

Christ Moravian Church
Pastoral Letter for the weekend of October 11th, 2020
Worship Service Focus: Lives Filled with Thanksgiving !

Greetings Friends in Christ:

As Thanksgiving weekend arrives, you might realize the worship video this weekend will have an emphasis on this theme. The worship voices will lead us in that very familiar hymn as the service begins...

*“Come, you thankful people come, raise the song of harvest home;
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;
God our Maker does provide, for our needs to be supplied;
Come with all His people come, raise the song of harvest home.”*

I will highlight in this service that this will be a Thanksgiving Holiday like none other we’ve ever experienced. Yet, as we all pause to reflect on our blessings, our gifts, our lives, I’m convinced we will recognize that we are so thankful and grateful for the “much” we come to experience. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

As you view the Thanksgiving video worship service, you’ll appreciate the beautiful decorations of the Thanksgiving display. We thank Elaine Haggith, Dorothy Schultz, and Jean Driver for their decorative touch to the service.

The Re-Opening Task Force is wrapping up its work to offer guidelines for in-person worship experiences to begin. The Executive Board and Elders will put the final touches on these plans, and news of this first gathering will be forthcoming soon. There has been a bit of concern with the higher number of cases reported recently, so the leadership team intends to have our safety and health be of prime importance in these decisions. The leadership team is convinced that even upon “in person gatherings”, the weekly worship video will continue to be offered as a great number of our community may wish to continue watching online for the time being.

I thank so many folks for their “behind the scenes” ministry that is occurring in these strange days. As I make some various phone calls and visits, it’s so heartwarming to hear of the many ways in which others are reaching out with support, care, and friendship. CMC continues to be a living, breathing, serving “Body of Christ”. Well done, good and faithful stewards!

Indranie thanks everyone for the recycle items and encourages everyone to keep dropping them off throughout the week. She makes a weekly trip to pick up the cans and bottles for Mission work.

This email will again include all of our typical info, links and materials.

Thanksgiving Blessings to All,

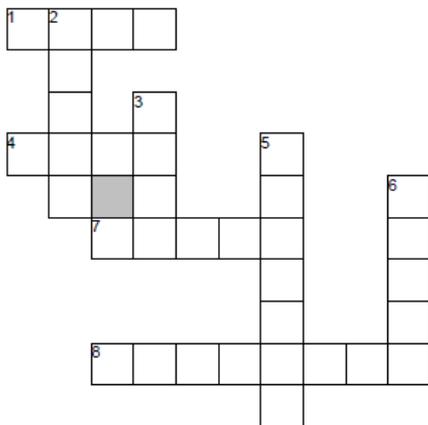
Pastor Steve Gohdes



The Golden Calf

So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron. He took what they handed him and made it into an idol cast in the shape of a calf, fashioning it with a tool. Exodus 32:3-4a (NIV)

Complete the activity below.



HORIZONTAL

1. A young cow
4. A valuable yellowish colored metal that is used to make jewelry
7. A raised platform on which offerings to God are made
8. Ornaments, often made of gold, worn hanging from the ear

VERTICAL

2. The brother of Moses
3. A statue that is worshipped as a god
5. To bow down in adoration
6. The prophet of God who led the Hebrew people out of Egypt

WORSHIP
MOSES

EARRINGS
ALTAR

AARON
CALF

IDOL
GOLD

The Golden Calf

(EXODUS 32)





The Golden Calf

So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron. He took what they handed him and made it into an idol cast in the shape of a calf, fashioning it with a tool.

Exodus 32:3-4a (NIV)

Complete the activity below.

Choose the word that best fits the definition. Write the letter of that word in the space before the sentence.

The brother of Moses.

A. CALF B. EARRINGS C. AARON D. GOLD

A valuable yellowish colored metal that is used to make jewelry.

A. GOLD B. AARON C. ALTAR D. WORSHIP

A raised platform on which offerings to God are made.

A. MOSES B. IDOL C. MOSES D. ALTAR

A statue that is worshipped as a god.

A. WORSHIP B. IDOL C. AARON D. ALTAR

A young cow.

A. EARRINGS B. CALF C. IDOL D. GOLD

Ornaments, often made of gold, worn hanging from the ear.

A. MOSES B. WORSHIP C. EARRINGS D. AARON

The prophet of God who led the Hebrew people out of Egypt.

A. CALF B. GOLD C. MOSES D. IDOL

To bow down in adoration.

A. EARRINGS B. ALTAR C. WORSHIP D. IDOL

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The Golden Calf

Complete the activity below.

At the bottom of the page is a list of words. These words are hidden in the puzzle.

The words have been placed horizontally, vertically, and diagonally. When you find a word, draw a circle around it.

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

EARRINGS

GOLDEN

IDOL

REPENT

OFFERING

AARON

CALF

ALTAR

MOSES

WORSHIP

ANGER

BURNT

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Complete the activity below.

The words below have been written in code. Use the hints in the decoder at the top of page 2 to help break the code (the letters on top are the correct answers, the numbers on the bottom are the code). Write the correct word on the line provided.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	1	25	21	12	6	3	2	18	20	16	15	4	24	10	13	23	9	0	5	7	17	8	22	19	11

25-14-15-6 _____

14-15-5-14-9 _____

12-14-9-9-18-24-3-0 _____

3-10-15-21-12-24 _____

14-24-3-12-9 _____

4-10-0-12-0 _____

1-7-9-24-5 _____

8-10-9-0-2-18-13 _____

9-12-13-12-24-5 _____

14-14-9-10-24 _____

10-6-6-12-9-18-24-3 _____

18-21-10-15 _____

WORSHIP
IDOL
ANGER

MOSES
AARON
REPENT

OFFERING
ALTAR
BURNT

EARRINGS
CALF
GOLDEN

Focus on Philippians 4:1–9

WHAT is important to know?

— From “Exegetical Perspective,” Annette Weissenrieder

Synergōn [coworker] and *synēlthēsan* [struggle along with] have one thing in common: they express an active participation of the coworkers in the mission. Cooperation in the mission signifies an active fight, no quiet or passive participation. The choice of agonistic language deepens this background further: participants in a competition never fight only for themselves or for their family, but are always nominated as envoys of a city. Their service is to be interpreted as a service for the city. Paul’s encouragement is clear: nobody fights alone; we always fight together.

WHERE is God in these words?

— From “Theological Perspective,” David B. Burrell

What difference does becoming a follower of Jesus make to one’s daily life? A follower familiar with the Gospels would, of course, readily cite Matthew 25, the charter of the Christian life, yet Paul is even more specific: “help these women, [Euodia and Syntyche], for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life” (v. 3). So followers of Jesus are enjoined to assist one another “in the gospel,” that is, to encourage each other to follow in the footsteps of Jesus as outlined in Matthew 25.

SO WHAT does this mean for our lives?

— From “Pastoral Perspective,” Jill Y. Crainshaw

Seasons of identity exploration and maturing hold the potential to remind communities of the profound extraordinariness of what seems merely ordinary. Keep on with your everyday works of gentleness and prayerful living, Paul counsels the Philippians (v. 4). Bake a loaf of bread for the woman down the street whose husband just died, Paul might say. Take a bag of groceries to the food closet. Visit a church member in the nursing home. Seemingly ordinary acts bear extraordinary gifts of God’s love. Ordinary Time teaches communities about the persistent, everyday powerful, promises of God’s grace in Christ.

NOW WHAT is God’s word calling us to do?

— From “Homiletical Perspective,”

Nathan Eddy

It comes naturally to Paul that prayer should be intimately associated with joy in the Lord. Prayer here is relationship with God, not a technique. By perceiving and rejoicing in a living, unexpected presence in the world even in difficult situations, one lets go of being one’s own savior. Instead of worrying about “anything,” the Philippians are to bring “everything” to God (v. 6). The “anythings” and “everything” of life can be sources of endless worry—or the stuff of prayer. Either way they are important. Like joy, prayer is not an escape but a practice of regarding the same painful situation from another angle, one still open to multiple resolutions that God permits us to consider.

Make a Joyful Inventory

Paul commissions individuals and communities in Philippians 4:8 with a list of qualities or virtues to think of—and then immediately follows the list with “keep on doing the things” Paul has set before them. Thus, living joyfully and faithfully involves not only what we think, but also how those thoughts permeate our actions.

Use the list Paul provides in verse 8 as a starting point for your “joyful inventory.” Space is provided after each quality Paul identifies, in order for you to reflect on that quality in terms of: (1) the joy it can bring to life; and (2) a specific way you will practice that quality in your everyday living.

“Whatever is true”—What joy can truth bring, and where might you live out the call to be truthful?

“Whatever is honorable”—The Greek word translated as “honorable” carries the connotation of someone of character. What joy can dependability of character bring, and what does the challenge to be a person of character call you to practice?

“Whatever is just”—What joy is there in justice (equitability in relationship), and what does justice beckon you to do?

“Whatever is pure”—The Greek word translated as “pure” derives from the root of “holy” (that which is set apart for God). What joy might there be in “purity” that reflects such “Godward” purpose, and what practice(s) might purity take in your life in terms of being set apart for God—or set apart from that which separates you from God or faithful community?

“Whatever is pleasing”—The Greek word translated as “pleasing” has *philos* (“love”) as part of its root. What joy comes from that which is pleasing or lovely in life, and how might you practice its virtue?

“Whatever is commendable”—The Greek word translated as “commendable” carries the sense of “well spoken of.” What joy may be found in that which is commendable, and how might you embody this quality of character?

JOY

pleasing

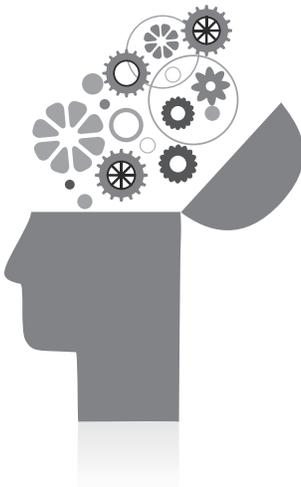
justice

honorable

truth

commendable

purity



Worship & Event Links for October 11th, 2020

Topic: CMC Bible Buddies

Attached is this week's (Oct 11) study – Joyous Persistence - Philippians 4:1-9

Canadian District is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Time: Oct 11, 2020 09:00 AM Edmonton

Every week on Sunday, until October 25, 2020

Oct 11, 2020 09:00 AM

Oct 18, 2020 09:00 AM

Oct 25, 2020 09:00 AM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZ0rcuugrijqHN3yib7cog7C2pRluL9aXNfn/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGhqD4oEtScsB-ORpx5Bl_4a_zziFhfgo0OhRbnVCNcZVTVPJwPqdTSdno

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89652809069?pwd=cG9MUnp1MmpNYTFMeFpzK1ZUQytWZz09>

Meeting ID: 896 5280 9069

Passcode: 370623

One tap mobile

+14388097799,,89652809069# Canada

+15873281099,,89652809069# Canada

Dial by your location

+1 587 328 1099 Canada

Children's Activities

<https://kidsupfront.com/kidsathome/>

You could be happily busy!

Glo

Links to Online Worship:

Christ Moravian

<https://www.christmoravian.com>

Good Shepherd

<https://www.goodshepherdmoravian.org>

Millwoods

<https://www.mcchurch.ca/>

Rio Terrace

<https://www.rioterracechurch.org/live>

Moravian Church Northern Province

<https://www.moravian.org>

for details of events happening within the wider Moravian Church