



At the end of his first letter to the believers in Thessalonica, St. Paul reminds them of 3 things that run together:

- “5:16 Rejoice always,
- 5:17 pray continually,
- 5:18 give thanks in all circumstances. For this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

Now, while there are many difficult things that we are instructed to do in the New Testament as saints of the Lord, giving thanks at this time of year, I must say, is **NOT** one of them. Indeed, as your pastor I feel like you, the people of God that meet in Camarillo at this little church we call “Peace Lutheran,” you all make it easy to “give thanks in all circumstances” - truly!

Oh, perhaps, if one looked hard enough and tried hard enough to summon his inner “Eeyore” (yes, **THAT** Eeyore - Pooh’s friend of perpetual complaints), one could choose to focus on this or that detail that may not be going exactly how we’d like it to. Maybe we catch ourselves getting a little impatient about not yet being back in our sanctuary; maybe we are getting anxious about the Call process for a new senior pastor. While those are certainly things we can and should care about, we should nevertheless not permit them to block the overwhelming surge of gratitude that naturally arises when we simply look around at what blessings do abound. For example, we have had a surge of weddings over the past year or two - some of which have already brought little ones into loving Christian homes, little ones who have already been brought to the baptismal font and made new little saints in the kingdom of heaven! We have another baptism to rejoice in next Sunday (at the time of my writing this). And God blessed our Pumpkin Fest community outreach this year with many eager volunteers - from pumpkin pickers to happy vendors. And so many bouncing kids with wonderful toy trains to marvel at!

Yes, even those saints we lost this year, those to whom we said our goodbyes in this life, we can rejoice and give thanks to God that, in Christ our Savior, they are not lost - they are with Him. And our goodbyes are more like “See you later’s,” because, ultimately, He, Jesus our Good Shepherd, is shepherding us still. And He will continue to faithfully shepherd everyone of His sheep into a new heaven and a new earth where we will joyously sing out our praise and thanks to our gracious God forever!

- Pastor Mike

# Words of Peace

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## ELDERS LETTER

### Endings and Beginnings

The church year has almost made another circuit, with a new season coming with Advent on December 3rd. In the meantime, change is still in the air. On the 5th of this month, All Saints Day, almost exactly one year since we took our first step in seeking out the one who God would have to be our next Senior Pastor, the congregation will gather again to hopefully issue a Call or make a commitment to call our next under-shepherd. On the 22nd, we will have our regular Thanksgiving Eve service at 7 PM, when we can marvel at all of the blessings God has bestowed upon Peace throughout this season of anticipation and renovation. The sanctuary project may or may not be ready by then, but even so, we still have a great deal to be thankful for as the current church year draws to a close, because we still are able to worship and serve our great God, under the continuing interim leadership of Pastor Mike, as well as the great work that continues to be done by the staff, along with our many volunteers.

Change can be disconcerting, as we discovered in our “temporary” move into the Fellowship Hall, but we have worked together to smooth over the rough spots. God continues to have good things in store for us, and we should also be excited and motivated about the new ministry opportunities that God continues to bring to our door. Regardless of what comes, we can trust that the LORD is with us as we embrace this time of change. We should at all times give thanks for the positive changes He brings into our lives. Times may change, but we are following a changeless God. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever!

May you have a blessed Thanksgiving,  
Your Elders



# NOVEMBER 2023

DATE	ELDER	USHERS	ALTER	READERS	GREETERS	ACOLYTES
<b>Nov. 5</b> Communion Noon = voters meeting	Dave Schmidt	Mike McCracken Tom Lajeunesse Rick Poore	Linda Young	Linda Young	Ken Anderson	Michelle Ullerick
<b>Nov. 12</b>	Dave Schmidt	Karen Taylor Gary Taylor	Irene Hutchison Tina Gingerrich	David Hudnell	Carol Yung	Lucas Williamson
<b>Nov. 19</b> Communion	Dave Schmidt	Steve Rusch Scott Klittich	Irene Hutchison Tina Gingerrich	Toni Radle	Charlo Stuart	Marshall Denninger
<b>Nov. 22</b> Thanksgiving Eve	Scott Klittich	Blain Wanke Todd Harter	Irene Hutchison Tina Gingerrich	Al Bosman	Cindy Klittich	Marshall Denninger
<b>Nov. 26</b>	Dave Schmidt	Dave Schmidt Roy Poehler Jim DeVries				Lucas Williamson
<b>Dec. 3</b> Communion	Al Bosman	Scott Ehlers Glenn Benitz	Irene Hutchison Tina Gingerrich	Lori Schultze	Donna Pickler	Michelle Ullerick

**5:00 pm service**

11-4  
11-11 Communion  
11-18  
11-25 Communion

**Elder**

Dave Hutter  
Dave Hutter  
Dave Hutter  
Dave Hutter

**Reader**

Brian Nomi  
Susan Weaver  
Stacy Hunter  
Richard Bongiorno



## Happy Anniversary

## Happy Birthday

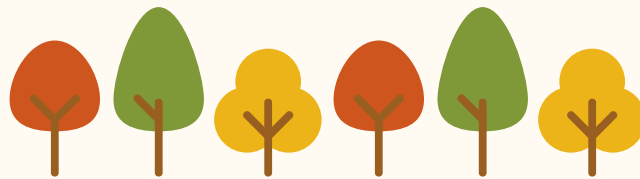
Bill & Linda Young 11/6  
Tim & Robin Schmidt 11/6  
Adam & Tiffany Bedard 11/16  
David & Vicki Hutte 11/17

Tom Waddell 11/09  
Adam Bedard 11/10  
Luci Pommers 11/12  
Bill Fitch 11/14  
Sharon McCracken 11/17  
Dave Miller 11/26  
Melissa Hamilton 11/26  
Emily Andermann (youth) 11/26  
Aija Rebensal 11/30



# Thank You

to all of our  
pumpkin patch and  
pumpkin fest  
volunteers and  
vendors



Thank you Peace members for your generous donation of coats for Dos Caminos Elementary School. Our hearts are overflowing with gratitude as both of the totes are overflowing with coats.



# Homemade Fresh Pumpkin Pie

1 9-inch Homemade pie crust , or store-bought, deep dish, unbaked  
3/4 cup granulated sugar  
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger  
1/4 teaspoon ground cloves  
2 large eggs  
15 ounce can canned pumpkin or fresh pumpkin puree  
12 ounce can evaporated milk

## Instructions

Preheat oven to 425 degrees F.

In a large bowl beat the eggs and pumpkin together. In a separate bowl, combine the sugar, cinnamon, salt, ginger and cloves, and add to pumpkin mixture.

Gradually stir in the evaporated milk. Carefully pour mixture into unbaked pie shell.

Bake at 425 degrees F for for 15 minutes. Reduce temperature to 350° F; bake for 40 to 50 minutes longer, or until the pie is set. Check for doneness by giving the pie a gentle wiggle. The center may jiggle just a tiny bit. It will continue to set up as it cools. Or, it is done when a sharp knife inserted in center comes out clean.

Cool completely on a wire cooling rack. Serve immediately with whipped cream and caramel pecan topping, if desired



# Savory Pumpkin Soup

Prep Time: 15 mins

Cook Time: 1 hr 5 mins

Total Time: 1 hr 20 mins

## Ingredients

6 cups chicken stock

4 cups pumpkin puree

1 cup chopped onion

1 clove garlic, minced

1 ½ teaspoons salt

½ teaspoon chopped fresh thyme

5 whole black peppercorns

½ cup heavy whipping cream

1 teaspoon chopped fresh parsley

## Directions

Place chicken stock, pumpkin, onion, garlic, salt, thyme, and peppercorns in a large pot; bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low and simmer, uncovered, 30 minutes.

Transfer soup to a blender or food processor in batches; blend until smooth. Return soup to the pan and bring to a boil; reduce heat to low and simmer, uncovered, for 30 minutes.

Stir in heavy cream.

Ladle soup into bowls and garnish with fresh parsley

# Homemade Pumpkin Puree

## Ingredients

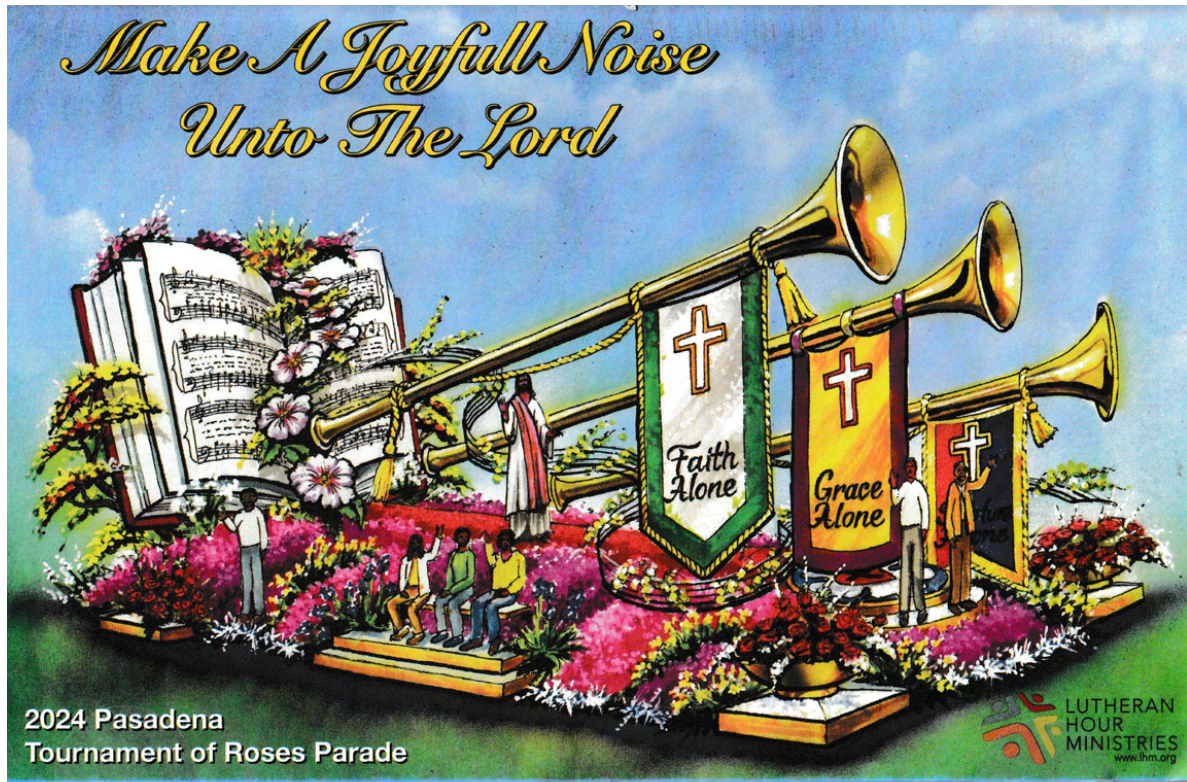
1 sugar pumpkin

## Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C).
2. Cut pumpkin in half, stem to base. Remove seeds and pulp. Cover each half with foil.
3. Bake in the preheated oven, foil-side up, until tender, about 1 hour.
4. Scrape pumpkin flesh from shell halves and puree in a blender. Strain to remove any remaining stringy pieces. Use or store in the freezer in freezer-safe bags.



# Volunteer for the 2024 Lutheran Hour Ministries Float



Please begin your planning for December and sign up  
for your preferred times to  
decorate Rose Parade floats! [www.petalpushers.org](http://www.petalpushers.org)

Volunteers of all skill levels and ages are needed. If it is  
your very first time joining us, or a seasoned veteran,  
there are dozens of jobs to do!!!

The Lutheran Hour Ministries Float has been a  
continuous participant and this year marks our 73rd!

Sharing the power of the Gospel WORLDWIDE,



Lou Marting  
949 770 8420  
818 404 6447





PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Advent Faire

DECEMBER 3RD

3PM - 5PM

71 LOMA DR

CAMARILLO CA

A GREAT CHANCE TO GET SOME

SHOPPING DONE

WHILE THE KIDS PLAY

KID CRAFTS

MUSIC

FOOD

VENDORS

