

"Dear Balsamlund Family, Thank you so much for the flower arrangement at my (Loni's) dad's funeral service. It was very comforting to know you were thinking of us and praying for us. We can't adequately express how meaningful and special it was to see those beautiful flowers from you. Please know that we appreciated it very much. We hope to see you again soon. With His love, Don and Loni Niles"

\*Join us for a special Thanksgiving Eve Service beginning at 7pm on Wednesday, Nov 24th.

\*If you have any questions or are interested in applying for the administrative assistant position please contact Council President Rich Gronlund.

\*The December Altar Guild is open for assignment. Please contact Rita Johnson at the church office at 218-837-5861 to sign up for the month. Thank you in advance.

## **IMPORTANT** : Due to circumstances, the Dine-In meal has been changed to "Pick-Up" only.

Sebeka Community Thanksgiving Dinner is Thursday, November 25th. Hosted by Our Saviour's Lutheran Church at 401 2nd Street SE, Sebeka (Corner of Slover Ave & 2nd Street SE)

Thanksgiving Dinner Menu: Turkey, ham, potatoes and gravy, stuffing, green beans, corn, dinner rolls, & assorted desserts.

~Pick-Up/Take-Out Meal: 9am - 11am (No "Dine-In meal" as stated in this weeks Review Messenger) Please call the Church Office at (218) 837-5831 no later than Monday November 22nd to leave us your name & number of take-out meals you need. The food is pre-cooked and ready to reheat in a separate container.

Free Will Offering. The proceeds go to The Sebeka Food Shelf.

Sign-up sheets for food are on the table in the Fellowship Hall. We need help Oct 24th and 25th. Preparers, servers, and clean up crew. For those who can't get in to sign up, we accept food donations by phone, call the church office and leave a message by Monday the 22nd.

\*Belated rememberances for "All Saints Day" are family members of Stan and Betty Stephenson, Charlotte Jessen and Leonard Thompson. Eternal blessings.

One of my favorite shows to watch with Milo is Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood. It's the next generation of all those wonderful characters from Mr. Rogers Neighborhood: Daniel Striped Tiger, Lady Elaine, King Friday, and the rest.

One of the reasons I love it is because the Land of Make-Believe -- where they all live -- is this idyllic community where everyone gets along, no one is left out, and when anything troubling happens, the parents come in and help us understand our feelings and move forward in friendship and love all in 22 minutes or less.

Basically, I love it because it's so different from the world we actually live in.

It's very clearly a land of make believe.

One of my favorite characters is King Friday, because he acts so differently from so many of the real-world examples of kings that we have. We are used to kings ruling with an iron fist. We are used to kings continually pressing their charges to conquer more for the sake of the kingdom.

And it's into this world that we remember and celebrate Jesus Christ who comes into this world from his kingdom which is *precisely not* of this world.

In our reading for this Sunday (Christ the King Sunday) we see Jesus squaring off with Pontius Pilate (the middle management of rulers back in the day.)

Pilate asks Jesus if he's a king and Jesus responds, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over..."

Yeah! That's the kingdom we recognize -- the kingdom that fights for power, that defends itself with violence no matter the cost.

But Jesus comes as the king of a world that is not this one.

Jesus comes to us as king of a world where peace and justice reign.

Jesus comes to us as king of a world where everyone is cared for, honored, and loved as God's children.

Jesus comes to us as king of a world where there is no need for power, status, conquests, or violence because we are all gathered into the one body of Christ worshipping the one who makes all things new.

When we pray for God's kingdom to come and God's will to be done on Earth as it is in Heaven, we are praying for this love to be made known in our own world.

As we celebrate Christ the King Sunday this weekend, may we remember the words of Jesus, and re-commit ourselves to doing our part in bringing God's kingdom here.

Grace + Peace,

Pastor Eric