

It's Good to Give Thanks

I decided to do a little research on the holiday of Thanksgiving. If the historians are correct with all their dates and events, the very first Thanksgiving service was held in 1607 in Maine. Following this celebration, and for a number of years, colonists in Jamestown, Pilgrims at Plymouth and settlers up and down the coastline sporadically observed harvest celebrations at the local level – with no particular date as the “official” day of Thanksgiving. This went on for 150 years, and then politics entered the scene!

Of course, politicians have difficulty agreeing on just about anything – including when to celebrate a holiday. When they came together to pick a specific day for Thanksgiving, they argued over what Thursday in November would be the “correct” day for celebration. Would it be the first Thursday of November? Second Thursday? Last Thursday of the month? Finally, in 1941, a Congressional joint Resolution officially set the fourth Thursday of November as our national holiday!

This brings us to Thanksgiving 2014. On Thursday, November 27th many of us will be celebrating with family and friends, eating turkey, watching football and enjoying a day of relaxation. Hopefully, we will also be giving thanks to God for the many blessings received.

In Psalm 92:1-2, King David expressed his thanks and praise to his Creator: *“It is good to give thanks to the LORD, And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; To declare Your loving kindness in the morning, And Your faithfulness every night,”* Note – David did say “every night.” I think we can learn something from his proclamation.

Let's not limit our attitude of thanksgiving to one day out of the year. Every morning, throughout the day and in the evening before we sleep – giving thanks and praise to God is in order. If you aren't quite sure about things to thank God for, here is a partial list:

- God's righteousness and holiness – Psalm 7:17, 30:4, 48:10, 71:16, 99:3.
- All God's marvelous works – Psalm 9:1, 66:3-7, 71:16-17, 72:18,.
- God's guidance and instruction – Psalm 16:7, 48:14, 71:17.
- God's blessings and benefits – Psalm 68:19.

Need more? Search the Book of Psalms and I'm certain you'll find additional reasons to give God thanks.

And so, from our house to yours, have a very Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving. After all, we have so much to be thankful for!

Pastor Bill and Sue

Messages from the Diaconate

Diaconate Meeting - Thursday, Nov. 13 at 7pm.

"All-Saints Day"-This Sunday, Nov. 2: Please join us for a very special service dedicated to remembering those in our church family who we've lost in the past year. In recognition of "All-Saints Day", which falls on Nov. 1 each year, a ceremony in honor of those who've passed on to be with our Lord and Father in heaven will take place during worship this Sunday. Red flowers will be presented to surviving family members and a bell will toll in memory of each of our dearly departed. We hope you will come and share in the moment!

Volunteers on Sunday: We need people to fill roles during Sunday services in November. If you are able and available to lend a hand as an usher, liturgist, or fellowship host, please see Nancy Wolter or sign the sheet on the table in the Mayflower Room. Thank you!

Thanksgiving Basket for a Church Member: The Diaconate, in concert with others in the church, will be collecting non-perishable food and/or money to buy a gift card for a member of our church who can really benefit from our charity this holiday season. In the spirit of God's love, we humbly serve those less fortunate than ourselves to ease their burden. If you have a suggestion for a member that could use our assistance, please see John Peters.

Advent Readers Needed - Believe it or not, the first Sunday of Advent this year is Nov. 30! As such, it isn't too early to give notice that the Diaconate is looking for couples, or two or more members of the same family, who would like to volunteer to do a reading and candle lighting on each of the 4 Sundays in Advent leading up to Christmas Eve. If you are interested in participating, please see a Diaconate member or contact the church office by phone or e-mail.

"Hanging of the Greens" & Potluck Dinner: The Diaconate has chosen Friday, December 5th as the date on which we gather to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. Prior to decorating, there will be a Potluck dinner in the Mayflower Room at 6:00pm. The Diaconate is providing ham. Sign-up sheets will be posted in the sanctuary and the Mayflower Room in November. Please consider attending and bringing a dish to share. Thank you!

Altar Flowers Chart for 2015 -A new altar flowers sign-up for the soon-to-be new year where you can choose a Sunday to dedicate altar flowers to someone close to you will soon be posted in the sanctuary. This time, it will be tacked to a bulletin board (for ease of access!)

From the Board of Trustees:

Trustees Meeting—Wednesday, Nov. 12, 7pm

2015 Budget Requests

The board of Trustees is working on the 2015 budget and needs the help from all Boards and Committees. Please review your current 2014 budgets and if you find a need to increase or possibly decrease for 2015, please relay this information to the Trustees ASAP. We need to have a 2015 tentative Budget ready by December 1, 2014.

Church Council Meeting

There is a Church Council meeting scheduled for Wednesday November 19th at 7:00pm. All are welcome to attend. Officers, Boards and Committees are encouraged to attend this first meeting with our new Pastor, Reverend William Kren.

Treasurer's Report for September 2014

Income- \$7,025.31
Expenses- \$17,514.79

Capital Improvement Fund - \$11,034.55
Investments with UBS valued at \$212,413.78

Matthew Haling, Treasurer



OUR CHURCH AT WORK In November



Helpers for Sunday Services

Greeters:

- November 2 – Ian Haas
- November 9 – Ian Haas
- November 16 – Ian Haas
- November 23 – Ian Haas
- November 30 – Ian Haas

Ushers:

- November 2 – John Proctor & Pete Stacho
- November 9 – Joanne Owen & Available
- November 16 – Available
- November 23 – Available
- November 30 – Available

Liturgists:

- November 2 – John Peters
- November 9 – Nancy Wolter
- November 16 – Valerie Haas
- November 23 – Available
- November 30 – Available

PRAYER LIST



| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Bernice Hartling | Medical Concerns |
| Shirley Fedraw | Medical Concerns |
| Bunny Hoganson | Medical Concerns |
| Geri Sampson | Medical Concerns |
| Suzanne Van Ranst | Medical Concerns |
| Dotty Klein | Medical Concerns |
| Pat Stacho | Medical Concerns |
| Sean Goldie | Medical Concerns |

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 8 Pauline Gourlay
- 16 Nancy Wolter
- 18 John Peters
- 19 Teresa Curless
- 20 Veronica Corbin
- 25 Diana Schilbe
- 26 Kirk Haas
- 27 Cheryl Brown
- 29 Katherine MacKenzie

Dedication of Flowers - November

- November 2 – Available
- November 9 – Diana Lindsey
- November 16 – Available
- November 23 – Available
- November 30 – Available

Fellowship Hour – November

- November 2 – Elaine Stacho
- November 9 – John Peters & Teresa Curless
- November 16 – Available
- November 23 – Available
- November 30 – Available

DATES TO REMEMBER...

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|----------|----|-------------------|-----|
| November | 12 | Trustees Meeting | 7pm |
| November | 13 | Diaconate Meeting | 7pm |
| November | 17 | Book Club Meeting | 7pm |

I'm Just Sayin'...

...with Pat Stacho

Excuse me while I rant! I am not ashamed of my ranting, I am ranting on behalf of all women. Well, maybe not Kim Kardashian, but MOST women.

Cleaning the bathroom...my personal nightmare. I hate cleaning the bathroom. The sink is always the start. Not really too bad. Until I lift up the soap dish, hairspray, etc. All the cute little "crap" for decor appeal needs wiped down. Then I scrub the sink, toothpaste, whiskers, yuck! You'd think we were slobs! But it is shining now!

Moving on to the tub. I can't get down on my knees anymore. I bought a handled bathbrush. I fill the tub a bit with soapy water and scrub it up. It works, but it's a bittersweet accomplishment. I can't sit in the tub anymore. I could get in, but I can't get up! I'm betting a lot of you know exactly what I am talking about. I miss a bath, sitting in a bubble paradise, relaxing, feeling pampered. I miss that! And yet I still have to clean that big 'ol tub. And the bathmat...a rubber mold maker! I wash it and it still gets nasty. I think it's a test. One that I failed. It breaks my heart watching a movie, when I see some bimbo in a deep tub of fragrant bubbles, smiling, eyes shut, just on the edge of ecstasy, and I can't take a bath!

Next we tackle the toilet! Scrub the hard water stains, scrub, scrub, scrub. A lot of scrubbing so someone can poop in it! Seems wrong somehow. Of course, men

call it the throne. I think it goes back to that belief that a man's home is his castle. But I am pretty sure Elizabeth ain't cleaning Phil's throne!

Finally, the floor needs doing. I used to be able to get on my knees, and scrub the corners and the molding. Those days are gone. The aforementioned hairspray is a sticky challenge. My girlfriend says, "That's why I scrub my floor daily." Hard to believe we remain friends isn't it? But the bathroom is finally cleaned. Looks good, smells fresh, good job me.

Until next time.

Now on to the kitchen. I love the cooking; I just wish I had a clean-up crew in this castle of mine!

I'm just sayin...





Book Club

The Book Club is reading *The Fault in Our Stars*, by John Green. There are copies available for check-out in the blue bag behind the desk in the office. The next Book Club meeting will be November 17th at 7pm.

2014 Men's Club Annual Christmas Tree Sale

The Trees are coming, the trees are coming,
the trees are coming !!!

The Men's Club is pleased to announce that we will again sell Christmas Trees this year.

We are always looking for plenty of volunteers: whether setting up the lot, unloading the truck, pricing trees, or selling trees.

For selling trees, sign-up sheets will be available at church. Selling times will be in the usual 3 hour blocks. As you can see, there is plenty to do, but every year, we as a church community rise to the occasion and make a successful annual tree sale.

We will return to Dutchman Tree Farms for the supply of the trees this year. Save the date of Saturday, Nov. 22nd for a hearty breakfast, setting up the lot and unloading the trees. Breakfast will be served at 8:00 am. We will unload the truck and set up the lot after breakfast.

Bring a friend or guest, all are welcome. See you on Saturday, November 22nd.



Rummage & Bake Sale Thank You!!

Thanks to all who put in countless hours of work collecting, sorting, staging, baking, and selling during the Rummage and Bake Sale this year. The sale was quite a success, and we made more than \$6,000.

We couldn't have done it without all you workers...and all you buyers!



Ornaments for the Christmas Tree Lot

Please bring in donations of gently used Christmas Tree ornaments for our Christmas Tree Sale. We want to offer them for sale along with the trees.





The Sunday School Children are participating in a mission project involving packing shoe boxes with gifts for needy children around the world. Samaritan's Purse collects and distributes these boxes through a program called "Operation Christmas Child". There are different ways to help. You could buy items, put them in the designated collection box at the back of the sanctuary; you could donate a few shoe boxes or plastic boxes of the same size; you could donate money to go towards the shipping of the boxes. We need \$7.00 for every box for shipping.

Here's what we'll be doing:

Filling shoe boxes or shoe box size plastic containers, with small gifts for girls and boys from ages 2-4, 5-9 and 10-14.

The Sunday School Children will assemble boxes on November 4th and 11th, and then deliver the boxes to a designated drop-off point.

Anything that you could donate will be helpful for this project. In addition to items for the boxes, we need monetary donations for shipping costs for the boxes.

"The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to needy children around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ."

We will be delivering the shoeboxes for mailing the week of November 17th.

Suggested gift items for the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes:

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: Pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

TOYS: Small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky, etc.

HYGIENE ITEMS: Toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.

OTHER: T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries)

A PERSONAL NOTE: You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

DO NOT INCLUDE: Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out- of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

Samaritan's Purse is a Christian relief and evangelism organization led by Franklin Graham.