From the Pastor's Desk

This past Friday night the kids ministry team hosted Pizza-giving for kids and their adults. We had a great time of food and fun; but more importantly, we were able to share the love of Jesus with more than 20 kids!

The main theme of the night was to not just focus on *what* we are thankful *for*, but *who* we are thankful *to*! We have many blessings to be thankful for, but it is also important that we remember that the thanks for those blessings goes to God. At Pizza-giving we learned the story of Jesus healing 10 men; only ONE of them returned to say thank you to Jesus. (Luke 17:11-19). We noted together that giving thanks is good; but giving thanks to God is different than just being thankful! When we give thanks to the Lord we acknowledge Him as the source of blessings. That's why the kids learned this memory verse: "I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart" – Psalm 9:1a

This is a great message for all of us as we enter the Thanksgiving holiday season. When this weekly update comes out, we will be just two weeks away from Thanksgiving – can you believe it? During this thanksgiving holiday I want to challenge all of us to become more aware of who we give thanks to. Here are some things you (and maybe you and your friends, family, or little ones as well) can do to remember who to be thankful to over the next two weeks.

- **Write a thank you note to Jesus** just like you would write a thank you note for anything else, take some time to compose a heart-felt thank you to Jesus for what He's done for you. Put it in an envelope and keep it in a safe place until Thanksgiving next year. You can open it in November 2025 and be reminded of the ways you were grateful to Jesus in 2024.
- **Take a gratitude hike** just you, or with friends, family or kiddos, take a short hike anywhere you like to go. On the first half, talk with each other about all the things you are grateful for not just on your hike, but in your life. On the second half of the hike, pray silently or together and thank God for the things you listed in the beginning.
- **Make an alphabet list** on a large piece of paper, write each letter of the alphabet in a vertical line. Alone or with others, try and come up with something to thank God for that begins with each of those letters. Try to be creative and come up with something for every letter of the alphabet; then pray and thank Jesus for each one.
- Do a sneaky act of kindness One of the best ways we can say "thank you" to God is to share His love with others. Look for a way to do something kind for someone else over the next few weeks. Rake their leaves, sweep their porch, bring a treat, write a letter, bake some cookies, etc. Try to think creatively! Here's the key; don't let them know it was YOU who did the kind act! Be sneaky don't sign the letter, leave the cookies on their desk at work, or at their door. Do something nice for another purely out of gratitude to God for all He's done for you.

POINSETTIAS We are collecting orders for Christmas poinsettias Friday, Nov. 22. The cost is \$7 for a 4 ½ inch pot. The color options are red, white, pink, marble or speckled. You can list who the flower is in honor or memory of. The flowers will be displayed December 22 and Christmas Eve. You can take yours home following the Christmas Eve service. An order form is on the signup table in the Gallery. Please pay for your plant at the time of ordering.

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

- November 14 Emmaus 4th Day
- November 14 7:00 p.m. Outreach Team Meeting
- November 17 Sunday morning Worship & 2nd Hour for All
- November 20 10:00 a.m. GLOW (Women)
- November 20 6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting (rescheduled)
- November 20 6:45 p.m. Music Team
- November 24 Sunday morning Worship NO 2nd Hour
- November 24 Christmas Tree Decorating during 2nd Hour
- November 25 Session Meeting
- November 26 The Grind (Men)
- November 28 Happy Thanksgiving



VOLUNTEERS FOR NOVEMBER 17

Greeters Jim & Candi Kinney

Bridget Rhamy

Ushers Keith Hewitt & Shad Swinehart

Café Jenny Reed

Nursery (Worship) Melinda Moffitt
Nursery (2nd Hour) Jenny Miller
Kidz Jam Delores Schlegel
Kids 2nd Hour Georgie Miller
Elder Assist Claudia Ward
Safety Team Tom Machamer

BYOM Just a friendly reminder from our Seasons Café folks - you are encouraged to bring your own coffee mug, cup, travel mug, thermos, jug, or flask to collect your Sunday morning coffee. It helps reduce the cost of paper cups and lids



PRAYER

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.
The prayer needs listed in **BOLD** are new to the list.

Praises

- Claudia is back with us
- Wendy Scott doing better
- Praise for the life of Vonnie Jugan
- Praise for the Marching Band Season
- Praise for the many talents God bestows
- John Scott's mother 91 years old

Military Service:

- Shannah Swinehart Army National Guard
- Christa Nelson Navy
- Rusty King Army
- Ryan Chabak stationed in Alaska
- Isaiah Styer stationed at Camp Lejeune in NC
- Gaven Bee stationed in Dayton, OH

Prayer Needs

All victims of Hurricanes Helene & Milton

Health Concerns:

- Roger Stroud in Akron Hospital
- Jenny Miller's Uncle Joe
- Rachel healing
- Tanya Chupp continued healing
- Dale & Tonya
- Edna Wade's sister back pain
- Julie health concerns
- Paula Shrader broken hip
- Pastor Albert continued healing from accident
- Tiana prayers for her and baby
- Wendy Scott health concerns
- Jane Heilman

Battling Cancer

- Judy Pinnick colon cancer
- Janet Lee lung cancer diagnosis
- Mary Hardesty entering hospice
- Waldo cont'd prayers for remainder of chemo
- Landon Sommers Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- David
- Keylee leukemia
- Dale James

Condolences

The family of Tim Petrie

The Deacons encourage you to send cards or notes of encouragement to those in the church family experiencing prayer needs.

LET'S DECORATE!



Sunday, November 24 there will be no 2nd Hour. Instead, we will gather after worship and decorate the church for Christmas. The main areas for decorating include the sanctuary, the Gallery, the

hall way and the Fellowship Hall. If we split into groups we can have it all looking Christmas-y in no time. The first Sunday in Advent is December 1.



Ladies! On Friday, December 6 let's gather together at 6:30 p.m. (location to be announced) Bring a salad or dessert and a wrapped Christmas item to exchange.

SOME THANKSGIVING TRIVIA FOR YOU

- 1. What popular Thanksgiving food was grown in space?
- 2. What state raises the most turkeys?
- 3. What pro football team has played almost every Thanksgiving since 1934
- 4. Referred to as the pumpkin capital of the U.S, what town is home to Libby's pumpkin canning plant?
- 5. Is a pumpkin technically a fruit or a vegetable?
- 6. What is a female turkey called?
- 7. What is a male turkey called?
- 8. What U.S. President declared Thanksgiving Day a National holiday?



Candi Kinney

Free Day Fun

Hike in a park/Biking on Rails to Trails

verseas Vacay

Something Interesting

I was in an all-girl band at Dalton High School!

FOOD: Lobster/Seafood

BIBLE CHARACTER: Noah

COLOR: Green

Knitting, making cookies, reading, bike riding - occasionally

Baseball or Football Mexican Food or Chinese Food Late Nights or Early Mornings

hocolate or Vanilla