

“I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart...” Psalm 138:1a

The psalm above inspired the moving hymn *Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart*. It tells us that we should always give thanks and praise God. We give thanks for God has given us the greatest gift, Jesus Christ, the Son of God. For it is in Christ that we have salvation. It is through the ministry of Jesus that we are shown what it means to love God and to love your neighbor. The Incarnation that we will celebrate in just over a month is the greatest gift from God to give thanks for, but there are so many more.

This November, like every November, is the month of thanksgiving. We begin with All Saint’s Day, the day in the Christian year where we remember and honor all those that came before us. We give thanks for the examples that they have given us and the lessons that they have taught us. Our church and our lives are richer for having them in it.

The month ends with Thanksgiving. While often it is just an excuse to gorge on turkey and carbs while football plays in the background, it truly one of the only holidays created solely to take a moment to give thanks. We are supposed to give thanks for all that we have and celebrate with family and friends.

Yes, truly November is a month to give thanks. This November, I’d like you to give a moment to think why are you thankful for the church. What about our church gives you joy, makes you happy, and makes you give thanks? Is it the community and fellowship? The music? The memories you have here? Whatever the reason, this month take a moment to give thanks for the church.

So, this November remember to give thanks for those who helped you grow in faith, for all that God has given you, and for the church. Most importantly, give thanks to God with all of your heart.

God Bless, Pastor Ed

The Country Bazaar & Bake Sale

Thursday, November 16th 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM

(along with the Turkey Supper) We need help to supply sale items: Crafts, Christmas Items, Snacks, Baked Goods, and New & Gently used Items, etc.

Bring items to be sold to the church by Tuesday.

Bake sale food items may be brought on Thursday AM.

We will be selling large blankets, children’s and baby blankets, Christmas blankets, Christmas decorations and hand quilted items. The proceeds will go to the Sewing Group. Sewing Group: Sharon Dill, Carolyn Frick, Jean Lightfoot

Sunday Fellowship Time Refreshments Schedule

November 12 Dixie

November 19 Little Ones’ Preschool/Kaitlin Kaiser

November 26 Danny & Cheri

Next on the calendar!

Blood Drive – Tuesday, November 14, 2:30 – 6:30 PM
Palmer's Community Complex

Ad Council Meeting – Tuesday, November 14, 7 PM

Staff Parish Meeting – Wednesday, November 15, 7:15 PM

Turkey Supper – Thursday, November 16

Country Bazaar (with Turkey Supper) – Thursday, 10 AM – 7 PM

Church Ladies Lunch – Friday, November 17
Meet at Leo's at Noon

North District Lay Servant's Ministries – Saturday, Nov. 18, 9 AM
Hillcrest UMC 4206 E Bristol, Elkhart 46514

Euchre/Game Night – Saturday, November 25, 6 PM

Hanging of the Greens – Sunday, November 26, 6 PM

Ernestine Mission Circle – Tuesday, November 28

Fellowship Committee Meeting – Thursday, November 30, 7 PM

Family Christmas Night – Sunday, December 3, 5 PM

TOPS Club is meeting at LUMC on Mondays, 4:00 – 5:30 PM
Room 206, use north east door. Join us!

Food Pantry Needs:

canned tuna/chicken, cereal, canned fruit, rice, pasta or potato sides, Hamburger Helper, soup with meat, shelf stable milk, canned vegetables, family sized items are appreciated.

The Food Pantry is open to anyone in the Union North school district as well as to our church family on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month 2 – 5 PM *Thank you for all the donations!!*