

NOVEMBER 2023

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Thanksgiving

BY REV. EMMANUEL DASS

On Thanksgiving Day, across our nation, men, women, and children will sit down together for a Thanksgiving meal. There they will bow their heads and give thanks to God for the many blessings which they have received. There will be allusion to the pilgrims and their dependence on God to get them through that first harsh winter at Plymouth Plantation. Some will attend worship services at which songs of harvest will be sung, though the harvest is a long since passed. Underneath it all will be the note of gratitude and thanksgiving.

When Jesus healed the ten lepers. I suspect that he was not surprised by the lack of gratitude on the part of the lepers. So, his question, "Where are the other nine?" The tenth man, who fell at his feet, praising God and thanking Jesus, was different. Somehow, he had developed a genuine sense of gratitude.

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From the Pastor continued

To be a grateful person one must realize one's needs or condition. In the story of the lepers, the lepers knew that they needed help. They cried out, "Have mercy upon us." We cannot be grateful unless we realize that we need God's grace and mercy each day of our lives. We need to think about all the blessings and acknowledge God as the giver of those blessings. It is only then we begin to develop an inner attitude of gratitude.

Let us rejoice remembering that God's goodness and God's faithfulness are to be celebrated each day of our lives. Let us be thankful to God on Thanksgiving Day and all days of our lives.

Happy Thanksgiving!!! Pastor Dass

I am Thankful For:

- My shadow who watches me work because it means I am out in the sunshine...
- A lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning and gutters that need fixing because it means I have a home...
- The spot I find at the far end of the parking lot because it means I am capable of walking...
- All the complaining I hear about our government because it means we have freedom of speech...
- The lady behind me in church who sings off key because it means I can hear...
- The piles of laundry and ironing because it means my loved ones are nearby...
- The alarm that goes off in the morning hours because it means that I'm alive...
- Weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day because it means I have been productive...
- The taxes I pay because it means I'm employed...



This Thanksgiving, I hope you pause to give God thanks for all of this and more.

Thanksgiving Baskets



We are again going to be making Thanksgiving baskets for needy families in the area.

In the past we have donated 15 baskets on the Monday before Thanksgiving. The baskets usually included meat, potatoes, a vegetable and bread.

If you are interested in helping to put the baskets together, please contact Kathy Parmenter.

Community Thanksgiving Service

Our Community Thanksgiving Service for 2023 will be on Sunday, November 19th, 6:30 pm at here at Trinity United Methodist Church.

Following the service, we will have coffee/beverages and pie. Please feel free to bring your favorite pie to share.

Charge Conference

Our Charge Conference will be on Sunday, November 5, 1:00 pm at Collegiate United Methodist Church, 2622 Lincoln Way, Ames, IA 50014.

Everyone is welcome to attend. If you are interested in attending, please let Pastor or Craig Henry know.

Christmas

As of November 1st, Christmas is 54 days away! That being said we are already starting to plan for the season:

- Advent Bible Study
- Decorating the sanctuary
- Ordering Poinsettias

See the info regarding these holiday traditions on this page.

Bible Study

Bishop Kennetha will be hosting an online Bible Study on Tuesday's at 7 pm on Zoom: Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Dec. 12 and Dec. 19, 2023.

It will be based on the book "Unrelenting Grace" by Bishop Ken Carter.

Bishop Carter calls grace the essence of a holy life, in which we recognize that God's loving presence in our lives is a gift.

The study will help us remember who we are as United Methodists, and give us a sense of common belonging, shared identity and unity. Maybe, it will even put us on a road to healing.

Let the office know if you would like to join the Bible study. We will get the book for you.

Hanging the Greens

The needles of pine and fir trees do not die each season like the leaves of most trees, the ancient saw them as symbols of things that last forever.

Isaiah 9:2, 6, and 9 tells us that there will be no end to the reign of the Messiah. So, we hang wreath of evergreens shaped in circle, which itself has no end, signifying the eternal kingdom of Jesus, the Christ.

The day and time to decorate will be announced later. please plan to join us for this fun activity.

Poinsettias

We will again be ordering Poinsettias to decorate the church.

If you want to donate a plant in memory or honor of someone. The cost per plant will be \$9.

The deadline to order the poinsettias will be December 17th. They will be delivered and decorated on the 18th.

We will be ordering white, pink, and red poinsettias.



Lest We Forget – Veteran’s Day

Joshua Dyer (aged 14) was tasked at school to write a poem for Remembrance Day.

One Thousand Men Are Walking

One thousand men are walking,
Walking side by side.
Singing songs from home,
The spirit as their guide.

They walk toward the light milord,
They walk towards the sun.
They smoke, and laugh, and smile together,
No foes to outrun.

These men live on forever,
In the hearts of those they saved.
A nation truly grateful,
For the path of peace they paved.

They march as friends and comrades,
But they do not march for war.
Step closer to salvation,
A tranquil steady corps.

The meadow’s lit with golden beams.
A beacon for the brave.
The emerald grass untrampled,
A reward for what they gave.

They dream of those they left behind,
And know they dream of them.
Forever in those poppy fields,
There walks one thousand men.

--Joshua Dyer

Veterans Day is a U.S. legal holiday dedicated to American veterans of all wars, and Veterans Day 2023 will occur on Saturday, November 11.

In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice, or



temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I, then known as “the Great War.”

Commemorated in many countries as Armistice Day the following year, November 11th became a federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, Armistice Day became known as Veterans Day.

American effort during World War II saw the greatest mobilization of the U.S. military in the nation’s history (more than 16 million people; some 5.7 million more served in the Korean War).

In 1954, after lobbying efforts by veterans’ service organizations, the 83rd U.S. Congress amended the 1938 act that had made Armistice Day a holiday, striking the word “Armistice” in favor of “Veterans.”

Little Free Pantry

Come and check out the Little Free Pantry that has been installed on the corner of the church property. Feel free to add supplies to it.

The items that seem to be the most popular are snack foods such as granola bars, pop tarts, fruit snacks, single serving mac and cheese and cereal, and personal care items.

Just please keep in mind food safety and weather conditions.

Why go to Worship?

We witness the transforming power of Christ through our regular presence in worship.

It also brings joy to the hearts of others to see you there joining in the worship.

Invite a friend or a neighbor to come with you to worship services and spread the joy.

“God has poured out his love into our hearts.” Romans 5:5

October Church Council Meeting

During the past few Church Council meetings, we have been discussing how to bring in new church members. We have come up with a few ideas including more outreach events such as the Fall Family Fun and the Block Party.

This past meeting, we talked about bringing the kids in after school might bring families in on Sunday. The Methodist and Lutheran churches in Cambridge are providing an afterschool snack to the Cambridge children on two days a week. The libraries have programs for Early out days.

What can we do to bring the kids into our church? The suggestions included food, games and a place to hang out. It was suggested that maybe we need a youth minister.

The council wants to hear your thoughts on the youth minister idea, and other ideas about getting kids and adults here to see what our church has to offer.

Would you come to a game night, or come to watch a college basketball or World Series baseball games? What about potluck dinners? Would you invite your friends?

Brown Bag Sunday

We will be collecting non-perishable food items on Sunday, November 19 to help the Clothing Pantry. Let us help lift the needy out of poverty and feed those who are hungry.

Golden Angels

The Angels will sing on Sunday, November 19. The Golden Angels is a group of people who enjoy singing and praising God. Please consider joining the Golden Angels to praise God.

Ballard Community Band and Choir

SAVE THE DATE:

The Ballard Community Band and Chorus will host their Annual Holiday Concert on Sunday, December 3rd, 1:30 pm in the Ballard High School Auditorium.

They will be celebrating their 30th Year Anniversary with some special music and appearances.

Vacation Bible School



We decided to try something NEW at Trinity UMC in Huxley!!
VBS in December!

We will have 3 days of VBS in the month of December.

Wednesday, Dec. 6th, Dec. 13th and Dec. 20th!!

5:00-5:30 Dinner 5:30-8:00 PM Program

Free Meal ~ Crafts ~ Recreation ~ Music ~ Science ~ Bible Stories

Parents: we are hoping you can have some time for shopping, wrapping, baking, napping or taking care of anything you need to do during the BUSY Christmas season while your kiddo/s are “on a roll with GOD!”

Please be sure to register online! This helps us get count for meals and supplies!

<https://trinity-united-methodist-huxley.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

