

Campbellsburg Christian Church

Newsletter

A Family of Faith, Hope and Love

Volume 14 Issue 11

November 2018

Musical Musings...

The following devotion is written by Max Lucado.

A grateful heart sees each day as a gift. Thankful people focus less on what they lack and more on the privileges they have. I attended a banquet recently in which a wounded soldier was presented with the gift of a free house. He nearly fell over with gratitude. He bounded onto the stage with his one good leg and threw both arms around the presenter. "Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!" He hugged the guitar player in the band and the big woman on the front row. He thanked the waiter, the other soldiers, and then the presenter again. Before the night was over, he thanked me! And I didn't do anything.

Shouldn't we be equally grateful? Jesus is building a house for us (John 14:2). Our deed of ownership is every bit as certain as that of the soldier. What's more, Jesus cured our leprosy. Sin cankered our souls and benumbed our senses. Yet the Man on the path told us we were healed, and, lo and behold, we were!

The grateful heart is like a magnet sweeping over the day, collecting reasons for gratitude. A zillion diamonds sparkle against the velvet of your sky every night. Thank you, God. A miracle of muscles enables your eyes to read these words and your brain to process them. Thank you, God. Your lungs inhale and exhale eleven thousand liters of air every day. Your heart will beat about three billion times in your lifetime. Your brain is a veritable electric generator of power. Thank you, God.

For the jam on our toast and the milk on our cereal. For the blanket that calms us and the joke that delights us and the warm sun that reminds us of God's love. For the thousands of planes that did not crash today. For the men who didn't cheat on their wives, and the wives who didn't turn from their men, and the kids who, in spite of unspeakable pressure to dishonor their parents, decided not to do so. Thank you, Lord.

Gratitude gets us through the hard stuff. To reflect on your blessings is to rehearse God's accomplishments. To rehearse God's accomplishments is to discover his heart. To discover his heart is to discover not just good gifts but the Good Giver. Gratitude always leaves us looking at God and away from dread. It does to anxiety what the morning sun does to valley mist. It burns it up.

Join the ranks of the 10 percent who give God a standing ovation. "Give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Ephesians 5:20 (NLT).

In His service,
Cheri

Scripture of the Month...

Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; His love endures forever. **1 Chronicles 16:34**

Financial Info...

As of October 31st:

Balance in the Checking Account:	\$27,979.28
Total Offerings for the Month:	\$ 5,730.00
Balance in the Memorial Fund:	\$17,998.90

Board Meeting...

This year's Nominating Committee appointments (Betsy Carpenter, David Lyle and Greg Simpson) were approved by the Board during the October Called Board meeting.

We will hold a regular Board Meeting following our Thanksgiving luncheon on November 18th. All board members are encouraged to be in attendance.

November Calendar...

- November 1st: **All Saint's Day**
- November 2nd: **Happy Birthday – Nora Orr**
- November 4th: **Daylight Saving Time Ends**
Call to Worship – Ethan Lyle
Elders – Tracy Carpenter
Chet Lawrence
Deacons – Ethan Lyle
Isaac Schwarz
Acolyte – Ginny Lyle
- November 5th: **Happy Birthday – Tracy Carpenter**
- November 6th: **Election Day**
- November 7th: Team Lyle packing bags for
Campbellsburg Kids' Kitchen – 5:45 p.m.
Choir Practice – 6:30 p.m.
- November 11th: **Veterans Day**
Call to Worship – Kim Mullikin
Elders – Jim Chambers
Kim Mullikin

her husband, David, reside on Property Road in Eminence.

Thanksgiving Luncheon...

Our Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon will be held on the 18th in the fellowship hall following the worship service. The turkey, bread and tea will be furnished; but we need two volunteers to bake the turkeys and someone to bake the bread, everything else will be potluck. Please let someone from the Kitchen Committee know if you would be able to do any of these jobs. Please plan to attend for great food and fellowship.

Poinsettias...

Orders are now being taken for poinsettias for the Advent Season. Poinsettias are \$5 each. Forms will be placed in the bulletins or you can fill out the following:

Please indicate amount of:

___ Red ___ Pink ___ Marble ___ White

From:

In Honor of:

In Memory of:

The deadline for ordering will be **November 25th**. Please give to Jennifer Rankin and make checks payable to: *Campbellsburg Christian Church*

Among Our Own...

We will be decorating for the Advent Season following our worship service on November 25th. Lunch will be provided for those staying to help decorate. Be sure to let Jennifer Rankin know if you plan to stay...

Recipes are still needed for our upcoming Church Cookbook! They can be placed in the box on the front pew in the sanctuary or emailed to:

Patricia Carpenter (patoec@aol.com) or

Tina Spencer (spencer.schwarz.family@gmail.com)

We are hoping to have at least 300 recipes!

Prayer Concerns...

Please See Newsletter in Church

For Specific Prayer Concerns

Due to Confidentiality

All our military personnel

Our Church

Our Pastoral Search

Our Nation

WORLD PEACE

Don't Let Details Distract You From Thankfulness...

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"Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NLT)

In the early 1970's, based on the popular comic strip *Peanuts*, the first "Charlie Brown Thanksgiving" aired on prime-time television.

As a child, watching this show became one of my favorite Thanksgiving traditions. As an adult, it was one of the traditions I held dear with my own children. Not only because Linus' prayer at the dinner table showed how to be thankful at Thanksgiving, but also because Peppermint Patty's behavior showed how NOT to be.

Peppermint Patty, upon sitting down at the Thanksgiving table, made the honorable suggestion to say grace before they began eating. But her reason for praying was because, "*It's Thanksgiving, you know.*"

Peppermint Patty initiated the call to prayer out of perceived obligation, but it was her actions, which proved she only had head-knowledge of true thankfulness, not heart-knowledge. As soon as Linus said *Amen*, she looked around the table and details began to distract her from thankfulness for the gifts they'd been given.

When her expectations of what Thanksgiving should look like didn't match up with her reality, Patty got upset and irritated. She began to verbally express her dissatisfaction and became annoyed with one of the guests (Snoopy).

She was agitated the food didn't meet her traditional requirements. She complained and yelled, having quickly forgotten all about Linus' prayer and the importance of being truly thankful. She became focused on annoyances instead of prayer and true gratitude.

Can you relate?

Unfortunately, this scene is all too familiar in households across the country at Thanksgiving. We have this idea of how we want the holiday to look, but our reality may not match up to our expectations. Difficult circumstances and details can distract us from indebtedness to God.

Today's key verse, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, says "*Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.*"

Here we read *when* we are to be thankful — in all circumstances. And we read *why* we are to be thankful — because this is God's will for all believers as He knows a grateful heart is a happy heart. We can be thankful no matter what we're facing, because God is worthy of our thanksgiving.

In this verse, the Apostle Paul is giving instructions on how to gain heart-knowledge, not just head-knowledge, of true gratitude. We're to be thankful in the midst of *all* circumstances, not merely those that are easy and pleasant.

I realize this is far easier said than done. God asks us to trust His ways even when we don't understand them. We're to be thankful for the gifts He has given us, not focused on what we don't yet have.

Rarely do families get through Thanksgiving dinner with perfectly cooked food ... children with pristine manners ... babies who don't cry or refrain from picking inopportune times for dirty diapers ... siblings who don't argue ... spouses who don't quarrel ... drinks that go un-spilled ... or family members in total agreement about which football game to watch.

Some years, families are fractured or even distant memories.

The enemy wants to use all these side details to distract us from what we really should be focusing on: the Giver of the gifts, not the gifts themselves.

During the holidays or any day of the year, I can easily morph into a Peppermint Patty if I'm not careful. I don't want to be someone who gives thanks with her mouth and not her heart. A person so distracted by the less-than-desired details that she overlooks the indebtedness she should have in her heart for Christ — not just for how He blesses, but for Who He is.

Life's not always easy, and holidays aren't always perfect or peaceful. But we can always have a heart full of thankfulness if we remember Who gives us reasons to be thankful, not just what we're thankful for.

Dear Lord, help me when I start letting details of the holidays, annoying frustrations or unmet expectations distract me from all the reasons I have from You to be abundantly and eternally grateful. Help me have a heart full of thankfulness every day, but especially on the specific day set aside to be grateful for You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

In all things,
GIVE THANKS.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18

