

the MESSENGER

NOVEMBER 2019

COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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From the Church Office...

We've had a great month of wonderful speakers filling our pulpit from Lincoln Christian University but we are also hard at work searching for our new minister. An update was shared with the congregation a few weeks ago on where we were at in our search process. We appreciate your continuing prayers for the right man God is preparing for us. We have ordered prayer wristbands for everyone in the congregation. They will be passed out on a Sunday morning. Please wear them as a reminder to pray every time you look at it. May we continue to be unified in love and in purpose as we follow God's leading.



"God is in control, and therefore in everything I can give thanks – because of the One who directs and rules over it." (Kay Arthur)

After "turkey day" came and went last year, a pastor challenged church members to ask one another not "How was your Thanksgiving?" but "How is your Thanksgiving?" After all, giving thanks should be an ongoing act.

That doesn't always need to be profoundly deep, either. A.J. Jacobs, author of *Thanks a Thousand*, once asked a philosophy-professor friend what he was grateful for. The shockingly simple reply? "Sometimes I'm just grateful I have arms." That odd but spot-on answer shows the importance, Jacobs says, of being "thankful for things so omnipresent that they can escape our notice."

So ... how is your Thanksgiving?



"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

1 Cor. 15:58

FALL FESTIVAL & TRUNK OR TREAT

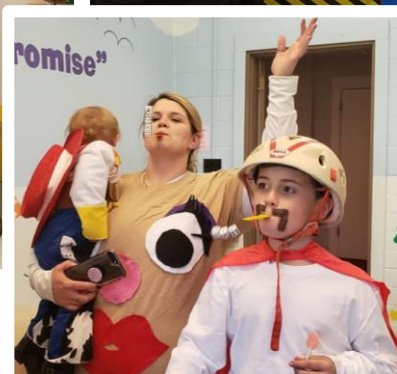
EVANGELISM HIGHLIGHT



8TH Annual
CRUISE-IN



Our 8th Annual Cruise-In was held September 28th. It was co-chaired by Bob Gipson and Don Vickroy. There were 17 cars registered for the event. A Weber Car Auction and Bucket Donations raised \$2,292 for IDES.



FALL FEST
TRUNK OR TREAT

A HUGE thank you to Teresa Garcia and Becki Winger for organizing our 2019 Fall Fest and Trunk or Treat. Also, a big thanks to everyone who helped decorate, make food, decorate booths, and pass out candy!

"I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus." 1 Corinthians 1:4

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Sunday School starts at 9:30am – for ALL ages!! Hope to see you there!

JR HIGH/SR HIGH



Roger Curry is going to be helping with the Junior High/High School classes and teaching on the weeks that Scott Green cannot be here. Thanks Roger and Scott for all you do for our youth!!



KIDS' CHURCH

Volunteers Needed!

We are in need of volunteers for Kids' Church and Nursery for this next year. Please see Cathy Lotz if you are able to help with this!



MISSION HIGHLIGHT: Rock River Christian Camp

Rock River Christian Camp located near Polo, IL and is our local church camp. Approximately 34 churches support the camp.

“Summer camp is over, but we are thankful for so many great things that happened this summer. We had baptisms in the camp pool, great friendships were made, fun challenging activities helped us to grow campers, faculty, S.A.W.s, and staff lives were changed for the better, and we learned the importance of being OBEYENT to Christ. Camp season 2020 will be here before we know it. Preparations are already being made. We hope to have a completed schedule to you soon. We are still making sure the dates all fit together for next summer. We will email out the schedule as soon as we have all the dates confirmed with our Deans.” (Newsletter of Sept, 2019)



There is a current wish list of things needed for next camp season. They include: water fountains, sound system equipment, Lifetime chairs and tables, floor lamps, end tables, night stand lights, a dump truck, large mirrors for the bath house, waterproof bed covers, cabin mattresses etc. A complete list is in the camp booklet on the mission shelf by the office.



“The camp just became debt free several years ago, and we don’t want to go back into debt to take care of physical needs, but every one of the needs listed plays a major part in our camp ministry. We know God is good and if everyone comes together to help cover these needs, we can continue to be debt free utilizing all that God has blessed us with.” (Newsletter Oct. 17)



There is a camp work day scheduled for Saturday October 26, 8:00 to 3:00 P.M. During that day the camp will be readied for winter, raking leaves, cleaning of cabins and outbuildings. Many hands are needed to accomplish

the tasks. The annual board meeting is on Saturday, November 9th where plans will be made for the future activities of the camp.

The camp is also looking for workers for the 2020 camp season. People with big hearts, 16 years of age or some positions require you to be 18. Needed are maintenance and kitchen staff, some will be trained as lifeguards, high ropes course facilitators, archery facilitators, paintball referees, food handlers, and more.

Six kids from Countryside attended camp this past camping season. They were Noah and Wyatt Green, Connor Kohrt, Nathan, Seth and Ellie Johnson. Scholarships up to \$100 are available from the church. Plan now to be part of the camp activities and programs in the coming year.

“Pray that we glorify God in all that we do! We are blessed to be His. Not our will, but God’s will.”
Dan Augestine, Camp Manager

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS

WORSHIP HIGHLIGHT



It's already that time again!!

The Worship Department will be scheduling a day to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas and order poinsettias. If you would like to purchase one of the poinsettias in memory of someone, or to help beautify our sanctuary, please sign up in the church foyer and let the office know. Thank you!!



THE LEGEND OF THE POINSETTIA

There was once a poor Mexican girl called Pepita who had no present to give the baby Jesus at the Christmas Eve Services. As Pepita walked to the chapel, sadly, her cousin Pedro tried to cheer her up.

'Pepita', he said "I'm sure that even the smallest gift, given by someone who loves him will make Jesus Happy."

Pepita didn't know what she could give, so she picked a small handful of weeds from the roadside and made them into a small bouquet. She felt embarrassed because she could only give this small present to Jesus. As she walked through the chapel to the altar, she remembered what Pedro had said. She began to feel better, knelt down and put the bouquet at the bottom of the nativity scene. Suddenly, the bouquet of weeds burst into bright red flowers, and everyone who saw them were sure they had seen a miracle. From that day on, the bright red flowers were known as the 'Flores de Noche Buena', or 'Flowers of the Holy Night'.

The shape of the poinsettia flower and leaves are sometimes thought as a symbol of the Star of Bethlehem which led the Wise Men to Jesus. The red colored leaves symbolize the blood of Christ. The white leaves represent his purity.

"I will give thanks to the LORD because of his righteousness; I will sing His praises." (Psalm 7:17)

GIVING TO OTHERS

*Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love.
At the impulse of Thy love.*



Thanksgiving Food Basket Donations

We will be delivering 7 Thanksgiving food baskets to needy families within our area. The Evangelism department will be providing 7 (15lb) turkeys and 7 gallons of milk, but we are in need of the donations listed below (or cash donations for the turkeys). All items will need to be at the church by Sunday, November 17th. There is a sign-up sheet in the church foyer for all donations.

14 gravy packets/ 2 per basket

Seven 5lb bags of potatoes

7 cans of corn

14 cans of green beans

7 packages of butter or margarine sticks

7 cans of cream of mushroom soup

7 cans of original French's Crispy Fried Onions

7 cans of sweet potatoes

7 packages of dinner rolls

7 loaves of bread

7 boxes of Stove-Top stuffing

7 cans of fruit

7 pumpkin pies

7 tubs of Cool-Whip topping

7 packages of cookies

Thank you for your support!



If you have someone you would like to suggest to receive a basket this year, please put it in the offering plate on Sunday or leave it on the church office desk



"For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer." (1 Timothy 4:4-5)

SERVING OTHERS IN LOVE

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of Countryside Church is made up of two very hard-working and kind women: Nancy Dufur and Joanne Wiklund. This month alone, they have given out many prayer shawls and lap quilts. They don't call attention to their work, but, rather give them out quietly. But, God sees your efforts ladies and you should be honored for the work you are doing for others. God bless you!



*Prayer
Shawl
Ministry*

Dear Prayer Shawl Ministry,
Thank you for the beautiful prayer shawl. The blues are so pretty and the yarn is ultra soft. I will treasure it and think of the prayers "infused" in each stitch.
~ Heidi

Hello!
My name is Jackie Osmond (my sister-in-law is Laura Schmidt). She recently gave me a beautiful prayer shawl made by your prayer shawl ministry. I appreciate that very much! Thank you for thinking of my family and I. We appreciate your prayers so much.

Have a blessed day,
Jackie Osmond

Dear Countryside Christian Church,
My wife and I were eating at a local restaurant recently when her cousin, Don Vickroy, walked in. We spoke together for a while when Don said he had something for me. He went to his car and came back with a Prayer Shawl from the members of Countryside. I am going through my second bout of esophageal cancer in 5 years. Receiving the shawl fit right in my fight. I have always said that my faith, family, and friends have been the overwhelming theme of my resistance to the disease. Don telling us that I have been on your prayer list and receiving the prayer shawl just proved my point. I want to thank you and your membership for your concerns and prayers. May God bless all of you.

Randy Kline

If you would crochet or knit or sew, they are always looking for more people to join them!



"All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God." (2 Corinthians 4:15)

FELLOWSHIP HIGHLIGHT

OUR GIVING THIS MONTH

God makes us rich in every way so we can be generous on every occasion, which will result in thanksgiving to God. ... God doesn't bless us to provide for our own needs; he blesses us so we can be generous.

—Rick Warren (based on 2 Corinthians 9:11)



YTD Offering Income

Budget: \$10,000.00

Actual: \$6863.00

YTD Faith Promises

\$21,322

MY FAITH PROMISE TO WORLD MISSIONS

After a period of much prayer and discernment, I/WE promise to support the worldwide missionary program of the Countryside Christian Church over the next year. In total dependence upon God for HIS provision, it is our promise that "As God Gives, So Shall We Give." By faith, I/We promise the following amount of money:

\$ _____ **Annual Total**

Note: This is a faith promise, a covenant between myself and God. It is my voluntary offering for the evangelization of the world.

When my son Xavier was six years old, a friend brought her toddler to visit and Xavier wanted to give him a few toys. I delighted in our little giver's generosity, until he offered a stuffed animal my husband had searched several stores in different cities to find. Recognizing the high-demand toy, my friend tried to politely decline. Still, Xavier placed his gift into her son's hands and said, "My daddy gives me lots of toys to share."



Though I'd like to say Xavier learned his confident giving from me, I've often withheld my resources from God and others. But

when I remember that my heavenly Father gives me everything I have and need, it's easier to share.

In the Old Testament, God commanded the Israelites to trust Him by giving a portion of all He had supplied to the Levite priests, who would in turn help others in need. When the people refused, the prophet Malachi said they were robbing the Lord (Malachi 3:8-9). But if they gave willingly, showing they trusted the Lord's promised provision and protection (vv. 10-11), others would recognize them as God's blessed people (v. 12).

Whether we're managing our finances, our schedules, or the gifts God entrusted to us, giving can be an act of worship. Giving freely and fearlessly can show our confidence in the care of our loving Father—the ultimate generous Giver.

By: Xochitl Dixon

"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. (2 Corinthians 9:11)"

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO!

*Whatever is done in love for Christ
Will one day have heaven's reward;
Today let's do what we can for Him,
Our loving Savior and Lord. —Hess*

Some very important jobs in our congregation that don't always receive as much as recognition as they deserve are those who keep our building maintained and looking good. There were many needed jobs completed this year: Outside exit doors were painted and some landscaping issues were dealt with.



Windows were cleaned on the outside of the building as well. Cracks in the outside walls as well as the gym walls were repaired. Office carpet was cleaned and a new vacuum was purchased. Much to the ladies' delight, two new stoves were purchased for the kitchen. Our others were not functioning properly and new ones were greatly needed and appreciated.



Thank you so much Galvin Garcia and all those who helped the Property Department with these many tasks (and so many more not even mentioned) throughout the year. Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated!

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10

COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Upcoming Events

11/4

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

Evangelism/Missions (6:30pm)
All Departments (7pm)



**DEPARTMENT
MEETINGS**

11/14

ELDERS' MEETING

Monthly meeting for Elders at 7:30pm.



*Elders
Meeting*

11/17

THANKSGIVING BASKETS DONATIONS DUE

See the Fellowship page for items needed to donate to families in need this holiday season. Bring your items to the church by this Sunday.



11/17

ELDER/DEACON BIBLE STUDY

Monthly Bible Study at the church at 8am



11/24

FAMILY SUNDAY/POTLUCK FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Immediately following the Worship Service



11/28

THANKSGIVING

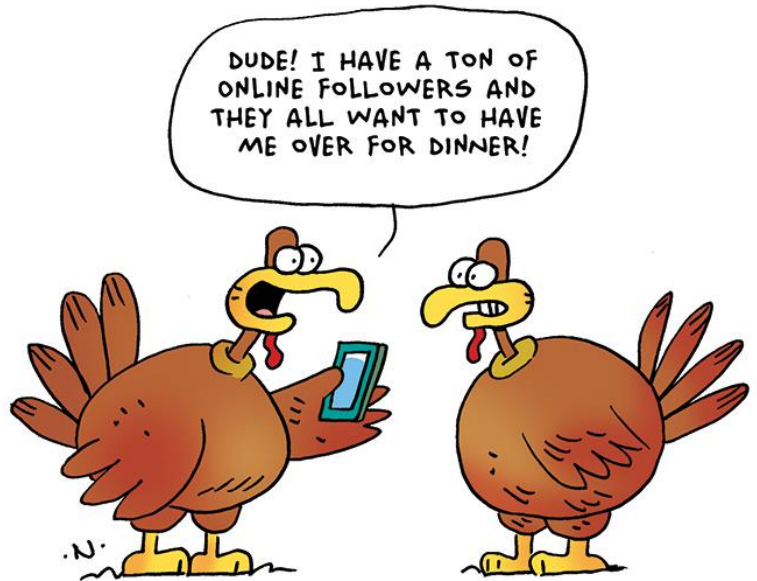
Enjoy your families and give thanks to God.



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



- 7 – Joan Tolliver
- 10 – Tim Trout - 1980
- 12 – Nathan Johnson
- 15 – Kailyn Peterson
- 18 – Madison Schmidt
- 19 – Holly Trout
- 22 – Elmo Lawson
- 25 – Mary Lawson
- 26 – John McCoy
- 29 – Pat Ricketts



Thanksgiving Humor

Luke: What did the turkey say to the computer?

Will: What?

Luke: "Google, google, google."

Kevin: What do you call a turkey on the day after Thanksgiving?

Jake: I don't know. What?

Kevin: Lucky.

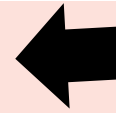


- 13 – Elmo & Mary Lawson
- 16 – Larry & Georgia Cullison
- 29 – Angela & Joe Heydeman



SERVERS THIS MONTH

Communion Prep
Scripture Reader
Greeter
Donut Dandy



Can you help??

Sign-Up Sheet in the
Church Foyer



Children's Church:

3rd – Cathy Lotz & Sarah Denekas

10th – Cathy Lotz & Kayli Neer

17th – Cathy Lotz & Holly Trout

Sunday School Nursery Workers:

3rd – Cathy Lotz

10th – Jane Noyd

17th – Nancy Dufur

24th – Kathy Kohrt

Worship Nursery Workers:

3rd – Gail Horst

10th – Dottie Seitz

17th – Lisa Jones

24th – Jane Noyd



Worship Servers:

November 3

Roger Curry (Meditation)

Teresa Garcia (Communion Prayer)

Don Vickroy (Offering Prayer)

November 10th

Don Vickroy (Meditation)

Wayne Lotz (Communion Prayer)

Jim Kaecker (Offering Prayer)

November 17th

Wayne Lotz (Meditation)

Don Vickroy (Communion Prayer)

Roger Curry (Offering Prayer)

November 24th

Don Vickroy (Meditation)

Jim Kaecker (Communion Prayer)

Teresa Garcia (Offering Prayer)

Building Cleaners

Wayne & Cathy Lotz
Georgia Cullison & Dottie Seitz
Randy & Sarah Denekas



"The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him." (Psalm 28:7)

GRATITUDE game

Start a fun tradition by playing this game on Thanksgiving.

What you need:

- M&M's or other colored candies
- A bowl
- The list below (adapt the colors, as needed)

Red: a need God has provided for
Orange: a gift you've received
Yellow: something you've recently learned
Green: something in nature
Blue: a special memory
Brown: someone you love

What you do:

1. One at a time, people pick a candy and share what they're thankful for (according to the color).
2. Pass the bowl around and continue reflecting on God's goodness until all the candy is gone!

PUZZLE

A feast of praise

Throughout the Bible, God's people give thanks and praise for his goodness.

Directions: Draw lines to match the scriptures (all NIV) with the correct speaker.

"I thank my God every time I remember you." Philippians 1:3	Hannah
"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." Luke 1:46-47	David
"He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him." Exodus 15:2	Mary
"My heart rejoices in the LORD." 1 Samuel 2:1	Paul
"I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30	Moses

Answers: Philippians 1:3, Paul; Luke 1:46-47, Mary; Exodus 15:2, Moses; 1 Samuel 2:1, Hannah; Psalm 69:30, David

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name." (Psalm 100:4)

2019



November



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					01	02
03 	04 Evangelism/ Missions 6:30pm All Depts. 7pm	05 Men's Study 9am	06 Women's Bible Study 9:00am Worship Team 4:00pm Evening Small Group Studies	07	08 Gym in Use 6-8pm	09
10	11	12 Men's Study 9am Pastor Search Meeting 6:30pm	13 Women's Bible Study 9:00am Worship Team 4:00pm Evening Small Group Studies	14	15	16
17 Elder/Deacon Study 8am	18	19 Men's Study 9am	20 Women's Bible Study 9:00am Worship Team 4:00pm Evening Small Group Studies	21	22	23 Gym in Use through late Afternoon
24 Family Sunday – Potluck Lunch Food Pantry Collection	25	26 Men's Study 9am Pastor Search Meeting 6:30pm	27 Women's Bible Study 9:00am Worship Team 4:00pm Evening Small Group Studies	28 THANKSGIVING DAY	29	30

