

An Inventory of Blessings
Brothers and Sisters!

**Blessed Emmanuel/Sturgis
&
Grace/Deadwood
November 2025 Newsletter**

A few Sundays back I preached about the ten lepers that Jesus healed but only one returned to give Him thanks (Luke 17:15-16). In that sermon I talked about making an inventory of our blessings, and some of you encouraged me to expand on that thought, so here it is.

When we think of how God has blessed us, what do we think of? Some of us may think of all the material blessings that we have: a house, an automobile or two or three, a nice yard, maybe a garden, the clothes and shoes we wear. Then, of course, there is the food we eat, and a stove and refrigerator, gas and electricity to power those things, running water, hot water, you get the point, we have much to be grateful for when it comes to material things.

I think also about the blessings of the earth, its mountains and valleys, its rivers and streams, its fields, pastures, and trees, and all the animals and such that fill those things, fish, cattle, birds, and so on. God's creation is marvelous! Add to that the beautiful blue sky, the sun, the moon, the stars, and how they keep everything ordered and moving, it simply boggles the mind how it all works together so wonderfully.

I believe it was St. Augustine who said that we often are amazed and wonder at God's creation, but we forget about the human person, the pinnacle of His creation! Think of all that humans can do! Our health is a very important blessing (don't forget health insurance, ha!), and our physical abilities, such as motion and exercise, various skills, and our mental faculties, such as knowledge, intelligence, insight, and wisdom. These are some amazing things on earth if we stop and consider them.

Most of all, we must consider our faith one of the greatest blessings on earth, that is, saving faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. The Psalms and Proverbs proclaim, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Ps. 111:10; Prov 9:10). How powerful faith is, and indeed, one of the most essential aspects of our life together. Some people do not realize the power of faith, but Jesus knew. How many times in the Gospels did He say to someone He had just healed, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well!" (Luke 17:19)? What Christ is referring to is, of course, faith in Him, as our Lord and Savior. The Gospel and the Sacraments are the means by which this saving faith is created and therefore are to be highly exalted among us as the greatest blessings on earth!

This leads me to discuss some of the spiritual blessings we have. In Galatians chapter 5:22-23, St. Paul lists several spiritual gifts, which we may count as some of the best and most cherished blessings we have among us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Please read that list again, and again if you must, and let it sink in. Think about how important those spiritual gifts are in your life and the life of those around you, what blessings they really are. Think of how we can bless others with those aspects of our Christian faith, and what a witness it can be to others, even to the world. Take stock, take inventory of all the blessings God has given you!

I know that I speak for my whole family when I say thanks again for your Pastor appreciation in October, and how grateful we are to call this parish our home.

Pastor Hinckley and family

IN OUR PRAYERS



Ken and Eileen Pickett's son, Michael, Dave Gross, Gene Harms, Lavera Chord, Phyliss Beitelspacher, Sheila Derr, Kelley Hoffmann, Brielle Trimble, Cal and Debbie Meredith, Brenda Cavanagh, Lou Hampton, Doug Daniels, Todd Wyant, Ig Gruenwald, Karen Schumm, Samantha Gansberg, The Blair's great-uncle, Dana, Lanette Neitzert with ongoing health issues.

Home Visit Members: Al Ramero, Jane Andersen, Jeannine Jones, Lois Sorenson, Fred Straub, Millie VanDerWerff, Kevin Klein.

4 Jordan Ross	21 Taylor Ross
4 Vlad Cranny	22 Debbie Meredith
7 Gary Kennedy	23 Leif Atkinson
12 Alexandra Lux	25 Ed Nickerson
15 Davey Dale	26 Kelley Cranny



Baptismal Birthdays

4 Amanda Blair
12 Luca Ross
27 Thor Sundstrom
Vlad Cranny



Many thanks to Blessed Emmanuel/Sturgis and Grace/Deadwood for thinking of me for Pastor Appreciation. I am truly grateful to be your Pastor, and my wife and family are happy to be here. The Lord has blessed our Parish with a great ministry and I am glad to work alongside you to accomplish it. May He continue to guide us by His Word and Spirit!

- Pastor Hinckley



"We Care Program"

Don't forget to save your Lynn's receipts! Please put them in Gene Zurcher's box at Blessed, and in the black mailbox labeled "Lynn's Receipts" on the table at Grace, and Erin will pick those up each week to give to Gene. This is a great way to raise funds for our churches!



The annual Schlecht Hay Ride took place Saturday, October 4th at the Schlecht home outside of Whitewood.

Members of Blessed Emmanuel Lutheran Church, as well as numerous other family and friends, enjoyed the fall festivities, which included: train rides, pumpkin football, a chili feed, and of course, a hay ride.

A big thanks to Kirby and Kim Schlecht for hosting this event each fall!



Grace Lutheran LWML has some exciting events coming up:

Currently, they are selling cards and napkins on the back table of the Sanctuary. Cards are \$7.50 and napkins are \$4.75.

They will host a bake sale ***Sunday, November 16th*** at the church from ***10am-2pm*** (or until all the goodies are gone.) All proceeds will go to the Children's Christmas list. Any members wanting to provide baked goods, please feel free to do so.

They will be holding a diaper/wipe drive for the Bella Pregnancy Center throughout the Advent season, beginning Sunday, November 30th.

The Grace LWML meeting this month will be ***Thursday, November 13th at 9:00am.***

Blessed Emmanuel Lutheran LWML:

Will meet Saturday, November 29th at 9:00am to decorate the church, and will have their monthly meeting after.

The Youth Group trip to the Spearfish Corn Maze was a success. A big thank you to Divine Shepherd for the invitation. We will be looking forward to future Youth Group activities with them.

Sturgis Parade of Lights will be Friday, December 5th. We will most likely use last year's theme for the float.

Advent dinners will be December 3rd, hosted by Stacey Sundstrom & Karenne Wyant and 17th, hosted by LWML.

Christmas Cards/Stockings: LWML will gather for Patty Kennedy.



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 *Holy Communion is celebrated 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays at Grace and every Sunday at Blessed Emmanuel

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 <i>Pentecost 21</i> Grace Service 8:30am BELC Sunday School/Bible Study 9:15am BELC Service 10:30am BELC Confirmation 11:30am	3	4	5 Grace Bible Study 2:00pm BELC Bible Study 3:45pm Grace Service 6:30pm	6	7	8
9 <i>Pentecost 22</i> Grace Service 8:30am Grace Annual Congregation Mtg. potluck bkfst follows BELC Sunday School/Bible Study 9:15am BELC Service 10:30am BELC Annual Congregation Mtg 11:30am	10	11	12 Grace Bible Study 2:00pm BELC Bible Study 3:45pm Grace Service 6:30pm	13 Grace LWML 9:00am	14	15
16 <i>Pentecost 23</i> Grace Service 8:30am BELC Sunday School/Bible Study 9:15am Grace LWML Bake Sale 10-2 BELC Service 10:30am BELC Confirmation 11:30am	17	18	19 Grace Bible Study 2:00pm BELC Bible Study 3:45pm Grace Service 6:30pm	20	21	22
23 <i>Last Sunday of the Church Year</i> Grace Service 8:30am BELC Sunday School/Bible Study 9:15am BELC Service 10:30am BELC Confirmation 11:30am	24	25	26 Grace Bible Study 2:00pm BELC Bible Study 3:45pm Grace Service 6:30pm	27	28	29 Decorate BELC for Advent 9:00am
30 <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i> Grace Service 8:30am BELC Sunday School/Bible Study 9:15am BELC Service 10:30am BELC Confirmation 11:30am	Grace LWML hosting diaper/wipe drive during Advent.					

LCMS November Bible Verse Challenge

Week of November 02, 2025 *2 Timothy 2:13*

If we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

Week of November 09, 2025 *1 Thessalonians 5:23*

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Week of November 16, 2025 *Ephesians 3:20-21*

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Week of November 23, 2025 *Revelation 2:10*

Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Week of November 30, 2025 *Micah 7:7*

But as for me, I will look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.

Grace Lutheran/Deadwood

Blessed Emmanuel/Sturgis

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