

## A Time to be Thankful

In this time of unsettledness in our world, our country, and our lives in general; you may be questioning how it can be a time to be thankful. However, we always have reason to be thankful when we are focusing on Christ.

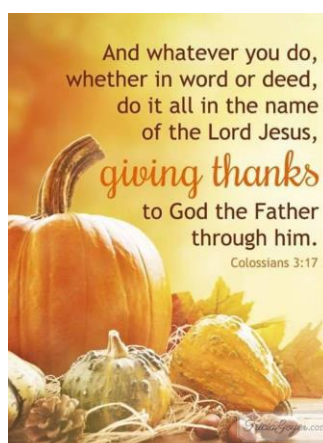
When we focus on Christ, our attitudes change from seeing the negatives of life, and we can see the positive that is available in everything. We find many scripture verses that instruct, assure, and encourage us concerning expressing our thanks to the Lord for all things.

Here are a few examples of those verses. David said, "Praise the LORD! Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!" (Psalm 106:1 ESV). 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:18 ESV tells us, "give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." In Colossians 3:15-17 ESV we find this instruction also from Paul, "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Try starting each day thanking God for at least one thing in your life. I have found that this has a way of helping me focus better on the Lord throughout the day and even though rough things do happen, I can turn to God easier and even thank Him in through these times because I remember Romans 8:28 NIV, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

So, remember that it is always time to be thankful. Hopefully you will be able to use this month as we celebrate Thanksgiving to develop a daily time of thanksgiving that will carry all through the year!

Blessings,  
Pastor Ruthie Trigg



## Christmas Baskets:

*It's that time of year & Christmas Basket prep & planning has begun. We will be doing a drive-thru pick-up this year, which will be on Sat. December 18<sup>th</sup> 9am - 12pm. Call ins will be Nov. 29 - Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> 9am - 1pm and Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> - Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 9am - 1pm. If you would like to sign up to take calls during Nov. 29 - Dec. 3, please see or call Becky. More information about volunteering to help with Christmas Baskets will be in the December newsletter.*



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2021

Operation Christmas Child brings joy & hope to children in desperate situations worldwide through gift-filled shoeboxes and the Good News of God's love. Here are some ways you can make a difference in the lives of those children: **Pray** - please pray that God will touch the heart of every child who receives a shoebox gift and that He will bring many children and families to faith in Christ. **Pack a Gift** - a shoebox filled with small toys and other gifts can open hurting hearts to God's love. Instructional brochures can be found in each shoebox. **Give** - please remember to \$9 or more per box to cover shipping and other project costs. Announcements will be made in church.

**Boxes are due back in Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.**





## **Joys**

Brenda C. - recovering from successful surgery

Nancy Mc. - recovering from successful surgery

Raedell, Bruce L's cousin -recovery from leg injury

Katie Winkler married on October 23<sup>rd</sup>

Safe travels for many

Successful surgeries for Brenda C. & Nancy Mc.

## **Concerns**

Missionaries in Haiti held hostage

Safe travels

Our country

## **Health**

Rae K. - shoulder replacement recovery

Lovell, Bruce L's sister - cancer & breathing problems

Irene H. - rehab at Smithville-Western Care Center (& Bob)

Pam H - surgery Nov 1<sup>st</sup>

Debbie B. (& her husband, Rev. David B.) - stroke recovery & cancer

Chris B. (& Steve) - back pain

Anita (& Don V.) - nerve damage in leg

Pastor Joyce Williams (& Jack) - cancer

Butch & Nancy Mc.

Keifers' cousins' baby, William Walter

Dick & Dorothy G.

Harry & Nancy

Pat M. & Robin K.

Pauline R.

Rae S.

Annibale & Mohr families, Mary Lynn

## **Surgery**

Pam H - surgery Nov 1<sup>st</sup>

## **Our sympathy to the family & friends of:**

Dr. Bill Knapic (Sue Baker's dad)

Amanda Bumgardner (Heidi Gear's mom)

Ben Caskey (son of Leslie Seiler Tisdale's friends)

Elaine Mravetz (friend of Pastor Ruthie)

Rev. Steve Bloomquist (friend of Pastor Ruthie)

Former Assistant Fire Chief Jim Metheney

## ***Fireside Chat***



Dear friends,

In the summer of 1990, just after Ken and I left this church to serve Community UMC in Elyria, we took Ellen to Vandercook College of Music located on the south side of Chicago. It was located across a busy street from the dormitories of Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT). Vandercook is a small college - only one building at that time. IIT allowed the female students to live in the girls' dorm on campus. The dorms were located on the south end of the campus. The talk the police had with the girls on safety indicated going south from the school on foot was a "no no" and not even recommended in a car. The girls who stayed at school in the evening to study and practice were escorted across the street to the dorms or to their cars by the male students who were paid to secure the building at night. I still feel indebted to these young men who kept Ellen and her fellow women students' safe for the four years she was there. Our Bishop served as DS in Chicago and knows the area well and understands why my prayer life grew during those four years.

In September, Pastor Ruthie told us about a conference mission project of helping to build a women's dorm at Africa University in Zimbabwe. If you are at least in your 50s and you were a part of a United Methodist Church, you may remember when our Conference helped build the University. It has since grown and is a very respected university. Having enough housing for students has been a problem for the last few years, especially safe housing for the women to live in and who now may have to walk long distances through parts of town where you wouldn't want your daughters to have to walk by themselves and they don't have male escorts like Ellen did. Pastor Ruthie mentioned in passing one Sunday of the request the Conference was making for an offering in September and you responded in love. Over \$590.00 was given above your other offerings to help build a girls' dorm. If you missed the announcement and would like to make a gift to help build the dorm, put your money or check in an envelope marked for Africa U. Dorm and send or bring it to the church. The money can still be sent in to the Conference by the end of the year.

We've done this plus kept our apportionments up to date and all bills paid. I say, "God is good all the time." And you said, "All the time, God is good!" Praise God!

Blessings,

*Martha Baillis*, Finance Chair.

## **Trustee's Corner**



Items since last month:

Replaced Narthex smoke detector, has 10 yr. battery.

Tony Newman roofing repairs - \$1200

Replaced 3 shingles on south sanctuary roof.

Caulked around base of steeple.

Replaced caulking around chimney.

Caulked SW valley above preschool leak.

Caulked 9 standpipes & vents.

Installed sliding door latch on north door of west SS bathroom for added security.



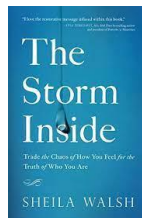


## **NEW Men's Bible Study!**

**There will be a new Bible Study for men led by Rev. Don Trigg on Thursday evenings at 6:30. They will begin by studying the Book of John.**

## **Women's Bible Study**

**There is always room for more! Join us for a great chance to learn more about God's Word and a wonderful time of fellowship!**



### **The Storm Inside:**

**Trade the Chaos of How You Feel for the Truth of Who You Are**  
**By Sheila Walsh**

**Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> (8 sessions)**

**Meeting on Thursdays: 10:00am in person led by Pastor Ruthie,  
2 groups at 6:30pm one led by Sara Ullman and Betty Winchell,  
and one led by Pastor Ruthie.**

**Contact Pastor Ruthie or Betty, if you need a book.**



## **November**

8<sup>th</sup> - Mel Chipps  
15<sup>th</sup> - Andrea Stahl  
24<sup>th</sup> - Janice Wagner  
26<sup>th</sup> - Madalyn Allen  
22<sup>nd</sup> - Anita Vohar  
29<sup>th</sup> - Mary Ann Allen

13<sup>th</sup> - Pam Hartman  
23<sup>rd</sup> - Kaitlin Strayer  
25<sup>th</sup> - Dorothy Gillman  
27<sup>th</sup> - Brett Richards  
23<sup>rd</sup> - Lydia Stahl

**Thank you for all the prayers, beautiful cards,  
and kind remembrances for our family  
at the loss of Niles.**

**We are forever grateful for your love and support at this time.**

*Blessings,  
Rita Blough*

## Upcoming Events & dates to remember

**Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Choir practice starts @ 6pm



**Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup>:** Daylight Savings Time –  
*Remember to fall back.*  
**Set you clocks back 1 hour Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup>  
in the evening.**



### *Hanging of the Greens*

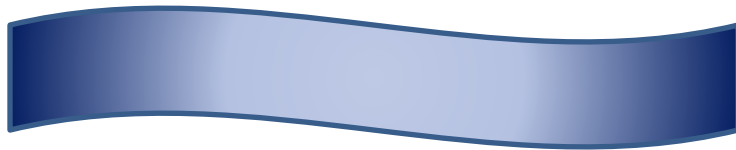
*You and your family are invited to “Hanging of the Greens” on Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup> following our Worship service and the refreshment time with the Preschoolers and their families.*

*We hope to see everyone there as we get ready to celebrate the most joyous time of year.*





Thank you to everyone who continues to support the funding & volunteering for the food pantry. Our October Food Pantry, which was our first one with the Community Dinner & Worship in over a year went well. We had 19 families (0 new), 53 people and 25 sets of bags given out. If you hear of anyone needing food, please have them call the church office to come pick up a food supply during office hours, or they can contact Pastor Ruthie to set up a different time to pick up. ***Our last Food Pantry for 2021 will be Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>: 3:30pm - Worship, 4-5:30pm - Food Pantry/Community Dinner. Sign-up sheet for Community Dinner will be available on Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>.***



♥ Welcome to  
Preschool!

This past month, the preschoolers have been working on letter recognition, letter sounds, fine motor activities and handwriting. We had a wonderful visit from the Rittman Fire/EMS, they even circled the parking lot with their sirens on which the children LOVED!! After their visit, the children made thank you cards for the firefighters.

We have been giving the children “homework” in which they find items at home or draw pictures and then bring the items to class. They then get to share their “homework” with the class. During this sharing, the children get to stand up in front of the class and share what they brought. After each child is done sharing, the rest of the children clap and say, “Thank you for sharing!”

The children are working hard learning songs that they will be performing in the sanctuary on November 21<sup>st</sup>. These songs will include seasonal songs, preschool songs, and Biblical songs.

Thank you in advance for participating in our fundraising program. The money raised will help pay for the Akron Zoo Mobile that is scheduled for March.



**Preschool singing during worship service on  
Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021.**



*In this month of Thanksgiving, we all should feel the joy of sharing of time, talent, treasure; sharing not only our money, but also some of our time specifically offered to God, and talent, the special things we can do in his name who gave us these special gifts.*



### *Thanksgiving Grace*

*"This is a day for thanks. A day in which we see or hear or feel the wonders of the other moments of the year."*

*"This is a day for joy. A day in which we share a gift of laughter warm and gentle as a smile."*

**~Daniel Roselle**