



# St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church (UAC)

Butternut, Wisconsin (The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)

## The Universal Language of the Gospel of Jesus Christ

The last Sunday of May we observed the third of the three Major Feasts of the Holy Christian Church Year. That Sunday was Pentecost Sunday. It was not many days after Jesus' Ascension to the right hand of the Father that He poured out the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Day. The promised Holy Spirit now calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, keeping Christ's Church in the one true faith. Now in June we start in with the second half of the Church Year, the Sundays after the feast of the Holy Trinity: God Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We abide in Jesus Christ and Him crucified, risen and ascended through His Holy Life of Faith. And this Holy Christian Faith has a certain language to it: The Universal Language of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Looking back on that second Scripture Reading for Pentecost Sunday we have this more accurate translation of Acts 2:4,6,11 ~ *They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak different languages as the Spirit gave them power... and each one was bewildered to hear these men speaking in his own language...saying,..."We hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God..." (New Jerusalem Bible)*

A universal language. Was there ever such a thing? Is there still a universal language? "The idea of a universal language is at least as old as the Biblical story of Babel" which in fact is the Old Testament Reading for Pentecost Day. (quote from Wikipedia) English is the universal language of the Internet. Sentimentalists claim love is the universal language. But there was, in fact a universal language spoken by all the people living at that time. As the first Scripture from Genesis for Pentecost Sunday told us, right from the first verse of chapter 11: *Now the whole earth had one language and the same words*. Before the tower of Babel this was so. Also, to be sure, there has always been, and always will be, another sort of universal language of God's Holy Law, which has always been written on every person's heart from their conception. Yet from hearts of sin that are more prone to evil than to good come sins of pride, jealousy, attempts at works righteousness, and feeble tries to reach God on His level, and on our own terms (language). So from one universal language and a people united, sin's confusion and complete corruption came. Before they attempted the tower of Babel (which reflects the same sinful confusion of every generation since then...) they said, *Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth*.

They were scattered the world over with confused language and confused hearts, hearts that trusted in themselves and their strivings to climb their broken ladder to God and meet Him on their terms, their works, their sin-soaked lives. Not looking to the saving strength of the LORD and His Word, the promised Seed who would crush the ancient serpent's head, they instead looked away from the language of the Word of the Lord. And they lost their own universal language. Chaos, confusion, more sin for an already fallen and dying world was the result of Babel. Well so much for the "human

spirit” working together to accomplish great things without God! Thus goes the sinful misleading of every one of our hearts. The result: *And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.*

Pentecost is actually the day when the universal language was restored to all people. From that day forward to this very day there is the world over the *new* and *renewing* same words of God’s Word revealed and fulfilled in Jesus. Yes, there is *The Universal Language of the Gospel of Christ*. Pentecost’s ongoing miracle is in the forgiving and saving Message of Jesus Christ that they each heard then, and that the whole world hears today. From our Text: *“We hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God...”* You see, whenever the Word of God and the Spirit of God are separated, the sin of Babel begins again. When you are baptized by water and the Word into Christ and His Church, you received the Holy Spirit in full. When you hear, listen to and trust the whole of that Word of God preached and taught to you by your pastor and the teaching servants of the Church, you again are kept in God’s baptismal grace for you are receiving the Holy Spirit in full. When you are absolved of your sins under the cross of Christ and in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you’ve again received the Holy Spirit in full. When you eat Christ’s Body and drink His Blood, you feast to the full on the Holy Spirit. That’s how God works His mighty works!

And He has restored one voice, one Word, one Lord, one faith, one Baptism (Ephesians 4:5), one language of the Lord throughout the world: *The Universal Language of the Gospel of Christ*. The Holy Spirit of the living Christ came down to confusion, came down to sin, came down to a world babbling with disorder, and gathered the scattered with God’s Word; and He still does so in the Church today. Is love the universal language? No. Is it English, French, German, Russian, even Latin, Greek or Hebrew? No. The universal language is the Word of Christ for all to listen to and believe. And so we pray today: “Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful...” +Pr. Deitz



## St. Paul Lutheran Divine Service Schedule

*(Day, Date, Service, Theme, Scriptures & Hymns)*

**The Holy Trinity** ~ 4,7 June ~ Divine Service *Setting One* - p.151 ~ “...From Him...Through Him...To Him Are All Things.” ~ Psalm 29; Isaiah 6:1-7; Romans 11:33-36; St. John 3:1-15 ~ Hymns: 947,948,505,506,507,504

**The First Sunday After Trinity** ~ 11 June (No Wednesday Divine Service the 14th) ~ Divine Service *Setting One* - p.151 ~ *The Rich Man and Poor Lazarus* ~ Psalm 33; Genesis 15:1-6; 1 John 4:16-21; St. Luke 16:19-31 ~ Hymns: 797,708,622,636,819

**The Second Sunday After Trinity** ~ 18,21 June ~ Divine Service *Setting Three* - p.184 ~ “*The Fullness of the LORD’s House*” ~ Psalm 34; Proverbs 9:1-10; Ephesians 2:13-22; St. Luke 14:15-24 ~ Hymns: 904,622,633,639,680

**The Third Sunday After Trinity** ~ 25,28 June ~ Divine Service *Setting Three* - p.184 ~ *The Lost and Found by Christ and His Church* ~ Psalm 103; Micah 7:18-20; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; St. Luke 15:1-10 ~ Hymns: 609(1-4),566,709,710,609(5-6)

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
May 10, 2023**

Meeting was called to order by President Leon Fleischfresser, with Pastor Deitz leading us in devotions from Psalm 118:16 and Romans 6:9.

Those in attendance were: Leon Fleischfresser, Carrie Murphy, Pastor Deitz, Kathy Gustafson, Sean Kennedy, Gene Linsmeyer, Alexis Schloer and Trudy Kolar

Motion was made by Gene and seconded by Alexis to accept the minutes as printed. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Kathy and seconded by Gene to accept the treasurer's report as printed. Motion carried.

**REPORTS FROM:**

*Evangelism:* No one present

*Stewardship:* Nothing new to report.

*Finance:* Nothing new to report.

*Education:* VBS possibly to be planned for the end of June or pushing it to sometime in August. Will need further discussion.

**Elder's Report:** The Elder's met and discussed scheduling as usual. They also studied the Unaltered Augsburg Confession. Graduate recognition will be May 21. There are many people in the congregation and in the community that we need to keep in our prayers.

**Trustee's Report:** Sean met with the insurance adjuster. The adjuster said that we can make a claim for the ice damage of gutters and the ceiling damage in the parsonage that was caused by ice dam melting. Our deductible is \$500. We need to get an estimate for the repairs of the parsonage ceiling to submit to insurance before we can move forward with that repair. Any member of the congregation that has a carpentry business is welcome to give us an estimate for the repair.

Sean finally received the drome pictures from Total Restoration and submitted them to the insurance adjuster. We are waiting for a complete estimate from the roofing company in Stratford, and for them to contact our insurance adjuster to find out if insurance will cover some or all the damage to the steeple.

A big thank you to Nate Pritzl who installed the new garage door on the parsonage. It works and looks fantastic. Thank you!

**Old Business:** Parking lot sealing will take place in spring or early summer. Appointment needs to be made with the Seal Guys. The sealing was approved by the council. The Ladies Aid has extended their generosity and will donate \$1,500 toward the sealing cost.

**New Business:** There was a request for 1 person to transfer out of the congregation. Dean Miller has moved to Berlin, WI and has requested his membership be transferred to St. John's Lutheran Church in Berlin. The transfer was granted. We received a letter from St. Anthony's in Park Falls for the release of membership for Wayne Boness. The release was granted.

Leon Fleischfresser has donated wasp traps to the church to help combat the hornet/wasp problem we have every year. He placed one in the bell tower and one in the church basement. Thank you, Leon!

**Pastor's Report:**

Funerals: May 13 Lorraine Furtak

Confirmation: 3 Catechumens ~ Lizzie mae Pritzl, Hailey Shay Rauschenbach, and Kaylee Jo Schloer

Other: Wednesday May 24 Pastor Holoubek will be filling in for Pastor Deitz.

Kathy made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Carrie. Motion carried. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

*Trudy Kolar*  
Meeting Secretary

## What Do You Want?

One of the best-known and most-beloved psalms is Psalm 23, the “Shepherd Psalm.” There we learn that the Lord is our Shepherd. And since He is our Shepherd, we will not want. We will not suffer want because the Lord, our Shepherd, will lead us to green pastures and beside still waters. In other words, the Lord, our Shepherd, will provide for all that we need in both body and soul.

Yet, we live as though this is not the case. We live as though we actually suffer from want, that the Lord, our Shepherd, will not provide for all that we need. And thus, we live as though the Lord is not our Shepherd. And that means that we live as though we are not the Lord’s sheep.

When do we live as though the Lord is not our Shepherd? When we put anything else before Him and His provision for us. When we think that going to work is more important than receiving His gifts in church on Sunday (in violation of the First and Third Commandments). When we fail to give generously of the first fruits of what the Lord has provided for us because we don’t know what the future will bring (even though He has promised that He will lead us to green pastures and still waters).

We live as though we are not the Lord’s sheep when we think that the Lord is only in the business of helping those who will help themselves. We act this way because our minds are set on earthly, temporal things and not on heavenly, eternal things. We act this way because we have stopped hearing the call of our Shepherd, which comes through His Word.

Through the Word of God, the Shepherd calls us to Himself. Through the Word, the Holy Spirit gathers and enlightens us with His gifts.

Through the Word, we are kept holy and nourished in the one true faith, the faith that follows our Shepherd wherever He leads us. He promises to lead us to our true home, to the land flowing with milk and honey, to a better country, not of this world, but a heavenly one.

And so, here’s the Good News: the Lord is your Shepherd, even and especially for wayward sheep.

For Jesus seeks and saves those who are lost. He finds the lost sheep and carries them back to the fold. He is the Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep. The Lord is your Shepherd. Let us live as His sheep.

[Being Distinctly Lutheran: A Life Worth Living – The Lutheran Witness](#)  
[lcms.org](https://www.lcms.org)

## Being Distinctly Lutheran: A Life Worth Living

By Leah Broman



They do not believe; they do not behave; they do not belong. Amid our widespread cultural collapse, it is not surprising that the growing number of religiously unaffiliated — the Nones — claim no faith (belief), no attendance (behavior) and no church membership (belonging). Pew Research Center discovered, however, that although they may not behave or belong, two-thirds of Nones indicate they believe in some sort of god.

## Being Distinctly Lutheran Continued.....

Their belief stems from the human need for identity, meaning and purpose. As they faced remote work, fragmented families, online church, heightened skepticism and social media bombardment, they discovered their need for a place to belong and an understanding of how to live within that context

Our Lutheran faith and traditions offer depth and distinction to a world desperate for identity, meaning and purpose.

According to the General Social Survey, Nones are four times more likely to change their religious affiliation, and Barna has revealed that one in five Millennials — who make up the largest percentage of Nones — are moving toward liturgical traditions. These patterns are anecdotally observed in the small but growing interest in Roman Catholicism and Eastern Orthodoxy. Yet, as searching souls seek solace in liturgical churches, many are unaware of Lutheranism and our ancient roots.

### Historical Lutheran faith

Lutherans need to recognize and appreciate how our historical faith draws “from Scripture and the orthodox Ancient Church” (see Appendix A: Catalog of Testimonies, Book of Concord [CPH, 2006], 623–48; or visit [bookofconcord.org](http://bookofconcord.org)). The Lutheran church did not “appear” in the 16th century, rather it continued the tradition of proclaiming the apostolic word and creeds. Even today, in our study of the Word, we convey our need for a Savior as well as God’s forgiveness, life and salvation in Christ. Within our liturgical worship, we praise God with dignity and reverence. As God gives Himself to us in His Sacraments, we join with the saints across the ages. In days of constant flux, our ancient Lutheran faith offers a comforting and compelling stability.

Contemporary society vacillates between obsession with the materialistic and utilitarian, which are mired in the here and now, and rejection of the physical and material. On the one hand, it rejects the soul or any sort of spiritual existence; on the other hand, it affirms that you can do whatever you like sexually, regardless of physical reality. You can abort or euthanize without qualm; you can change your “gender identity.” In contrast, the Lutheran faith asserts the importance of the physical as a critical component of God’s creation, one which He declared good and through which He works.

Lutheranism celebrates the physical in relation to the spiritual in several ways. Our worship is incarnate. Our Sacraments contain visible elements. Our Lutheran liturgical and sacramental

life elevates the focus from the tangible toward transcendence, shifting the attention from us to God, and synthesizing that focus with physical and material meaning and intention. This focus on Christ and His work grants our souls a depth to life for which we desperately yearn, filling our lives with identity and meaning.

### Masks of God

Many people today also seek purpose. They attempt to find it in activities such as service, tolerance and economic justice. However, apart from an active and living faith in Christ, such activities will ultimately ring hollow. Jesus said, “Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing” (John 15:5). Serving others is the heart of the doctrine of vocation. Within our vocations, we both serve and are served. Luther referred to this as our “masks of God.”

Through our everyday relationships, in most of the hours of our day, we serve others. Human nature looks to what we “do” for significance. Yet the good works we walk in are not ours, but God serving others through us. The doctrine of vocation can help the Nones find purpose in their service to others.

Our faith is about being, not just doing. The world is on a treadmill of doing — there are never enough hours in the day; things are never good enough. Our Lutheran faith is a way of life and a state of existence. God serves us, instead of being about what we have done or how we have lived. And because of His love, our lives spill over in good works for the neighbor.

Thanks be to God. Both within our vocations and within our worship, God serves us, which is in stark contrast to the worldly “earn and deserve” method for acquiring something. He does not need our worship. He does not need our attendance. Instead, He serves us. We simply give thanks. Helping others understand the passive reception of God’s good gifts through the Divine Service comforts us in a world that obsessively focuses on accomplishment to provide identity.

The Lutheran faith offers identity, meaning and purpose by pointing us to Christ. It offers an ancient, timeless perspective; value through vocation; and the blessing of being served. Abiding in God’s blessings and grace is compelling and offers the Nones — and all of us — a framework for a life worth living.

## Collect(s) of the Week



**The Feast of the Holy Trinity** ~ Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

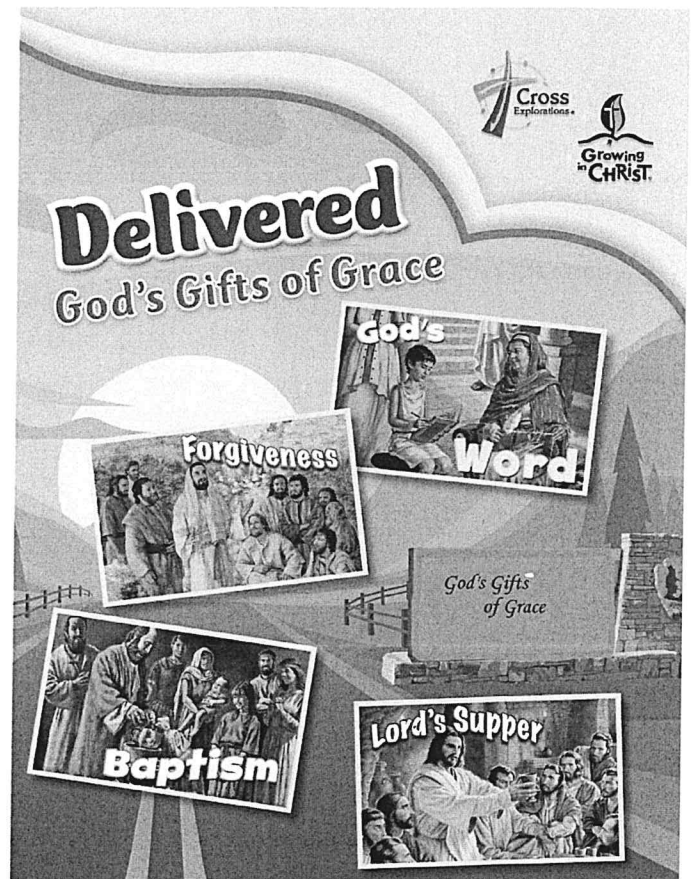
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity** ~ O God, the strength of all who trust in You, mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing, grant us Your grace to keep Your commandments that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Trinity** ~ O Lord, since You never fail to help and govern those whom You nurture in Your steadfast fear and love, work in us a perpetual fear and love of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Trinity** ~ O God, the protector of all who trust in You, without whom nothing is strong and nothing is holy, multiply Your mercy on us that, with You as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A Big "Thank You" to those of you that completed the May Word Search and the Names of Jesus Crossword Puzzle.

Howard & Judie Scherwinski, Leon Fleischfresser, Shirley Schultz, Vina Scherwinski, Carla Kloess, Carol Zilinger and Pearl Linsmeyer.



**Join us for St. Paul's Vacation Bible School  
June 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> 9:00am to 11:00am**

**Children ages Pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade are welcome!**

Registration forms are available at church and are sent home with your child from school, so be sure to check their backpacks. The children will learn about:

**God's Word**

**Forgiveness**

**Baptism**

**The Lord's Supper**

All of this jam packed into 3 fun filled days of learning, arts & crafts and outdoor games and activities. We hope your child(ren) can join us!

**On June 8<sup>th</sup> we will have a picnic with  
food, and games.**

**Pick-up will be at 11:30am**

**Our Youth Group will be leaving for The Creation Museum and Ark Encounter on June 12-16th 2023.**

They have been working very hard toward raising enough money to go. Great Job Youth Group! A Special Thank You to everyone who donated and contributed to their trip. THANK YOU!! And we look forward to hearing the wonderful stories and sharing your pictures when you return. Have fun and be safe! Here's just a little tid-bit of what they will be learning about while they are there.

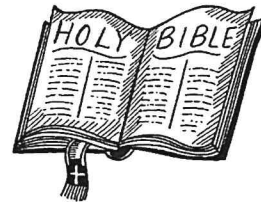
### **Creation and Science ~ Lucy the Ape**

Lucy is often the center of debate between evolutionary scientists and creation scientists who seek an answer to life's biggest questions: "Where did humans come from and why are we here?" Many secular scientists can present the Lucy specimen as an ape-man, the missing link between apes and humans. But what do Lucy's bones really tell us?



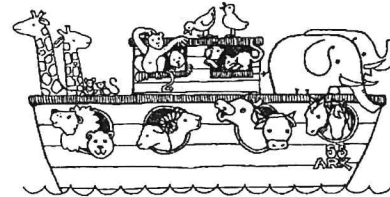
### **Bible History**

Forty authors writing 66 books over a span of 2,000 years wrote under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit what we know today as the Bible. But is the Bible just a collection of moral stories or is it full of true, historical accounts? Come see how God's Word stands up to the test of time, trials, and attacks.



### **Explore Bible History**

At the Creation Museum you'll journey through Genesis 1-11, encountering dozens of Bible characters and their lives. Meet Noah and his family as they build the Ark and are saved from the waters of the worldwide Flood. Find out how the biblical Flood answers questions such as "Where did fossils come from?" and "How did rock layers form?"



### **Garden of Eden**

After making the world and all the animals, God created Adam, the first man, on the sixth day of creation. Adam named all of the animals and then God created the second person, Eve, on that same day. God placed Adam and Eve in the perfect Garden of Eden where they lived in an untarnished relationship with God. At the end of the sixth day, God called everything He had made "very good."



### **Walking in the Garden**

At the Creation Museum, you will walk through biblical history, including through the idyllic Garden of Eden. Get a taste for the beauty and diversity of God's original, perfect creation. You'll probably spot some unfamiliar-looking animals too.

### **Encounter the True Account of Creation**

From the very first day when God created the heavens and the earth, to the sixth day when God created Adam and Eve and placed them in the Garden of Eden, come journey through Genesis at the Creation Museum where the true story of creation comes to life!



**PUZZLE 25: THE KING REJOICES IN YOUR STRENGTH, LORD (PSALM 21-25)**

T	I	R	E	H	N	I	Q	U	I	C	K	L	Y	Q	L	N	Q
G	P	I	H	S	R	O	W	R	E	Q	U	E	S	T	N	S	G
C	W	L	F	U	L	F	I	L	L	T	L	G	K	H	M	C	A
M	O	T	Z	M	Y	S	H	A	K	I	N	G	R	D	L	H	R
B	L	A	Z	I	N	G	T	Q	W	O	H	M	E	V	C	E	M
L	L	H	D	K	Y	E	D	E	L	Y	Z	D	K	O	F	M	E
Q	A	F	D	E	A	H	R	E	Y	S	N	N	N	T	F	E	N
L	W	K	K	C	L	A	B	L	C	U	D	S	T	J	C	S	T
W	S	H	H	Z	P	B	J	L	O	L	U	N	R	M	R	M	M
X	S	E	B	E	S	T	U	F	W	M	O	Y	A	V	E	W	W
R	S	T	R	R	I	N	Q	O	E	K	J	T	H	M	L	R	R
F	E	P	L	V	D	E	R	C	R	V	K	S	H	J	E	D	E
W	U	C	L	U	P	I	O	O	K	T	T	E	P	E	A	D	L
C	P	R	E	K	S	C	A	M	B	M	A	J	L	R	S	K	I
F	F	V	N	I	F	N	R	F	H	R	B	A	Q	H	E	Q	E
V	N	L	N	A	V	A	I	O	T	Q	R	M	Q	L	L	T	V
X	Y	H	L	M	C	E	N	R	R	K	F	T	Z	W	V	N	E
C	Z	R	D	R	M	E	G	T	K	Q	T	S	E	K	R	A	D

ANCIENT  
 BELONGS  
 BLAZING  
 CLOTHES  
 COMFORT  
 CONSUME  
 DARKEST  
 DEMANDS  
 DISPLAY  
 FOUNDED

FULFILL  
 FURNACE  
 GARMENT  
 HEART  
 INHERIT  
 INSULTS  
 MAJESTY  
 PREPARE  
 QUICKLY  
 RECEIVE

RELEASE  
 RELIEVE  
 REQUEST  
 ROARING  
 SCHEMES  
 SHAKING  
 SWALLOW  
 TEACHES  
 TROUBLE  
 WORSHIP



# Stretch Your Intellect

## Everyday Life

ANALYSIS

PLANNING

Use each of the words and names found below to complete this clueless crossword grid. The puzzle has only 1 solution.

### 4 Letters

Abib  
Adar  
Amen  
Beka  
Calf  
Care  
Cord  
Land  
Meat  
Mill  
Mina  
Need  
Oath

Omer  
Seed  
Soil  
Tomb

### 5 Letters

Deeds  
Doers  
Grain  
Manna  
Purim  
Quail  
Shema  
Tests

Torah  
Tunic  
Visit

### 6 Letters

Depend  
Equate  
Girdle  
Gleans  
Hallow  
Learns  
Lepton  
Praise  
Shebat

Shekel  
Temple  
Trades

### 7 Letters

Command  
Denarii  
Nomadic  
Sabbath  
Waiting  
Wedding  
Weights

### 8 Letters

Banquets  
Blessing  
Kindness  
Neighbor  
Offering

### 9 Letters

Direction  
Encourage

### 12 Letters

Thankfulness

