

LOGOS

The word from Word of Life

Volume 7 Issue 8

November-December 2018



*Let everything that has
breath praise the Lord.
Psalm 150:6*

A Promised Inheritance!

Winter Prelude

November 10, 2018

Guest organist - Bruce Bengtson
Pianist - Kathryn Eckmann
Hillside O'Malley Seventh Day Church
6000 O'Malley Rd
7:00pm, free admission
Reception

The church year will be ending with "Christ the King" Sunday on November 25th. A reading for that day is from Revelation 1:4b, "Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and **who is to come...**" Earlier in verse 3 is the message, "Blessed is the one who reads... blessed are those who hear... and take it to heart... **because the time is near**". Three of our readings in November will be taken from Hebrews and are forceful reminders that we need one more exposure to the profound plan that God has had since Creation, the plan to reconcile us to Him through the accomplishments by His Son, Jesus Christ - "God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son." (1 John 5:11).

Have you ever been the recipient of an inheritance? The person who bequeathed this inheritance had to accomplish two things before any inheritance could be transferred to you: composed a will, and died. When we read the Bible there are references to Covenants made by God. It is interesting to note that the words Will and Covenant are a single word in the Greek, when they are used in legal terms. So in the Old Testament when it mentions a Covenant between God and man it could be considered God's Will for man. The first Covenant (Will) involved the slaying of animals for a sacrifice (shedding of blood) so the sins of the people could be forgiven. This was a continual happening!

The second Covenant (Will) recorded in the New Testament concerns the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. "For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance – now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant." (Hebrews 9:15). A one-time event for all future generations with the promise of a magnificent inheritance. Jesus will come a second time to "bring salvation to those who are waiting for him." (Hebrews 9:28).

In a month our thoughts will turn to the first coming of Jesus as a babe, but before changing our focus remember we are already living in the kingdom of God, the time from Jesus' birth until he returns for all believers. When will this be? No one knows!

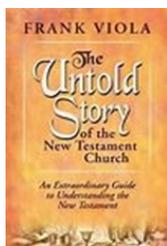
Amen. Come Lord Jesus. (Rev. 22:20b)

Daylight Savings Time Ends - Adjust clocks evening of Nov. 3rd!

* All Saints Sunday

Worship Texts for November

Date	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel	
Nov. 4	24th Sunday after Pentecost*	Deuteronomy 6:1-9	Psalm 119:1-8	Hebrews 9:11-22	Mark 12:28-37
Nov. 11	25th Sunday after Pentecost	1 Kings 17:8-16	Psalm 146	Hebrews 9:24-28	Mark 12:38-44
Nov. 18	26th Sunday after Pentecost	Daniel 12:1-3	Psalm 16	Hebrews 10:11-25	Mark 13:1-13
Nov. 25	Christ the King	Isaiah 51:4-6	Psalm 93	Revelation 1:4b-8	Mark 13:24-37



THE UNTOLD STORY by Frank Viola, 184 pages, Destiny Image Publishers, Inc., Shippensburg, PA

One of the difficulties of making sense of the New Testament (NT) is in the way it is arranged. When we read any book we naturally start on the first page and naturally proceed to the end. The NT is not however arranged in chronological order. The Gospels, written last are at the front with the Gospel we think was written first, Mark, coming second in line. The subsequent letters are arranged longest to shortest ending in Revelation, a natural starting point for our story. Mr. Viola has done us the great service of taking available scholarship and making a coherent narrative of the development of the church from the first days by arranging the letters in what most scholars believe is their chronological order. When he does this the full beauty of the work of the Holy Spirit through the Apostles and many other workers is revealed. How they overcame opposition, how and when workers were trained and who it was responding to their message are revealed. One of the most interesting things revealed is how small and poor the early communities were and how they were organized around the person of Christ. Mr. Viola calls them *communities expressing Christ*. They were led by local converts without much guidance. Indeed Paul would organize a community always in a city or town, stay a few months then leave and declare the whole province evangelized!

This book is a natural starting point for the many *communities expressing Christ* today. In the last few years the largest church in North America has been the many communities known as house churches. The house church movement is trying to recover the original mission of the church in smaller communities without the burden of large organizational structures and monetary expenditure in favor of developing relationships in Christ. Not all of these churches survive but the church is the body of Christ and although it may wither in one place it blooms again in another. Exciting times are before us and Mr. Viola is helping.

Submitted by Pastor Beverly Short



Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ
7000 N Sheldon Rd, Canton, MI 48187
www.lcmc.net



Word of Life Core Values

- **Jesus is Lord.**
- **Jesus is our guide.**
- **Forgiveness of sin leads to healing.**
- **Prayer changes things.**
- **Faith is God's gracious gift that saves.**

Worship Texts for December					
Date		1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Dec. 2	First Sunday of Advent	Jeremiah 33:14-16	Psalm 25:1-10	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Luke 21:25-36
Dec. 9	Second Sunday of Advent	Malachi 3:1-7b	Psalm 66:1-12	Philippians 1:2-11	Luke 3:1-20
Dec. 16	Third Sunday of Advent	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Psalm 85	Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 7:18-35
Dec. 23	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Micah 5:2-5a	Psalm 80:1-7	Hebrews 10:5-10	Luke 1:39-56
Dec. 30	First Sunday in Christmas	Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15	Psalm 111	Colossians 3:12-17	Luke 2:22-40