

# The Witness

Volume XXI, Issue XI

Newsletter

November 2023

## Stop! Reflect! Give Thanks!

I was reminded this week about how good my life is. It doesn't take much looking around to see how devastated the world is. How dark and hopeless is life lived without Christ! I sometimes whine. I sometimes complain. I sometimes forget. But my life is solid in Him. My hope is secure. My future is certain. My present is empowered and full of blessing. All I need to do is take my eyes off of me and onto Him.

As we approach the celebration of Thanksgiving, may we truly stop and consider how great is our Lord, the one who has redeemed us! "Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for *He is good!* For His mercy *endures* forever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say *so*, Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy." (Psalm 107:1-2) This above all things should cause us to be full of thanks and praise. Read this entire Psalm and you will find yourself there somewhere and be moved to be thankful.

So we should be able to give thanks to Him at every moment for every thing that occurs in our life. Ephesians 5:20 says, "always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Everything in our life has purpose in Him, so we can thank Him for everything that occurs (even the hard things). May we continually be grateful to Him.

No matter the circumstances, we can see Him at work and give thanks. It is His will to do so. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says "give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." No part of our lives is outside His control. So every circumstance has purpose, even when we do not see how.

So let us come into His presence with rejoicing and thanks. "Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song." (Psalm 95:2) What a privilege to have an intimate relationship with the God of the universe! To be able to sit down with Him and converse and enjoy His presence whenever we desire. How can we not rejoice and give thanks when we stand before our Lord!

I can remember what it is for life to have no hope. To live in darkness. To be ensnared in the bonds of sin. Without God and having no place to turn. But now I have Jesus. Am forgiven. Made clean. Living as part of the family of God. Experiencing His presence. How can I not rejoice and give thanks to Him!

So let us all take a moment (at least a moment), and truly reflect and give thanks to our Lord. For what He has given us. For how He has blessed us. But most of all for His presence in our lives.

Pastor Danny

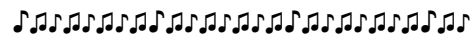
## November Outreach

The excitement of early Fall is quickly turning to the season of the holidays. In some ways more relaxed. In some ways more chaotic and distracting. Let's be sure to keep focused and stay intentional about ministry and the kingdom.

Shoebboxes will be due Sunday November 12 (or a day or two after). Pies and Praise on the evening of Nov 12 will be a time for eating desserts and singing together from the hymnal. Laid back, enjoying the fellowship, and singing our favorites.

The annual church Christmas dinner will be here before you know it. Saturday, Dec 2 we will gather for a time to eat and kick off the season of celebrating the birth of our Savior.

Pastor Danny



## Music Newsletter

The Praise Team just keeps getting better and better! We added a new member this month, Sheryl Jobe, who has added an alto to the Praise Team.

Remember, on Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup> we will be having a Pie & Praise Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall. This will consist of pies and desserts for refreshments PLUS

singing songs by request from the hymnal.

We will start looking at Christmas songs this month to get ready for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. This service will be on a Sunday Night this year, which will be very special.

### Senior Adult Ministry

The Lakeview Assembly Fall Senior Adult Rally was on Thursday October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The Worship Leader and Speaker was David Crain who was outstanding and kept us laughing all day with his songs and stories. And of course, the lunch was fantastic as always.

### FBCY Cooking Video

The FBCY Cooking video on September 12<sup>th</sup> saw Edith McLendon demonstrating great recipes for Fall. She showcased her Mexican Cornbread. Everyone attending really enjoyed the lunch after the video.

The next Cooking Video will be Thursday November 16 in the Fellowship Hall. There will be several featured cooks showcasing Holiday Treats. Be sure and watch on Facebook or You Tube or come be part of the audience.

Please remember November 11<sup>th</sup> is Veteran's Day! Thank a veteran or member of the military for their service. They all deserve our thanks and respect.

Thanks  
Bro. Steve

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### Thank You...

Jackie Stokes and the kitchen crew would like to thank Mike Miller, Wayne Miles, and Jerry Nickerson for cleaning out the kitchen closet!

### Youth Ministry

I'm disappointed that we were forced to cancel our Fall Fest. However, I am beyond appreciative to everyone who signed up to work the event, prayed for it, made a dessert, brought in a bag of candy, or did anything else to contribute.

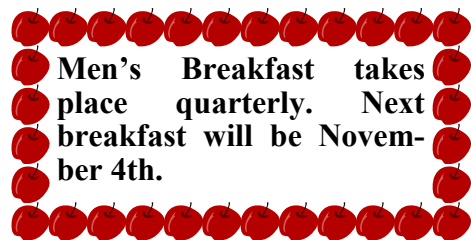
This past month in youth ministry has been good, marked by a growth in Wednesday night attendance. This has been a blessing, but also has given us some growing pains.

Looking forward, we are going to shift our focus to gratitude and the study of Jesus as we move into the holiday season. This is an exciting time for our students, and we look forward to showing them the true reason for joy this winter!

Please continue to pray for our students, many of whom do not know the Lord and for our leaders that God will give them wisdom. Thank y'all!

—Bro. Dennis Wagner

**At-A-Glance:**  
September's Gifts: \$22,253.<sup>00</sup>  
2023 Gifts So Far: \$192,264.<sup>68</sup>  
2023 Budget: \$279,287.<sup>00</sup>



### Shoobox Drop-off Deadline November 12th

### New Church Facebook Account

A new Facebook page has been created for the church. Our previous page will be retired on November 12th, so be sure to follow the new page for the latest updates from FBC Yantis. The new page is a proper business account, rather than a regular user profile. This new account will allow us to take advantage of additional features.

Go to [facebook.com/FBCY1870](https://facebook.com/FBCY1870) to follow our new page.



***Your Church Staff...***

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