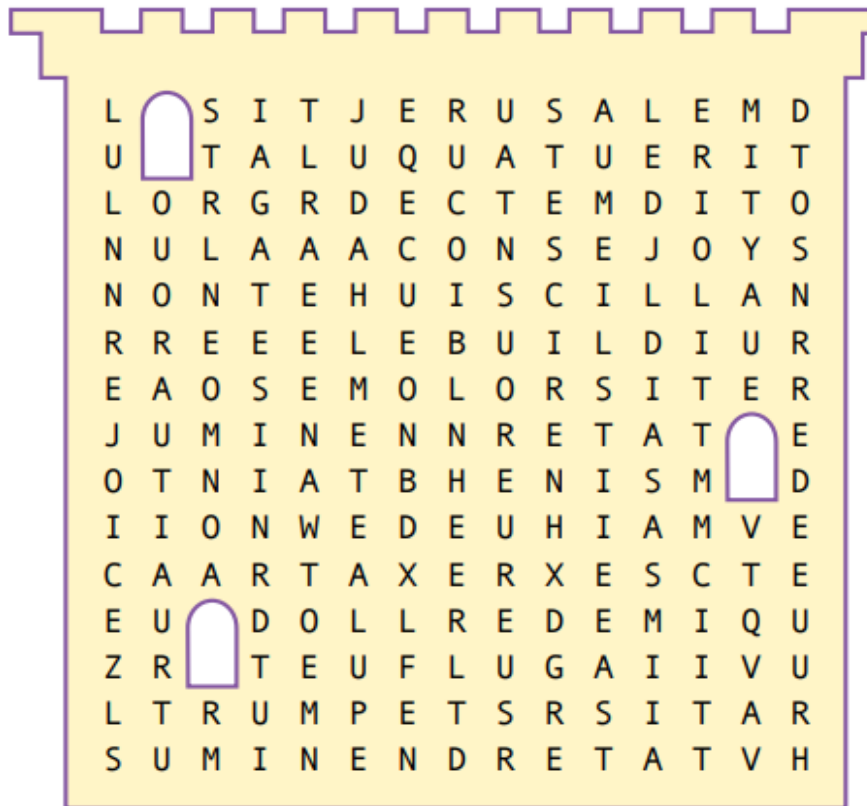
In November, our regular meetings will be on the 1st and 15th at 7:30pm. December meetings will be on the 6th and 20th at 7:30pm.

All High School students are welcome to join us for a study on Prayer on Sunday Mornings in the Youth room during Sunday school time.

Josh & Sarah Anderson
Youth Group Leaders

Nehemiah and the Wall Word Search

Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be left to right, up and down, or diagonally.



- | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------|------------------|
| ARTAXERXES
BUILD | GATES
JERUSALEM | JOY
JUDAH | NEHEMIAH
REJOICE | TRUMPETS
WALL |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------|------------------|

BLESSINGS JAR

Thanksgiving reminds us of our many gifts from God. Count your blessings all month long with this craft.



What you need:

- Jar
- Ribbon
- Scissors
- Glue
- 3 sheets of paper (different colors)
- Marker or pen



What you do:

1. Measure and cut enough ribbon to wrap around the jar's neck, below the lid. Glue in place and let dry.
2. Fold each piece of paper in half three times, resulting in eight rectangles per sheet. Cut along the fold lines, and you'll have 24 rectangles.
3. Each day in November until Thanksgiving, write down one blessing from God. Then place that blessing in the jar.
4. On Thanksgiving, open the jar and read all your blessings to your family and friends.

Thankful for God Being With Me Secret Code

Each number stands for a letter of the alphabet. Write the correct letter in the blank to find the coded words and phrase.

Matthew 28:20

Code key

A 1	J 10	S 19
B 2	K 11	T 20
C 3	L 12	U 21
D 4	M 13	V 22
E 5	N 14	W 23
F 6	O 15	X 24
G 7	P 16	Y 25
H 8	Q 17	Z 26
I 9	R 18	

10 5 19 21 19

9 19

1 12 23 1 25 19

23 9 20 8

21 19 •

You can be thankful of God's

16 18 5 19 5 14 3 5

Worship Shepherds

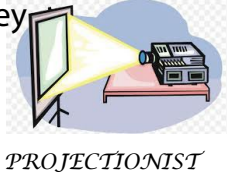
November 5th Kyle Hackett
 November 12th Bev Gerads
 November 19th Paul Tschida
 November 22nd 6:30pm Bev Gerads
 November 26th Deb Erdman



November 5th Shelley Pintok
 November 12th Joyce Saldana
 November 19th Bruce & Sandie Resch
 November 26th Scott & Peg Manea



November 5th Mackenzie Ramey
 November 12th Dennis Arntson
 November 19th Levi Brenny
 November 26th Denise Leahy



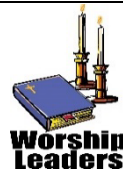
November 5th Ruth Brutcher
 November 12th Richael Weinand
 November 19th Jerry Nelson
 November 26th Wyatt Alstrup



November 5th Bev & Al Gerads
 November 12th Ron & Barb McKeever
 November 19th Keith & Roxanne Peterson
 November 26th Keith & Kathy Craft



November 5th Jane Nelson
 November 12th Keith Hackett
 November 19th Steve Ree
 November 26th Dennis Arntson



We have been praying for our church families each week as we go through our church directory from A to Z. As you go about your daily tasks lift a prayer for the family of the week as the Lord brings them to mind.

In November we will be praying for:

November 5th John & Peggy Herman
 November 12th Patrick & Wendy Hicks
 Children: Joe & Meghan
 November 19th Tim & Melissa Hinderschied
 Children: Aubrey & Colton
 November 26th Joni Hoeft
 Children: Kiaya, Lexi, & Rylie

UPDATE TO FELLOWSHIP!!

Here is the schedule for this Fall/Winter for Fellowship. We ask that if you can't serve the Sunday that you are scheduled, please find a group to switch with. Each group is to bring in treats, serve, and clean up. Thank You!



November 5th

A. Gerads, S. Manea, R. Weinand

November 12th

D. Arntson, R. Woods, T. Ollman

November 19th

J. Ramey, M. Kiraly, J. Alstrup, G. Welle

November 26th

K. Kirchner, R. Brutcher. P. Tschida, G. Hendrickson

December 3rd

Ke. Hackett, Ky. Hackett, J. Hackett, T. Hackett

December 10th

R. McKeever, J. Nelson, L. Popp

December 17th

P. Dahl, S. Wood, B. Novitzki

December 24th

No Fellowship

December 31st

Volunteers Needed

Musicians

November 5th Heather Statz
 November 12th Lyric Videos
 November 19th Praise Team
 November 26th Lyric Videos



NOVEMBER

Barb McKeever & Juli Popp



NOVEMBER

Julie Clasen, Charyl Walberg,
& Brenda Pressnall



November 5th

Psalm 149
 Revelation 7:9-17
 Matthew 5:1-12



November 12th

Psalm 70
 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
 Matthew 25:1-13

November 19th

Psalm 90
 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
 Matthew 25:14-30

November 26th

Psalm 95:1-7a
 1 Corinthians 15:20-28
 Matthew 25:31-46



Shepherd of the Pines Lutheran Church
 1950 125th Street NW, Rice, MN 56367
 Church Office: (320) 393-4295



November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Email: office@sotpministries.com Website: sotpministries.com Monday- Friday 9:00-3:00			1	2	3	4
			9:30 Bible Studies 6:30 Confirmation	9:00 Quilters 7:00 AA		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Music: Heather 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 10:20 Sunday School & Youth Group 10:30 Bible Study	7:30 Small Group	9:00 Quilters 6:00 Al-Anon 6:30 First Communion Class	9:30 Bible Studies 6:30 Confirmation	9:00 Quilters 7:00 AA		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
First Communion Sunday Music: Lyric Videos 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Fellowship 10:20 Sunday School & Youth Group 10:30 Bible Study	7:30 Praise Team 7:30 Small Group	9:00 Quilters 6:00 Al-Anon	9:30 Sunshine Group 9:30 Bible Studies 6:30 Confirmation	9:00 Quilters 6:30 Elder's Meeting 7:00 BOLM Meeting 7:00 AA		Movie Night 6:30pm
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Annual Congregational Meeting Noisy Offering Music: Praise Team 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship 10:20 Annual Congregational Meeting 10:20 Children Bingo	7:30 Small Group	6:00 Alanon	9:30 Bible Studies NO Confirmation 6:30 Thanksgiving Eve Service	 Thanksgiving	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED
26	27	28	29	30	GIVE <i>Thanks</i> to the LORD , FOR HE IS GOOD: HIS <i>Love</i> ENDURES FOREVER! <small>Psalms 107:2</small>	
Music: Lyric Videos 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Fellowship 10:20 Sunday School & Youth Group 10:30 Bible Study	7:30 Small Group	9:00 Quilters 6:00 Al-Anon	9:30 Bible Studies 6:30 Confirmation	9:00 Quilters 7:00 AA		

Jesus reigns in..

Church Phone: 393-4295

Email: office@sotpministries.com

Church Website: sotpministries.com

SOTP BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY/ELDERS

Kyle Hackett, President 266-1700; David Perleberg, Vice President 360-5147; Bev Gerads, Secretary 761-1894; Ron McKeever
Treas. 393-2524; Joan Ramey 217-4431; Colleen Woods 685-4389; Deb Erdmann, 249-4804; Paul Tschida 360-5241

Keith Peterson, Church Properties 292-4007

EXECUTIVE MINISTRY TEAM

Keith Hackett - Worship Team Leader, Leader, Brenda Hackett – Education & Colleen Woods Small Group Team,
Jami Kreifels Activity Team Leader

*In case of church cancellation due to bad weather listen to, 98 COUNTRY 98.1, SPIRIT 92.9, KCLD 104.7, WJON
1240, or call the church office and listen to the message.*

Shepherd of the Pines Mission Statement: Connecting People to God...To Others...and To Service

The purpose of this congregation is mandated for us by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, as found in the words of the Great Commission (Matthew 28), namely first of all to Go. To leave our walls of refuge, going into all the world, comprising of our families and neighbors. We plan to achieve our purpose by identifying persons with whom we are particularly well-equipped to serve and reach with the challenge of becoming Disciples of Christ.

Second, to Make Disciples or in the words of St Paul, “To equip the saints” (Ephesians 4:12). This is to be understood as helping people to live the Christian life here on earth. Preparing and encouraging young and old alike to find and to use their God given gifts and abilities for the extension of His Kingdom, and to grow in fervent love for God and for others.

Thirdly, to Baptize as commanded by Jesus Himself. As God reaches down to mankind with His means of grace, He would have us baptize His people, bringing them into His family and Kingdom, granting to them life, forgiveness of sins, and eternal salvation.

And lastly, to continue steadfast in His Word, Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. A continued zeal for the study of His Word, the Bible, is necessary for the growth of any Christian congregation. Thus, the Word of God will be taught and studied in full measure and His Word shall be the rule and norm of this congregation’s faith and life.

To that end, our every effort and energy will be used in motivating, training, and putting to use our time, and talents and treasures to Make Disciples.