

Manor Talk

**A Publication of
Fairhill Manor
Christian Church**

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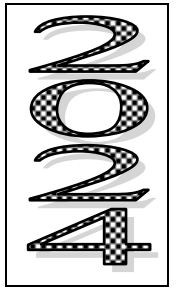
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Sunday, November 3



The month of November is the season of Thanksgiving. During the Civil War, in an attempt to bolster the morale of the nation, President Abraham Lincoln declared the fourth Thursday of November to be a day of Thanksgiving, and ever since we have kept this tradition. In addition to being a day to give thanks, it is also a day to eat lots of food. At our table there is the requisite turkey, stuffing, and mashed potatoes. In Texas we also ate cornbread stuffing and oysters. In Puerto Rico the table was covered with rice and plantain. Every family has different food traditions for Thanksgiving, but what is common at every table is a spirit of thankfulness that is the reason for the holiday's existence.

Giving thanks is nothing new. In the New International Version of the Bible, Jesus gives thanks fifteen times. Each and every time he gives thanks it comes before a meal. Therefore, it seems that eating and thanking God have always gone hand in hand. These meals never resembled the meals that we have on Thanksgiving. There was some bread, some wine, maybe some water. A few of these meals had some fish as well, yet Jesus had no trouble in finding a reason to thank God for all that he had been given.

He had no trouble being thankful for the food, but perhaps he was most thankful for the people with whom he shared the meal, for at each meal that Jesus gave thanks he was joined by others. Sometimes he ate with as many as five thousand people, while at other times he ate with twelve. Regardless of the number of people he was thankful for the food that brought so many people together and the presence of God at the meal that made everyone like family.

The Thanksgiving Day meal has the power to bring people together as well. Originally, many southerners saw the new holiday as an attempt to impose northern customs on them and refused to observe it. However, in the late 19th century Thanksgiving's emphasis on home and family appealed to people throughout the country. As a distinctly American holiday, Thanksgiving was also considered an introduction to American values for the millions of immigrants then entering the country.

As we prepare to give thanks to God this year let us first give thanks to God not for the food or the abundant material blessings that we have received, but for the spirit of the meal that brings people together. The Thanksgiving Day meal brings families together from all over. It causes people who do not normally talk to one another all year to do so. Indeed, it has brought an entire nation together over the years, and, in a time of often deep division over so many things, it is a meal that brings the nation together once more. Above all let us thank God for this.

Rev. Chris



- 1 Justin Gatten
- 2 Mary Ellen Grebner
Daniel Leasure
- 4 Oden Keene
- 6 Shirley Cavanaugh
Lynn Lacock
Beth Yeash
- 7 Lou Skariot
Chuck Wiseman
- 9 Derek Glover
Emme Howsare
- 10 Ethan Plants
Rob Wheeler
Taylor Wheeler
- 11 Bryson Daniels
Grayson Daniels
Serena Dube
Jackie Weaver
- 12 Jonathan Jacobovitz
Garnet Withrow
- 14 Kevin Puskarich
- 15 Gary Ford
- 16 Susan Britko
- 17 Ashley Howsare
- 18 Eva Lou Engle
Wyatt Newman
- 19 Carol Davis
Jackie Keener
- 20 Maria Mountain
Donna Stenski
- 21 Bette Jo Puskarich
- 23 Patty Pryor
- 25 Cecilia Greene
Rev. Chris Stillwell
- 27 Doug Bakaitis
- 28 John Samida
- 29 Zachary Keene

Happy ANNIVERSARY

- 2 James & Cara Hritz
- 10 Gary & Kathy Ford
- 22 Steve & Jodi Barlow
- 27 Jeff & Amy Caldwell

APPRECIATION *Dinner*

The excitement is mounting for our **Appreciation Dinner** after worship on Sunday, November 24th! Come and enjoy a family-style meal, cooked and served with care, around tables laid out in style. Soak in some classy dinner music by Dan Baker while chatting with friends and family. Enjoy a delicious dessert and take some sweetness home to savor. Call your RSVP in to the Church Office or respond to the Evite email by November 10. Round up your Fairhill memorabilia, a friend or two, and join us as we celebrate the amazing generosity of our congregation!

Our **DRIVE-THRU** Nativity will be Saturday and Sunday, December 14 and 15. We will need 50 people to be characters as well as others to help in the many different ways. Please ask relatives, neighbors, friends, to participate. Give Connie their contact information if they can help. Thank you very much!





**Thankfulness Bible Study continues on Wednesdays through November 27
from 11am-12pm via Zoom**

Rev. Chris will be using Sarah Young's book, "Jesus Calling: Practicing Thankfulness" to lead a Bible study about why and how we should give thanks in all things. You do not need to purchase the book to participate in the study.

You do not have to attend every session. Just join on Zoom when you can and we will gather together to give thanks for God's blessings.

If you have any non-perishable food items you would like to donate to the **Community Circle Food Pantry**, you can continue to bring them in and place them on the table by the coffee station in the front entrance of the church. Rev. Chris will take them to the pantry at the beginning of each month. **Items needed most at this time are: Gravy (Jar or Packets), Canned Vegetables (specifically corn and green beans), Corn Bread Mix, Pie Crust, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing (boxed), Canned Pumpkin, Canned Sweet Potatoes, Cranberries (canned), Jello/Pudding Mixes, Evaporated Milk, Cake Mixes, Frosting.** If you or someone you know would like to volunteer or are in need of the Food Pantry's services, they distribute the food every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9-12. The Community Circle Food Pantry is located at **65 E Cherry Ave** in Washington, and they can be reached at 724-225-1540.



Altar Flowers

Altar flowers are a beautiful way to honor your loved ones: as a memorial for those departed, on a special occasion for those who are near and dear, or even "just because." If you would like to order altar flowers, contact Karen in the Church Office at (724) 225-8610. The cost is **\$25** for a vase arrangement. Flowers need to be ordered on the Monday of the week you would like them on the Altar. Order forms are also available in the Narthex.



Advent Season will be here before you know it. The first Sunday of Advent is December 1. Our **Advent Devotional, Abide With Us**, will be available in the Narthex on Sunday, November 24. Please take 1 copy per family.

November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sunday School 9am Worship 10:15am	NA 7pm	Grief Support Group 6-8pm Small Hall	Thankfulness Bible Study 11am-noon Via Zoom NA 6:45pm	Choir 6:30pm NA 7:30pm		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Sunday School 9am Worship 10:15am Notes of Thanks Concert 6pm	NA 7pm	Grief Support Group 6-8pm Small Hall Dartball 7pm @ 1 st Lutheran	Thankfulness Bible Study 11am-noon Via Zoom Elders Meeting 5:30pm Zoom NA 6:45pm Board Meeting 7pm	Personnel Committee 3:30pm Library Choir 6:30pm NA 7:30pm		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Sunday School 9am Worship 10:15am	NA 7pm	Grief Support Group 6-8pm Small Hall Dartball 7pm @ Home	Thankfulness Bible Study 11am-Noon Via Zoom NA 6:45pm	Tri-County Men's Dinner Perryopolis 6pm Choir 6:30pm NA 7:30pm		Large Fellowship Hall Reserved Noon-6pm
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Sunday School 9am Worship 10:15am Appreciation Dinner	NA 7pm	Grief Support Group 6-8pm Small Hall Dartball 7pm @ 4 th Presbyterian	Thankfulness Bible Study 11am-Noon Via Zoom NA 6:45pm	 Office Closed	Office Closed	Hanging of the Greens 5pm Kitchen and Large Hall Reserved

Notes of Thanks

The Notes of Thanks concert will be held here at FMCC on **Sunday, November 10, at 6pm**. This free concert will feature Pastor Betty Riecks, Dan Baker and the Ambassadors for Christ. A free-will offering will be received to aid needy families in the area. Refreshments will be served following the concert.



If you have left over Halloween candy, the **Children Worship & Wonder** center can always use small/miniature candy to give to the children on Sundays. Thank you!



Blessing Boxes

Money from your **Blessing Boxes** will be collected and dedicated on **Sunday, November 24**. You can bring your money or a check to FMCC with Blessing Box in the memo that day and keep your box for continued use. All money goes to the Church Mission Fund with 50% used for national and international women's studies, programs and development. This is sponsored by our Disciples Women's Ministry. Thank you for recognizing your daily blessings in this way! If you have any questions or need a box, contact Connie Sheller.

The Salvation Army **Angel Tree** tags will be available November 3. When you take a tag off the display, please sign the sheet on the credenza for the tag number that you take. Place your unwrapped present in a reusable tote bag or box and place under the tree in the Narthex by Sunday, December 1. (The tags say that you can take your gift to the Salvation Army by December 6th but they have asked us to collect all of the gifts here first and then they will pick them up)



Poinsettia Orders

It's that time!!!

Red and White Poinsettias can now be ordered for our Christmas Eve display. We need at least 33 poinsettias to form the beautiful Poinsettia Tree at the front of the Sanctuary. Order forms can be found in the bulletin during the month of November, and also in the Narthex. Paid orders are due to Karen in the Church Office by December 1.



Hanging of the Greens

The BYKOTA Sunday School class will be decorating the Sanctuary on **November 30** at 5pm. Everyone is invited to participate. Finger foods will be available for snacking. Please come and enjoy the fun, food and fellowship as we prepare for this Christmas season in our Church. See Connie Sheller if you have any questions.





The beautiful poinsettia tree that adorns our sanctuary each Christmas Eve is a tradition that we all look forward to every year. Please fill out this form and return it to the church office by **December 1st with payment**. Indicate the color and number of poinsettias you would like to order. Cost per plant is \$12. Please **make checks payable to "Fairhill Manor" and indicate "Poinsettias" in the memo line**. Plants may be picked up following the Christmas Eve service.

_____ RED Poinsettias

_____ WHITE Poinsettias

ORDERS are due by December 1st

Given by

In Memory/Honor of (circle one)

In Memory/Honor of (circle one)

In Memory/Honor of (circle one)
