

the sower

reflections. . .



Many – if not most of us – learned the nursery rhyme, a long time ago. The rhyme and the gestures that go with it. . .

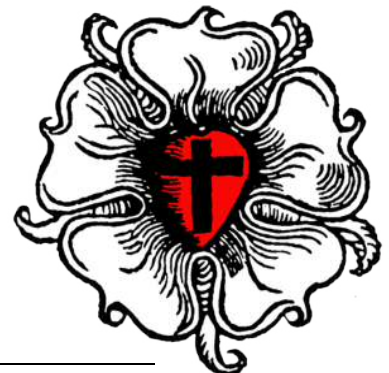
Here is the church. Here is the steeple.
Open the doors and see all the people!

When I was a child, it meant one thing. But today? As a minister called and ordained? Something's missing. Something important. Yes, it's true, the church is the building and the steeple and it's people, as well. But that's not all of it. Maybe it's not, even, the biggest part. You see, the church – bottom line – is the message! Gospel! Good news! Purely preached! Administered accordingly! Baptism and supper and confession/forgiveness! Without that, even if there's a building and a steeple and people, it's, simply, not the church!

The church is a people. A people assembled. A people assembled for a very particular purpose! God calls us, gathers us together, to hear and to see and to feel and to taste the song god's been singing since before time began! And that song claims us! It changes us! It makes us its own! So that when we go, the song goes with us and we, too, sing! Sing with heart and mind and voices! Sing that song so the world can learn to sing along, as well! Sing along with us! But most of all, sing along with god!

i Let's Be Radicals. . . TOGETHER !

Bob



WHERE WE ARE, NOW. . .

Well, we're, finally, entering into the negotiation phase with Midland Chin Immanuel Church! Pastor Steven said an offer's being prepared and they're getting a letter of pre-approval from their bank. So, we may have something concrete to share with you in the next week or two. Until then, we'll need to be thinking about some things to be ready for when the sale goes through, i.e., . . .



- 1) where, when, with whom, to invest the receipts of the sale
- 2) prepare and adopt a new budget for new situation
- 3) identify how our use of the building will change and what we'll need to do to adjust to that change
- 4) put together a "dream team" to begin reimagining the ministry of Midland Lutheran Church

The congregation Council will convene another info Meeting, as soon as there's concrete news to share. But until then, if you have ANY questions or concerns regarding the process, talk with any council member. . . and don't wait till later!

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IT'S NO SHAVE NOVEMBER TIME, again! It begins, appropriately enough, on Thursday, November 1st! "The goal is to grow awareness by embracing our hair, which many cancer patients lose, and letting it grow wild and free. Then, to donate the money we typically spend on shaving and grooming to educate about cancer prevention, save lives, and aid those fighting the battle! [And it's no longer just for men!] Anyone can join in! Growing a beard! Cultivating a mustache! Letting those legs go natural! Skipping that waxing appointment! Put down your razor and set up your own personal fundraising page. If you're not ready to get hairy, sit back and support someone who is.

The rules are simple: put down your razor for 30 days and donate your monthly hair-maintenance expenses to the cause. Strict dress-code at work? Don't worry about it! We encourage participation of any kind; grooming and trimming are perfectly acceptable." Check out the website - <https://no-shave.org/> - for more information!



FIRST THINGS FIRST! Unless you have one of those newfangled clocks that do it all by themselves, you'll need to remember to "fall back" an hour, before you go to bed Saturday night, November 3rd! Be forewarned, if you forget, you just might wake up in time for Sunday school!



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THE amCLASS for adults meets, as usual, every Sunday morning, from 9:15-10:15, in a room off the south hallway, pastorBob teaching.



The topic: *For the Sake of the World!* We're still thinking about Reformation. In particular, why church?

CONFIRMATION, also, continues! Lael Pitts, in thePatio room, with the Small Catechism! Right now, they're looking at the Lord's Prayer!



Any questions about either, talk with pastorBob – office – 432.694-1373

+ cell – 432.349-7407 + home – 432.689-9274 + or email – bbarndt@juno.com

Or with Lael – cell – 432.296-2684 + or email – larrynelael@sbcglobal.net or, of course, on any given Sunday!

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THE pmSTUDY will not meet Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 21st! However, it will meet the other Wednesday evenings in November! The topic: *Spirituality, What Does This Mean?* We're hearing a lot about that, nowadays – being "spiritual, but not religious!" So, we thought we'd spend a few weeks talking about it! And you're invited to join us! Any given Wednesday evening, this month (except, of course, the 21st)! 7-8:00! One of the rooms off the south hallway! Any questions – or if you need a ride, give a call – 432.694-1373 – or call/text pastorBob @ 432.349-7407!



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CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP



meets in the lobby of the church building, from 2-3:30 or so, the second Thursday afternoon of each

month. This month, that's the 08th! Susan Frederickson, Caregiver Program Specialist for the Area Agency on Aging for the Permian Basin, facilitates the discussion. No need to call ahead. Just come on down. Any questions, give Susan a call. Her number at the agency is 432.563-1061!

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THE NEXT CLUSTER CONFAB – our ongoing conversation with Christ's

Lutheran about all things evangelical – will be @ Christ’s Lutheran Church, 2002 N Lincoln Ave, Odessa, Thursday evening, October 11th, from 7-8:00 (+/-). Anyone’s welcome! Just come on by and join in! The agenda is a “flow of consciousness” kind of thing!



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THE NEXT FAIHTALK – a

conversation among the members of Midland and Christ’s Lutheran Churches about things that matter – is coming up! Saturday, December 01st! We’re holding it earlier than usual, this month, so as not to interfere with all the Christmas festivities! We continue our discussion about Luther’s seven marks – or symptoms – of the church! This time, we’ll meet here in Midland, in one of the rooms off the south hallway. From 10am till 2pm – lunch included! Come when you can or whenever you’d like! You can pick up what you missed! Again, any questions, call the church office – 432.694-1373 – or call or text pastorBob @ 432.349-7407!



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THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH meet the 2nd Wednesday morning of every month! This month, it’s November 08th! In the Patio room off the north hallway! From 9:30-11:00 (+/-)! No reservations



required! Just come on down and join right in! Any questions, talk with Gretchen Shults, the study leader, @ 432.413-4354 or Donna Roberts, president of the organization, @ 817.223-3327

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& WHILE WE’RE AT IT. . . For both



Thanksgiving and Christmas, the women are collecting food and personal

hygiene articles for TeenChallenge – both men and women! A collection box is in the entryway to worship! Like to know more about the program, check out their website:

<https://teenchallengepb.com/>

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WE’RE, ALSO, COLLECTING XMAS CARDS, again this year! For [Church of the Damascus Road Prison Ministry](#), an

NT-NL synodically-authorized worshipping community! Unsigned! Unused! Standard size! There’s a box in the entryway to worship for your contributions!

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NO ROOM @ THE INN – one of the

annual fundraisers for Family Promise of Midland – features a plethora of nativity scenes and will be held, Saturday, November



17th, from 10:00am till 4:00pm, once again, at Grace Presbyterian Church, 2801 N Garfield St! Family Promise is a local alliance of congregations (of which we're one) providing shelter, meals, and support services to families without homes. For more information re: No Room @ the Inn or Family Promise itself, check out their website:

<https://familypromiseofmidland.com/>

Or follow 'em up on Facebook –

@fpmidland

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THE NEXT MONTHLY MEETING of



the congregation council is right after worship, the 3rd Sunday of the month, November 18th!

Anyone's welcome to sit in and see what's going on! Questions? – member or not – call 432.694-1373, call/text 432.349-7407, or drop a line bbarndt@juno.com! Council members: if you can't make it, please do the same!

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AND A HEADS UP! Just in case next month's newsletter is a little late, Advent



Midweek get-togethers begin the first Wednesday, December 5th! Supper is served between 5:45-6:45pm. Devotions and Holden Evening Prayer follows, at 7:00. The topic for the devotions, this

year, is *The Journey: Egypt, Wilderness, Land*

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And when you get a chance, be sure to check out our presence online . . .

www.MidlandLutheranChurch.org

– our webpage –

www.Facebook.com –

@GospelCrossWords

– devotion posts –

@MidlandLutheranChurch

– us & our ministry –

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PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE in your thoughts, words, & DEEDS. . .

Kaylee Academia; Adrian; Aunt Betty; Corbin; Liz & Tom Daneker; Heather Dellinger; Donovan; Marilyn Douglas; Mary & Steve Douglas; Shirley Dye; Emily; David Fisher; Forest; Terri Gordon; Wanda Hayes; Anneliese Hyde; Wanda Howell; Linda Jamison; Pamela Jamison; Wayne Johnson; Marti Jones; Karen; Diane Keys; Kim & Sunny; Kirstie; Kristi & new daughter; Kurt; Toni Jean Lanier; Leanne; Eric Lee; Lisa; Liz, Kurt, & Brian; Louie; Cassie Martin; Ruth Mendenhall; Bill Reinert; Doris Muehlbrad; Cindy Nelson; Shirley Nelson; Jennifer & Kyle Norman; Peacekeepers; Reagan; Shellie Robbins; Geneva Russell; Ruth; Dean Saenger; Norma Saenger; Jody Smith; Johnnie Snider; John Spaight; Doug Speer; Luther Steele; Teresa; Tim; Tricia; Betty Tuminaro

For telephone prayer chain requests – or if you'd like to be a link on the chain – please call Barbara Porsch –

683-4474 * bporsch@sbcglobal.net

or Ginny Behnken –

262-3374 *

fred_behnken@suddenlink.net

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the ANNIVERSARIES

jack & delphine bowie	11/21
terry & cyndi stroud	11/27
jerry & wanda hayes	11/28
bob & marylin boomer	11/29

the BIRTHDAYS

marilyn douglas	11/12	lonnie yee	11/27
aimee hodes	11/20	aiden ortiz	11/28
kennedy keys	11/20	bob stuckley	11/28
shirley white	11/22	helen eberly	11/29
bennie ross	11/25		

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if we've – unintentionally – omitted a birthday or anniversary, please let us know we'll be sure to get you NEXT YEAR

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TABLE BLESSINGS

from luther's small catechism

the children and the members of the household are to come devoutly to the table, fold their hands, and recite

"The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature."

then they are to recite the lord's prayer and the following prayer

"Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

similarly, after eating they should in the same manner fold their hands and recite devoutly

"Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good, for God's mercy endures forever.

God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry.

God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner, but finds pleasure in those who fear the Lord, in those who await God's steadfast love."

then recite the lord's prayer and the following prayer

"We give thanks to you, Lord God our Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord for all your benefits, you who live and reign forever. Amen."

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the LEADERSHIP of the CONGREGATION

president	-----	vice president
secretary	fred behnken (432.262-3374)	deidre barnes (432.847-7253)
	ministry team	council representative/team leader
	building and grounds	todd wise (661.333-3725)
	education	-----
	fellowship	-----
	outreach	lael pitts (432.296-2684) ruth orson (432.684-4587)
	stewardship & finance	b.j. shraeder (724.584-3633)
	worship	noma saenger (432.599-5979)
nominating team	fred behnken (432.262-3374)	
organist	chad hauris	bob barnet
		delegate(s)
		pastor

the WORSHIP MINISTERS

	acolyte	reader	worship ass't	tellers
nov 04 th		fred behnken	erika weber	del bowie & lonnie yee
nov 11 th		ruth orson	marylin boomer	lonnie yee &
nov 18 th		gretchen shults	fred behnken	alan sewell &
nov 25 th		marylin boomer	gretchen shults	fred behnken & deidra barnes
altar guild			bob boomer	cantor

the kingdom's ours forever!"



martin luther, 1483-1546, elw # 504

average sunday attendance for october: **29**

budget/month: **\$14,000⁰⁰**

offering rec'd in october: **\$9,477⁶⁶**

rice bowl offering, y.t.d.: \$1,444⁶⁶



the PROPERs for november

the ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, november 04

the PRAYER of the DAY: Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

the READING: Isaiah 25:6-9 + Psalm 24 + Revelation 21:1-6a + John 11:32-44

the TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY after PENTECOST, november 11

the PRAYER of the DAY: O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

the READING: 1st Kings 17:8-16 + Psalm 146 + Hebrews 9:24-28 + Mark 12:38-44

the TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY after PENTECOST, november 18

the PRAYER of the DAY: Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

the READING: Daniel 12:1-3 + Psalm 16 + Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25 + Mark 13:1-8

CHRIST the KING, november 25

the PRAYER of the DAY: Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

the READINGS: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 + Psalm 93 + Revelation 1:4b-8 + John 18:33-37

noviembre 2018

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
<p><i>VERBUM DOMINI MANET IN AETERNUM</i> the word of the lord endures forever</p>				1	2	3
4 9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship 1:00pm - worship 4:00pm - bsa 270 7:00pm - worship	5	6	7 7:00pm - pmStudy	8 2:00pm - supportGroup 7:00pm - clusterConfab	9	10
11 9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship 1:00pm - worship 4:00pm - bsa 270 7:00pm - worship	12 veterans day	13	14 9:30am - women of the elca 7:00pm - pmStudy	15	16	17
18 9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship 12:00pm - council 1:00pm - worship 4:00pm - bsa 270 7:00pm - worship	19 misd holiday	20	21	22 thanksgiving day	23	24
25 9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship 1:00pm - worship 4:00pm - bsa 270 1:00pm - worship	26	27	28 7:00pm - pmStudy	29	30	



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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midland lutheran church

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bob barndt, pastor

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webpage: www.MidlandLutheranChurch.org

facebooki: www.facebook.com/GospelCrossWords/

www.facebook.com/MidlandLutheranChurch/

email: bbarndt@juno.com

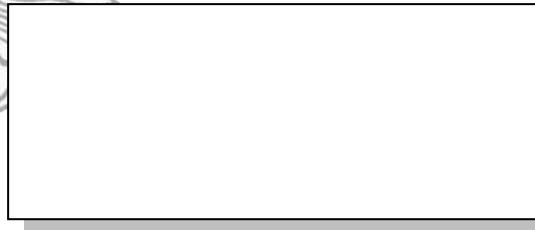
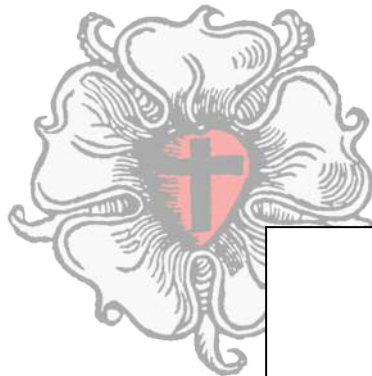
sunday morning schedule: **learning hour @ 9:15 * worship @ 10:30**

office hours: monday-thursday, 9am-noon & by appointment

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midland lutheran church

2705 w michigan av + midland, tx 79701-5840



november 2018