

Dear church family,

The month of November holds the holiday that serves as a reminder to all Americans to be thankful. We have been blessed in countless ways in this country and so we have much to be thankful for. Oftentimes though, people do not live with gratitude. Many live ungratefully, even on the holiday when we are supposed to be grateful.

Christians, however, are called to be a thankful people, not just when things are going well or on national holidays, but at all times. The Apostle Paul reminds us of this difficult challenge in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 when he says, "16 Rejoice always, 17 pray continually, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." Why should we be thankful? Well, it may be a matter of perspective.

British author and journalist George Mikes wrote this excerpt in his book, "How to Be Decadent," from Penguin Group Pub: In Budapest, a man goes to the rabbi and complains, "Life is unbearable. There are nine of us living in one room. What can I do?" The rabbi answers, "Take your goat into the room with you." The man is incredulous, but the rabbi insists. "Do as I say and come back in a week." A week later the man comes back looking more distraught than before. "We cannot stand it," he tells the rabbi. "The goat is filthy." The rabbi then tells him, "Go home and let the goat out. And come back in a week." A radiant man returns to the rabbi a week later, exclaiming, "Life is beautiful. We enjoy every minute of it now that there's no goat — only the nine of us."

For Christians, our thanksgiving is bound up in our union with the One who rescues us, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Therefore, our perspective on life and our circumstances change when we live into this Christian truth. We rejoice, we pray, and we give thanks, because we have hope, because we have Jesus. Without Jesus, it is hard to be thankful.

The Psalms are prayers filled with rejoicing and thanksgiving. Many of them were written by King David who experienced so many different ups and downs throughout the stages of his life. Through all of it, he learned that God is the only One who can rescue, forgive, redeem, sustain, and help, all because of God's love and mercy. David learned to be thankful in all circumstances. Every furrow in the book of Psalms is planted with the seeds of thanksgiving.

Psalm 100:4b-5, "Give thanks to the Lord; bless his name! For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations."

If you have not read the Book of Psalms recently, then take time each day to read 1 or 2 Psalms (maybe one when you get up in the morning and one before bed). As you read through them, allow the Holy Spirit to work in your heart and in your mind. Then, write down one thing that you are thankful for each and every day and give it to God in prayer. As that list daily grows, note how your perspective and attitude changes around your life and circumstances. Then, give glory to God!

Grace and peace,
 Aaron and Michael



Health Note:



This month the Health Ministry Deacons will be focusing on healthy hearing:



Health Ministry

"Statistics show that about 16% of US adults have hearing loss, making it twice as common as diabetes or cancer. Just because it is common doesn't mean that everyone is destined to be affected by it. There are ways to prevent hearing loss or stop it from getting worse: Most importantly, protect yourself against noise-induced hearing loss by wearing hearing protection when exposed to loud noise.

Hearing protection generally comes in the form of earplugs or noise cancelling headphones. Hearing loss can have far-reaching implications; if left untreated it can impact health and well being. Research indicates that people with hearing loss have higher rates of depression, anxiety, and dementia. This is a treatable condition, in most cases, so make an appointment with an audiologist or ear specialist if you are having hearing difficulties.

Finding the right treatment will take the following factors into consideration: type and severity of the loss, cause, if known, your lifestyle, age, cosmetic preferences, and your budget. Hearing aids are the most common treatment, depending on the cause." (From "Healthy Hearing," by Joy Victory)

We are grateful for the sense of hearing that God has created in us, and we listen for His voice in our prayers.

Scripture: "And He said to them, 'Take heed what you hear. With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you, and to you who hear, more will be given.'" (Mark 4:24)

Health Ministry Deacons will meet November 13th after the worship.



C.2G.S.—The Jr. and Sr. High Sunday School Class will be back together and meeting in the youth room. We will take a look at the Book of Esther in the Old Testament and learn how God has made each of us with purpose. We will discover how God prepares us for moments in life to be witnesses for Jesus to others who desperately need Him.

FlipSide:

Sunday, November 13 - We are preparing a service project with the Promise of Life Network. More info to come.

Sunday, November 20 - "Nerf Wars!" Lebanon Church's youth will be joining us for this event. Food and fun will be had along with a Bible study. Your friends are welcome.



Deadline for December Messenger is November 21st.

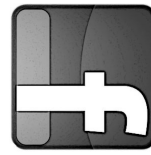
DAILY BIBLE READINGS

NOVEMBER 2022

- 1 Lamentations 2.1-22
- 2 Lamentations 3.1-39
- 3 Lamentations 3.40-66
- 4 Lamentations 4.1-22
- 5 Lamentations 5.1-22
- 6 Isaiah 1.1-31
- 7 Isaiah 2.1-22
- 8 Isaiah 3.1-15
- 9 Isaiah 3.16 - 4.6
- 10 Isaiah 5.1-30
- 11 Isaiah 6.1-13
- 12 Isaiah 7.1-25
- 13 Isaiah 8.1-22
- 14 Isaiah 9.1-21
- 15 Isaiah 10.1-19
- 16 Isaiah 10.20 - 11.10
- 17 Isaiah 11.11 -12.6
- 18 Isaiah 13.1-22
- 19 Isaiah 14.1-32
- 20 Isaiah 24.1-23
- 21 Isaiah 25.1-12
- 22 Isaiah 26.1-21
- 23 Psalm 65 Thanksgiving (USA)
- 24 Deut'my 26.1-19
- 25 Psalm 63
- 26 Psalm 66 Advent
- 27 Hebrews 11.1-39
- 28 Hebrews 12.1-29
- 29 Hebrews 13.1-25
- 30 II John

grateful
THANKFUL
blessed

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Christmas Float

The C.E. Committee is planning on entering a float in the New Castle Christmas Parade on **Saturday, November 19th**.

We are in need of the following:

1. Small Candy (to hand out)
2. Old sweaters (that we can cut)
If you wish to donate, please place these items in the Circle Drive containers.
3. Driver and Truck to pull the float.
(Contact Jim Reese at 724.658.9890)

Choir

All are invited to come and sing with the church choir.
We will practice on Sunday, **November 6th and Sunday, November 13th at 9:00am** in the choir room.
We will sing during worship on **Sunday, November 13th**.



Everyone is invited to help decorate for Christmas! Many hands make light work so please stay after worship on **Sunday, November 20th** to help decorate the Sanctuary and other main areas of the church. A light lunch and refreshments will be provided. Just stick around and wait for instructions.

Thank You!

Stewardship & Finance Presbyterian Foundation

Clen Moore's Financial Committee and the Session met recently with a representative from the Presbyterian Foundation. Many options and services were presented for those interested in investing in The Presbyterian Endowment Service organization. This service is designed to produce income now and for future generations, using world class investment managers.

Clen-Moore is currently the recipient of one such contributor and invites anyone interested in receiving more information about long-term giving to contact the church office.

For Your Information:



Shenango Presbyterian Church will be having a Pumpkin Roll sale on **Saturday, November 12th and Saturday, November 19th from 10:00am to 12:00pm**. The prices are \$6.00 for a half pumpkin roll and \$12.00 for a whole pumpkin roll. You may call the Shenango Church office at **724.654.2322** to place your order Tuesday or Thursday between the hours of **9:00am to 2:00pm**.

Thank you for supporting the church ladies of Shenango!