



The Jewels

NOVEMBER 2019

A publication of Crown of Life Lutheran Church, Sun City West, AZ

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 27
4:00 PM

Christmas Holiday Decorating

On Saturday, November 30, many hands will be needed to decorate our beautiful church for the Christmas holiday season. Please consider giving an hour or two of your time to this edifying project. We will meet at 8:00 AM and be done by 10 AM, earlier if more helpers are available! This is a great way to meet other COL members! See you there!

Voters Meeting Sunday, November 17 10:15 AM

Voters will meet for the annual Fall meeting on Sunday, November 17. Agenda items include the election of officers for 2020, the approval of the 2020 budget, and reports from the Boards. Items that you will be asked to vote on will be made available to you in writing on the weekend of November 9 & 10. Additional copies will be available in the church office.

From the Pastor *by Pastor Phill*

Voters' Assembly! Thanksgiving! The Saturday pot luck dinner that kicks off Advent! Lots happening in this month. The fall Voters' Assembly (Sunday, November 17 at 10:15 AM) has several important purposes:

- 1) Consideration and approval of the 2020 Corporate Ministry Plan – our budget;
- 2) Confirmation of the slate of officers and Elders for 2020;
- 3) Updates, in writing and personally, from the Board Chairs;
- 4) New members who have not done so sign the Constitution, thereby becoming voting members of the church.

Also, of course, business old and new is discussed. The meetings generally take about an hour to conclude – so if you haven't been to one, come ahead. In New Member class this week we talked about the Bible. Occasionally someone will ask me about miracles in this day and age – and you have one (or more) in your own home: the Bible.

Think about it. Written over about 14 centuries, on 3 different continents (Asia, Europe, Africa), by over 50 different authors, in 3 languages (Hebrew, Greek, even some Aramaic), all of it speaking of

one God in Three Persons who created all things, it is an amazing document. That it has come down to us intact is in my heart a miracle. And how do we know what we have in front of us is what God intended for us to have? The discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls in the late 1940s, and the science since applied to those thousands of fragments, assures us that the Old Testament in your Bible is (in English) what the ancients set down in their language so long before Christ was born. Partial copies – dozens of them – of the New Testament dating from the 4th century AD correspond directly to the New Testament you have at home. You need look no further than your bookshelf if you want to hold a miracle.

And what version of scripture to buy, if you're Bible shopping? One with notes. I like study Bibles that have as much space devoted to notes on the text as to the text itself. And don't fail to buy a Bible with tabs for the 66 books, or put them in yourself (if you're patient) – that makes searching the book so much easier. Here at Crown we use the English Standard Version (ESV) for our bulletins and the screens. You see me preach from my

continued on page 4

2019 Angel Tree

LWML has announced that this year Crown of Life will gather hygiene products for Lutheran Indian Ministries. Your donation will make a difference in Native American lives in and around Phoenix. This ministry expansion opens up a tremendous opportunity to reach lost individuals and broken families. Look for the Angel Tree table in the Narthex, where a list of suggested items may be found beginning November 1. Items will be collected until December 8.

President's Message

Do We Really Forgive?

Paul writes, "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be the glory forever and ever." (Gal. 1:3-5)

Regarding the words of Paul, Luther writes, "The main knowledge and true wisdom of Christians, then is this: to regard as very serious and true these words of Paul, that Christ was given over to death, not for our righteousness or holiness but for our sins, which are real sins – great, many, in fact, infinite and invincible."

We are sinful human beings who sin real sins that condemn us and require punishment. We are not righteous or holy people who escape these things. Christ was given for real sins and real sinners who sin little and big sins.

Luther adds, "Unless you are part of the company of those who say 'our sins,' that is, who have this doctrine of faith and who teach, hear, learn, love, and believe it, there is no salvation for you." In Jesus Christ alone, our sins are forgiven. In fact, we have Unlimited Forgiveness. Jesus has died for all sins whether we perceive them as "small" or "great."

Jesus says, "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." (Matthew 6:14-15) For the sake of Christ, all of our sins have been forgiven. Having been loved by God with Unlimited Forgiveness, do we love others in the same way, even enemies?

When the first missionaries came to Alberta, Canada, they were savagely opposed by a young chief of the Cree Indians named Maskepetoon. But he responded to the gospel and came to faith in Jesus Christ. Shortly afterward, a member of the Blackfoot tribe killed his father. Maskepetoon rode into the village where the

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Honoring God as We Heal through the Holiday Season

by Christine Escobar, GriefCare Ministry Coordinator

The holiday season can be intensely painful for those grieving the loss of a loved one. However, there are many helpful strategies that will help you to continue your journey of healing through the holiday season and even experience joy. We will cover these strategies at our Surviving the Holidays Seminar on Tuesday, November 5 from 9:30 to 11:30 AM at COL. These are a few of the helpful suggestions we will cover in our seminar.

- **ACCEPT YOUR PAIN.** The pain of your loss is unavoidable at this time of year. Healing takes time. Some situations may trigger painful emotions. This is normal. Remind yourself that it is a season and it will pass. Journal your emotions.

- **COPING STRATEGIES.** Have the phone numbers of your counselor, pastor, church, close friend or hotline next to your phone. Make the commitment to call someone if negative thoughts get too intense.
- **EXPECTATIONS.** Lower your expectations. Movies, songs and holiday promotions create an unrealistic picture of the holidays.
- **GET UP AND MOVE.** Take care of your physical well-being. Healthy foods will give you strength. Exercise is a natural stress reducer.
- **GOD.** Turn to God in prayer and to God's Word for daily strength, inspiration and comfort.

continued on page 5

Plan Ahead!

By Carol Steficek, Parish Nurse

What do you plan to do when you finally have to move out of your home? There are numerous options out there for senior living – independent apartments, assisted living apartments, smaller "cottages" on a supervised campus, group homes of 6 to 10 people in a regular home setting, memory care facilities, nursing care facilities. It would be of great benefit to you to start looking at these places YEARS before you think you will need them. Find out the services and differences with each type of housing, take time for a tour of the ones you like, sample the food at a meal, ask about staffing and services provided, look into the cost of each type of living arrangement, find out about extra costs. Consider if you plan to stay in Arizona or need to move closer to a family member out of state. **LIFE SITUATIONS CAN CHANGE VERY SUDDENLY!** Every day we get out of bed we're one day older and a bit less capable. Plan ahead so you have the say so for your life.

Joining the Church Triumphant

Norma Garavaglia – October 6

Rachel Horton – October 3

Marge Schwartz – October 18

Do We Really Forgive?

continued

murderer lived and demanded that he be brought before him. Confronting the guilty man, he said, "You have killed my father, so now you must be my father. You shall ride my best horse and wear my best clothes." In utter amazement and remorse his enemy exclaimed, "My son, now you have killed me!" He meant, of course, that the hate in his own heart had been completely erased by the forgiveness and kindness of the Indian chief, Maskepetoon.

Jay Nelson, Congregation President

Educating Our Next Generation

by Gene Kuebler, Mission Board Chairman

In the LCMS, education has been a major part of our church body. Over the last 30 years that opportunity has diminished. Schools have closed and very few new schools have opened. Very few new high schools have been established in the United States. The cost of operating a school has made it almost impossible to continue to operate. I was a product of a Lutheran two room schoolhouse in a town of 200 in Iowa. I doubt if any exist today. Very few churches offer their students free education funded by the church. Tuition is the norm today and that cost continues to escalate.

Here in the Valley we still are blessed to have several churches that have a preschool and /or grade school program. We have two high schools for children to attend which most cities and states do not have.

Crown of Life does not have an education program, but we are so blessed to be able to support education through your Mission Board. When we as board members talk to you, our church members, you share with us how important education is for our next generation.

Over the last years we have been able to furnish financial support to both our high schools and two preschool programs. They are Valley Lutheran High School, North Valley Christian Academy, Word of Life Preschool and Surprise Christian Preschool. I encourage you to visit their websites and follow them on Facebook. Learn how they are having an impact on today's youth. Our board members have been able to visit and experience firsthand the influence these schools are having on our youth. If you would like to visit one of the schools, please let me or one of the board members know and we will plan for a group visit.

I have listed each of their website addresses below. Please take some time and get to know how you are supporting education today. These children are our future.

www.northvalleyca.org

www.vlhs.org

www.wolschool.org

www.surprisechristianpreschool.com

Quilters Update by Marlene Peterson

Another busy year is coming to an end (almost!), and the COL quilters have been busy. Our next big project will be our quilt/blanket sale on the weekend of November 9 & 10. Please stop by and help us sell, as this sale buys our materials that we need for our ongoing projects. Thank you to all for supporting the Honor Flight quilt.

Happy Thanksgiving ... and be safe if you are going out of town. If you have any questions, or would like more information about our group, please call me, Marlene Peterson, at 623.556.1055.

LWML Update

by Rita Grover

LWML is the official women's auxiliary of the LCMS. For over 70 years, the LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions. Over \$100 million has been donated for mission work through the LWML since it was founded. This ministry is where the Mites go, that are collected once a month.

On November 2 the LWML Zone Fall Celebration will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, 830 Plaza Circle, Litchfield Park, AZ. Speakers will be Rev. Ramon Cabrales from Apostles Lutheran Church and Sue Schultz from Surprise Christian Preschool. Registration begins at 8 AM. The Celebration is from 9 AM to 2 PM. The cost of \$8.00 includes lunch.

The Crown of Life LWML monthly gathering will be November 12 at 1:00 PM in the Chapel. Our guest speaker from Lutheran Bible Translators, Amy Formella, is on leave from Sierra Leone. Please plan to attend and hear her story.

Please be aware that LWML recycles used inkjet and toner printer cartridges. There is a box in the back of the Chapel on the shelves marked for used cartridges. We appreciate any contributions that you might have.

*"Serve the Lord with gladness."
(Psalm 100:2a)*

In the Mailbag

Dear Crown of Life family,
We want to thank you for all of your prayers, calls, and cards during this time. We know the Lord is in control and is leading and guiding us on this journey. God Bless all of you!

Janna & Gerry Thiel

Articles for the
December *Jewels* are
due in the church office
by November 15

Treasurer's Report

by Arlin Bates, Treasurer

The September financial statement shows budgeted year-to-date income of \$594,958 and actual income of \$615,219. Year-to-date budgeted expenditures were \$621,375 with actual expenses of \$597,821. September figures are:

	BUDGET	ACTUAL
Receipts	\$ 54,288	\$ 62,542
Expenses	\$ 68,908	\$ 63,461

Prayers of Praise & Thanksgiving

by Kathe Schmidt, Prayer Team

When I think of "Praise the Lord" the first person in history that comes to mind is Mary, the mother of Jesus. She, a young woman of no more than sixteen, was visited by the Angel Gabriel to inform her of indescribable news. She listened to him, taking in the words as she tried to comprehend their meaning. That knowledge soon turned into the highest song of praise called the Magnificat, recorded in Luke 1:46-55.

Mary's words are as beautiful in their humble submission to the Lord as they are joyful in their adoration of his Holiness and Might. The realization that God chose her, a human being, as his handmaiden and servant, to accomplish the miracle of bringing the long promised Savior into the world, caused her to recall God's covenant with Abraham. Mary extols God's unfailing Grace and Goodness, throughout history, towards those who fear and respect Him, and His mighty Power to smite the proud and arrogant.

The God Mary praises in her song is a loving Father, the very same to this day. He still brings down those who brag about being indestructible and raises the lowly to a place of honor. He gives food to the hungry as they call on Him in their need, turning away those who glory in the emptiness of their wealth.

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From the Pastor continued from cover

trusty 1984 NIV but I do not recommend NIV any longer. Now, I'm not a commission salesman for Concordia Publishing House but I do recommend the Lutheran Study Bible in ESV, a wonderful resource for the student or even casual observer of Scripture.

The first slide every worship service indicates who we are as a church: Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. What? Where? The Saxon Germans that immigrated to this country in the 1840s settled first in Missouri, but then spread out into several other states. When the various parishes (14 of them) pulled together into one administrative and missional unit, it was given the name - not in English - German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and other states. The document

was signed April 26, 1847, at First Saint Paul Lutheran Church in Chicago, which is still there, corner of LaSalle and Goethe.

And by the way, Synod? Think of the prefix syn- meaning same, together (such as synthesize) and a Greek word, odo, meaning walking, or road. Put them together and they are Synod - 6,000 parishes walking together in faith. Our practice as individual parishes might vary, but our theology, of the Triune God, of the Cross of Christ, of baptism in the Holy Spirit and of the blessing of communion - those things are the same across the name-shortened (in 1947) Missouri Synod.

Next month let's talk about the Pacific Southwest District, and Circuit 24 - also on that opening slide. Until then - see you in church!

 Pastor Phill

Board for Community Outreach by Karen Block, Board Chairman

The purpose of the Board for Community Outreach is to reach out to the community and provide Crown of Life's mission and ministries to attract new members. This is done through various events such as: music, educational opportunities, speakers, etc. Outreach members have been busy working on events for 2020. We hope you will mark your calendar with the following dates.

- February 16 at 2:00 - *C. Steve Music*, a group that sings Gospel, Johnny Cash and Country will perform.
- April 25 at 4:00 - *The Gospel of Mark* will be performed by members of Concordia Seminary. It will replace our regular Saturday service.
- November 8 at 2:00 - *The Sounds of the Southwest Singers* will return to perform a Patriotic Concert.

As always, we would love to have additional members on our Board! If you are interested in joining, I would love to hear from you. The Board meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at 9:00 AM. Come join us or feel free to email me at kblock50@gmail.com.

Prayers of Praise continued

Think for a moment of how blessed we are to have our Bible handy, muscles to move our fingers to open its pages, eyes to read the words for ourselves, and for some to revel in the music of the Magnificat, set down by composers such as J.S. Bach, with our own ears. Let each one of us come into God's presence with an ever grateful heart for making us alive in Jesus, and then to recount the many benefits come to us individually by our Heavenly Father. Have a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!

Honoring God as We heal through the Holiday Season

continued from page 2

- **GRATITUDE.** Focus on everything for which you are grateful. Journal your gratitude.
- **REACH OUT.** Reach out to other people who might be alone during the holidays.
- **SET BOUNDARIES.** Explain to your family and friends what you are capable of doing this year, and what you aren't capable of doing.
- **SOCIALIZE.** Invite a friend to see a movie, have dinner or help decorate the house. Attend church events.

If you haven't registered for our Surviving the Holidays seminar and would like to attend, please call Christine Escobar at 623.218.6793 to register. This seminar is open to all. Refreshments will be served. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Lutheran Hour Ministries float – Tournament of Roses Parade *by Gene Axelson*

The theme of the 2020 Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade is "The Power of Hope" and the theme of the Lutheran Hour Ministries Float is "Anchored in Jesus". "The Power of Hope" is found in a person – our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, the anchor to our souls (Hebrews 6:19).

The float will have an underwater scene with an anchor proclaiming "Jesus Our Hope". The anchor on the float is made into a Cross with Jesus standing at the wheel providing stability in daily life.

The mission of the Petal Pushers (volunteers who decorate the float) is "To provide a Christian witness and hope in Jesus Christ to the unchurched, who view the float in person and through the media". There is a need for additional volunteers and contributions. In the past years several members of Crown of Life have participated in decorating the floats. New brochures are available at the Information Center.

Editors note: Judith and Gene Axelson are members of the Petal Pushers committee.

Flower Committee Thanksgiving Greeting

by Florella Denzin

T is for the turkey steaming golden on each table.
H is for the harvest gathered into board and stable.
A is for the autumn hues we marvel at each year.
N is for the neighbors, friends, and family we hold dear.
K is for the kindnesses & blessings that we know.
S is for the smiles that greet us everywhere we go.
G is for the golden grain & pumpkins in the field.
I is for the Indians who shared the pilgrim's yield.
V is for the vision of a Land of Liberty.
I is for the immigrants who made the dream reality.
N is for all natural wonders – sky & birds & flowers.
G is gratitude for all the bounty that is ours.

A very special wish for you when thanksgiving time is here – may you have much to be thankful for today, and through the year.

Coming Soon

by Judith Axelson, Assimilation Committee

2019

November 30
Advent Potluck and
Cookie Exchange

December 10
Barleens Home for the Holidays
Matinee – **SOLD OUT**

December 25
Christmas Dinner

2020

January
Dinners for 6 or 8,
spares & pairs

February 26
Ash Wednesday Dinner

April 12
Easter Breakfast

July 19
Ice Cream Social

August
Arizona Broadway Theater
Flash Dance

Christmas Poinsettia Sign Ups

The poinsettia sign-up sheet is available on the Flower Stand next to the Parish Hall. The plants are \$10 each and will adorn our Altar December 24 & 25. Your plant may be taken home following the Christmas Day service.

The JEWELS

Those Who Serve

Senior Pastor Rev. Phill Robbins
Assisting Pastor Rev. Gary Smith
Pastoral Assistants
Rev. Vern Ermeling,
Rev. Ron Luedemann, Rev. Ray Mirly

ELDERS

(Sa) Harry Bernhardt, Joel Block,
Ed Kristof, Ron Mara
(Su) Harry Bernhardt, Tom Mertins

TRUSTEES

(Sa) Willie Lundquist
(Su) Bob Hammann

ALTAR GUILD

(Sa) Judy Johnson, Lory Marunde
(Su) Lee Gregoire, Chris Roberts

GREETERS

(Sa) Jerry & Karen Meyers,
Ken Grover
(Su) Gerry & Audrey Harpt,
Sandra Mitchell, Cora Weiss,
Susan Schaffer

GUEST BOOK

(Sa) Rita Grover
(Su) Mary Sorenson

FLOWERS

Florella Denzin, Jan Drake, Vicki Jolin,
Sheila Mecham, Karen Murphy,
Darlene McAfee, Denise Trevarrow,
Jan Tvinnereim, Cora Weiss

SOUND TECHNICIANS

Paul Stuempfig, Coordinator
(Sa) Joe Jellison, Dave Sawyer
(Su) Bruce Borchert, Dave
Brodzeller, Gerry Harpt,
Mike Krischler, Tom Mertins,
Ron Schumann, Paul Stuempfig

SCREENS

Tom Mertins, Coordinator

TELLERS - Duane & Orv Neal,
MaryAnn Cate, Don Koepke,
Sheila Mecham, Subs - Ken
Grover, Howard Ludden

VIDEO TECHNICIANS

Darlene & Wiley McAfee

USHERS

(Sa) Donna & Jim Giles,
Duane & Cookie Rawson
(Su) Merv Tvinnereim cap;
Gene Axelson, Paul Brown,
Jerry Denzin, Lowell Janssen,
Ginett Janssen, Carol
Kleinschmidt, Paul Plapp,
Iris Ringhofer, Ray Russell,
Bill Schulzetenberg, Roger
Wehrli, Jan Tvinnereim,
Chuck Wasen, Carolyn Ziegler

Happy Birthday

2 Edith Reid
4 Bruce Borchert
4 Susan Schaffer
6 Don Swanson
8 John Sauter
10 Ralph Ehlke
10 Lucy Stoudemire
11 Karon Spear
12 Judith Axelson
12 Edward Ebel
13 Willie Lundquist
14 Gary Eichstadt
14 Sharon Kristof
14 Janet Ludwick
14 Don Workman
15 Anne Hagen
15 Woody Woodworth
17 Lucille Holstein
17 Hedda Orr
17 Mary Sorenson
17 Phyllis Sullivan
17 John Thomas
18 Joe Jellison
19 Betty Clodt
19 Elmer Faser
19 Alberta Rodriguez
20 Darlene McAfee
21 Mary Kindy
22 Jeanne Breese
24 Joyce Christensen
24 Richard Lange
24 Virginia Mehl
25 Rita Grover
25 Bruce McKeag
25 Henry Munzinger
25 Virginia Robinson
26 Jim Drake
26 Dean Peel
26 Roger Wehrli
27 Barbara McDowell
27 Joan Stepanian
29 Aleta Rasmussen

Happy Anniversary

1 George & Margaret Schwartz
3 Rev. Ray & Debbie Mirly
4 Bob & Beverly Turk
6 Steve & Martha Franke
6 Howard & Kathy Ludden
6 Merv & Jan Tvinnereim
9 Ross & Gloria Burkhardt
9 Elmer & Joan Faser
9 Steve & Terri Worster
12 Lloyd & Bernita Greiner
12 John & Carolyn Obradovich
14 John & Vicki Jolin
15 George & Jean Mroz
22 Richard & Vione Rydeen
24 Bob & LeAnna Grell
26 Carl & Betty Aderhold
26 Paul & Mary Heimbuch
29 Roger & Gail Wehrli
30 Ed & Gloria Michel
30 Vern & Denise Steffens

Altar Flowers

9-10 John & Carolyn Sauter, in
celebration of John's 89th
birthday

Today and Every Day

Lord, too often our prayers are filled
with impatience over what we want
instead of gratitude for what we
already have.

Remind us today and in the coming
year what is truly important.

Remind us to give thanks for family and
friends. Remind us to be grateful for
the work you have given us. Remind us
to appreciate our many material
blessings.

Most of all, remind us today and every
day to give thanks for your precious
Son Jesus, and the sacrifice he made
for us to give us eternal life with You in
heaven. Amen.

grat·i·tude

[grat i tood]

noun

the quality of being
thankful; readiness
to show appreciation
for and to return
kindness

November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																		
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<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">3</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">FOOD BANK</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM WORSHIP</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:15 AM B/STUDY (PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:15 AM PASTOR'S NEW MEMBER CLASS(C)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">3:00 PM DESERT WINDS STEEL ORCHESTRA</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">4</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:30 AM WOMN'S B'STY(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:30 AM PRAYER TEAM(SCR)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">5</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">8:30 AM BD/ELDERS(CR)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM QUILTING(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:30 AM SURV THE HOLIDAYS(C)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">1:00 PM ASSIM COMM(CR)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">6</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:30 AM GRIEFCARE(C)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:30 AM PR RON'S BIBLE CLASS(PH)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">7</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM STPHN MIN TRNG(C)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">1:00 PM NURSE BBS(C)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">1:30 PM HANDBELLS(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">3:00 PM CHOIR(MR)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">8</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM MISSION BD(CR)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:30 AM PR VERN'S BBS(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">1:00 PM CARDS/GAMES(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">3:30 PM ABLAZE(S)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">9</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC(CR)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">4:00 PM WORSHIP</p>																																																																																		
<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">10</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC(CR)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM WORSHIP & COMMUNION</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:15 AM B/STUDY (PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:15 AM PASTOR'S NEW MEMBER CLASS(C)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">11</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:30 AM WOMN'S B'STY(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:30 AM PRAYER TEAM(SCR)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">12</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">8:30 AM TRUSTEES(CR)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM STPHN MIN SUPR(C)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">1:00 PMLWML(C)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">13</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:30 AM GRIEFCARE(C)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:30 AM PR RON'S BIBLE CLASS(PH)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">14</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM STPHN MIN TRNG(C)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">1:00 PM NURSE BBS(C)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">1:30 PM HANDBELLS(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">3:00 PM CHOIR(MR)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">15</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #8b4513; padding: 2px; text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"> <p style="margin: 0;">NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p> </div> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM MENS B'STY(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:30 AM PR VERN'S BBS(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">1:00 PM CARDS/GAMES(PH)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">16</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">4:00 PM WORSHIP & COMMUNION</p>																																																																																		
<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">17</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM WORSHIP</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:15 AM PASTOR'S NEW MEMBER CLASS(C)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #8b4513; padding: 2px; text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"> <p style="margin: 0;">10:15 AM VOTERS MTG(PH)</p> </div>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">18</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:30 AM WOMN'S B'STY(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:30 AM PRAYER TEAM(SCR)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">19</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM CHURCH COUNCIL(CR)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM QUILTING(PH)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">20</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:30 AM GRIEFCARE(C)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:30 AM PR RON'S BIBLE CLASS(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">3:30 PM ABLAZE(S)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">21</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM STPHN MIN TRNG(C)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">1:00 PM NURSE BBS(C)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">1:30 PM HANDBELLS(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">3:00 PM CHOIR(MR)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">22</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:30 AM PR VERN'S BBS(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">1:00 PM CARDS/GAMES(PH)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">23</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">4:00 PM WORSHIP</p>																																																																																		
<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">24</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM WORSHIP & COMMUNION</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:15 AM B/STUDY (PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:15 AM PASTOR'S NEW MEMBER CLASS(C)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">25</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:30 AM WOMN'S B'STY(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:30 AM PRAYER TEAM(SCR)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">3:00 PM CHOIR(MR)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">26</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM COMM OUTRCH BD(CR)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:00 AM STPHN MIN SUPR(C)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">27</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:30 AM GRIEFCARE(C)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">9:30 AM PR RON'S BIBLE CLASS(PH)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #8b4513; padding: 2px; text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"> <p style="margin: 0;">4:00 PM THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP</p> </div>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">28</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0; font-size: 1.2em;">Thanksgiving</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #8b4513; padding: 2px; text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"> <p style="margin: 0;">OFFICE CLOSED</p> </div>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">29</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">10:30 AM PR VERN'S BBS(PH)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">1:00 PM CARDS/GAMES(PH)</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">30</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">8:00 AM CHRISTMAS DECORATING</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">4:00 PM WORSHIP</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">5:00 PM CHRISTMAS POTLUCK(PH)</p>																																																																																		

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The JEWELS

Christ Caring for People through People by Ken Grover, Stephen Ministry

"Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."
1Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV

November is the month for remembrance, thankfulness, and celebration. On November 11, we honor and thank all those men and women who have served and are serving in the armed forces of this great nation, the United States.

An obstacle to developing and maintaining an attitude of thanksgiving is the stress of everyday life. The trials and challenges we face can cause us to be worried or anxious. That anxiety and worry can sometimes drown out our thankfulness. The difficulties of life can be so overwhelming and so difficult that we can sometimes lose sight of God. There will always be things to complain or worry about, but if we look carefully, there will always be blessings to be thankful for.

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." Colossians 3:17

We can make the choice to have an attitude of thanksgiving, and we can make the choice to have an attitude of gratitude. Gratitude is the memory of a glad heart.

"Celebrate the Festival of Harvest, with the first fruits of the crop that you sow in the field." Exodus 23:16

Our gratitude for the harvest that sustains us goes to God, alone. As we celebrate our land's bounty, take time to express your gratitude to God, our Heavenly Father. We have no harvest to celebrate without His grand creative design. Today, let's give thanks to God for the wondrous ways in which He has fashioned this world; with seasons, with harvest time, and with everything we need for our existence. God is an awesome God.

For information about Stephen Ministry, contact Pastor Gary at 623-546-6228. May God continue to bless, guide, protect and keep you in His amazing grace.

"This is the day the Lord has made, rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalm 118: 24