



The HARVESTER Newsletter

A Publication of Southwest Church of Christ

November 2020

Dear Southwest Family,

Did you know Thanksgiving was originally declared to be the last Thursday of November by Abraham Lincoln? Lincoln delivered a Thanksgiving proclamation in 1863. In this proclamation he spoke of the United States of America as being “one heart and one voice by the whole American people”. Lincoln then went on to invite the nation to “observe the last Thursday of November next as a Day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens”.

When Paul was imprisoned in Rome, he wrote, “*Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ*” (Ephesians 5:19-20). The Apostle Paul, a man who had learned the meaning of true thanksgiving, even in the midst of great adversity, wrote “always give thanks.” To him, giving thanks was not a once-a-year celebration, that’s why he included the word “*always*”. It was a daily reality that changed his life and made him a joy filled person.

The giving of thanks to God for all His blessings, should be one of the most distinctive marks of the believer in Jesus Christ. Nothing turns us into bitter, angry, selfish people more quickly than an ungrateful heart. And nothing will do more to restore contentment and joy than a true spirit of thankfulness. The psalmist declared, “*Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving*” (Psalm 147:7), and Paul wrote simply, “*Be thankful*” (Colossians 3:15). A true and genuine spirit of thanksgiving is always the mark of a joyous Christian.

But why should we be thankful? What do we have to be thankful for? Maybe this pandemic has caused you to lose your job, or worse, a loved one or family member. Maybe you are suffering from mental illness or drug addiction. As a follower of Christ, we have many reasons to celebrate Thanksgiving as Paul did; always and in every circumstance.

Give thanks to God in the middle of your trials. During a difficult period, I know how challenging it is to see the light. God has vowed to be with us and that He will help us. We know that He can use times of suffering to draw us closer to Him. When Daniel learned evil men were plotting against him “*he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before*” (Daniel 6:10). The Bible commands, “*Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus*” (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

Give thanks to God for Jesus and the salvation we have through Him. God has given us the greatest Gift of all, His Son, who died on the cross and rose again so that we can know Him personally and spend eternity with Him in heaven, “*Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!*” (2 Corinthians 9:15). The Bible tells us that we are separated from God because we have sinned. But God loves us—He loves you, He loves me, and He wants us to be part of His family forever. He loves us so much that He sent His only Son into the world to die as a perfect sacrifice for our sins. “*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life*” (John 3:16).

As we approach the holiday of Thanksgiving let’s remember to give thanks always! No matter what trials you are facing, God gives assurance to be beside you during them. No matter what giants are in front of you, God promises to help you overcome them. No matter what your past holds, God says it will not define you. During this time of uncertainty and struggle, pain and fear, hurt and loneliness, remember we can be thankful. We can be thankful for God! We can sing and make music in our hearts because of the love He has for us.

~in Christ
Josh Powell

Events & Information

Monthly Figures

In- Service Attendance:

9/27	10/4	10/11	10/18	10/25
67	71	65	62	61

The monthly figures include only those of our church family who have returned to corporate worship. These numbers do not include those who need to stay home due to their higher vulnerability of contracting COVID-19. For those of you who are watching online – we miss you and cannot wait for the opportunity to worship together!

Deacon's List:

Chair: Woody Wilson
Audio/Visual: Jared Friedrichsen
Secretary: Mike Bunn
Parsonage: Woody Wilson
Maintenance: Lynn Hounshel
Special Projects: TBD, Woody,
Lynn, and Phil Friedrichsen
Benevolence: Tony Storad
Church (Building): Lynn Hounshel

Your continued financial support is also vital to our church body. Not only are we obligated to provide financially for our ministry staff, but also for our missionaries and benevolence ministry recipients. Prayerfully consider mailing your weekly offering to the church at the address provided at the end of this newsletter, dropping it off at the church's mailbox, or giving through our secure internet portal at <https://swccbarberton.com/giving>.

Thank you church family for your ongoing support of Southwest Church of Christ!

Weekly Need: **Weekly Need:**
General: \$3,300 Missions: \$442

Congregational Meeting: Immediately after service on Sunday 11/8, we will have a brief Congregational Meeting to confirm Deacons and Elders, and discuss the status of Southwest for the upcoming year.

Acme Community Cashback and Box Tops: Collection has begun for our annual fundraising with the Acme Community Cashback receipts. The Box Tops collection is on-going. There are envelopes in the foyer for both. Thank you for your support!

Youth Group WNL: Grades 6th to 12th are meeting on Wednesdays from 6-8pm to delve into God's Word through a new series called "Unashamed". Questions, contact Josh Powell.

Tuesday Morning Ladies Study: We are resuming our meeting together at 11am in the Fellowship Hall, and will be reading the Max Lucado book *You Are Never Alone* to encourage us with scripture and relatable stories in our walk with God, especially now in this tough time. Masks are required and there is plenty of space to social distance. Questions, see Karen Rummer.

Church Directory: Thank you to everyone who updated or verified their information. If you are a member and have not picked up your copy in the foyer, one can be mailed or emailed to you at this time. Please contact the church office.

B.A.C.M. Food Pantry item: canned vegetables

Scrapbooking: The next meeting will be on 11/7, from 10am to 5pm. All scrappers and crafters are invited to join!

Rahab Ministries: Due to the Coronavirus COVID-19 concerns, instead of the donation of goods, please consider a financial donation instead. Checks may be sent to: Rahab Ministries, PO BOX 13866, Akron, OH 44334.

Soup Kitchen: Southwest members served our community on 3/5. Currently there is not a schedule for the month of November. Information in regards to the next opportunity to serve will be announced at a later date.

"Senior Moment" Group Outing: The group will not be meeting for the month of November.

Looking for support? Elders are available after every Sunday worship service, or by contacting the church office, to speak with you regarding prayer requests or offer spiritual guidance for your concerns.

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 <i>Election Day</i>	4 <i>Youth Group</i>	5	6	7 <i>Scrapbooking</i>
8 <i>Congregation Meeting</i>	9	10 <i>Women's Bible Study</i>	11 <i>Youth Group</i>	12	13	14
15	16	17 <i>Women's Bible Study</i>	18 <i>Youth Group</i>	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 <i>Happy Thanksgiving</i>	27	28
29	30	<p><i>"For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer." 1 Timothy 4:4-5</i></p>				

BIRTHDAYS:	
11/1	Lisa Mitchell
11/1	Chuck Weinsheimer
11/3	Terry Trump
11/4	Lucy Powell
11/6	Rhonda Starcher
11/6	Carter Webb
11/14	Sarah Weinsheimer
11/16	Julie Bradshaw
11/17	Madison Mitchell
11/29	Linda Smith

ANNIVERSARIES:

Did you have a birthday or anniversary this month that we missed? Would you like to have your special day added to our calendar? Write your name, the occasion, and the date on the prayer tab in the bulletin. Place the tab in the offering plate on any Sunday. Or you may send an email to: kdbusch15@gmail.com, and I will gladly include your information.

Do you know someone who would positively benefit from reading *The HARVESTER*? Our newsletter is now available on the Southwest Church of Christ webpage under the Ministries tab.

Growing Your Faith

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful."

Colossians 3:15

The bible readings for the year of 2020 are to focus on studying the bible in chronological order. As you read each day, meditate on God's words and His promises to us, His children.

NOV 1: Luke 18:15--43; Luke 19:1-48
NOV 2: Mark 11; John 12
NOV 3: Matthew 22; Mark 12
NOV 4: Matthew 23; Luke 20-21
NOV 5: Mark 13
NOV 6: Matthew 24
NOV 7: Matthew 25
NOV 8: Matthew 26; Mark 14
NOV 9: Luke 22; John 13
NOV 10: John 14-17

NOV 11: Matthew 27; Mark 15
NOV 12: Luke 23; John 18-19
NOV 13: Matthew 28; Mark 16
NOV 14: Luke 24; John 20-21
NOV 15: Acts 1-3
NOV 16: Acts 4-6
NOV 17: Acts 7-8
NOV 18: Acts 9-10
NOV 19: Acts 11-12
NOV 20: Acts 13-14

NOV 21: James 1-5
NOV 22: Acts 15-16
NOV 23: Galatians 1-3
NOV 24: Galatians 4-6
NOV 25: Acts 17; Acts 18:1-18
NOV 26: 1 Thessalonians 1-5;
2 Thessalonians 1-3
NOV 27: Acts 18:19-28; Acts 19:1-41
NOV 28: 1 Corinthians 1-4
NOV 29: 1 Corinthians 5-8
NOV 30: 1 Corinthians 9-11

Scripture list courtesy of [www.biblestudytools.com/
bible-reading-plan/chronological.html](http://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-reading-plan/chronological.html)

Kids Korner



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

Find the underlined words from the verse above in the word-search below.

C	A	P	D	F	H	G	J	L	F
O	N	R	E	J	O	I	C	E	O
N	Q	A	S	U	W	V	Y	G	R
T	Z	Y	B	D	G	E	I	O	K
I	M	O	P	R	U	V	E	D	B
N	A	L	T	C	T	H	I	S	F
U	L	H	H	K	M	A	P	J	Q
A	L	W	A	Y	S	L	U	E	V
L	B	I	N	E	O	C	H	S	M
L	E	L	K	S	R	U	K	U	N
Y	M	L	S	C	H	R	I	S	T

For you to color and list your blessings:



**I AM
THANKFUL FOR...**



Connect with Us



Nathan Robinson, Senior Minister
Joshua Powell, Associate Minister
Jared Friedrichsen, Worship Minister
Cindy Weaver, Secretary
(330) 825-7263
www.swccbarberton.com
www.facebook.com/swccbarberton

WEEKLY WORSHIP TIMES:

Sunday Morning:

Sunday School 9:30am

Morning Worship 10:30am

Tuesday Women's Bible Study: 11am

Love God Love People Lead People to Jesus