



# *The Pastor's Pen...*

## **November 2022**

### **Thankfulness for Every Day**

*By Liz Thorpe*

November ushers us into the holiday season with one of many feasts ahead. It is a time when we enjoy the company of family and friends and give thanks for the many blessings we have received throughout the year.

When we think of Thanksgiving, most likely Pilgrims and Native American Indians come to mind. It is true, in 1621, they did share an autumn harvest meal of celebration together, but it wasn't until the 1800s when Thanksgiving Day became an official holiday for us in the United States.

In 1827, Sarah Josepha Hale, a writer and editor, (most well-known for writing "Mary Had a Little Lamb") began her campaign to have Thanksgiving as an official national holiday. In 1863 during the height of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln heard her request and made the following proclamation: "entreating all Americans to ask God to 'commend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife' and to 'heal the wounds of the nation'." Lincoln set the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day. In 1941, Franklin D. Roosevelt moved Thanksgiving Day to the fourth Thursday of November where it has remained ever since.

Feasts and celebrations to give thanks have been common in every country and every time throughout history. In Old Testament times, three feasts in particular were held each year to give thanks to God for the harvest: Passover and Feast of the Unleavened Bread – held at the beginning of spring when harvest is beginning; Feast of Weeks in summer which denotes the first wheat harvest; and Feast of Tabernacles which is held at the end of the harvest season. Coming together to celebrate and give thanks has been a long-standing tradition. Our Jewish and Christian ancestors celebrated God's greatness and provision many times throughout the year.

What are your Thanksgiving holiday traditions? Maybe you say a prayer for the feast or each person around the table shares that for which they are most thankful. Whatever it may be, it is essential we remember from whom all blessings flow. Not from our hands, but from the hands of our Father in heaven.

John 6:32-33, 35: *"Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."*

May our children and grandchildren look back at our traditions and be inspired to continue giving thanks and praise to God, the True Host of our Thanksgiving meal.

Resources used: <https://www.history.com/topics/thanksgiving/history-of-thanksgiving>



**Combined Worship  
Sunday, November 20, 2022**

**9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.** - Sunday School  
**10:00 a.m.** - Worship in the Sanctuary



**Chambersburg Congregation Church of the Brethren  
Council Meeting**

**Sunday, November 20, 2022 immediately following worship  
in the sanctuary.**

## **Church Worship Times and Sunday School Times To Change**

The Church Board made a decision in the October meeting to try a one service format on a trial basis from November 20 through the end of January. The worship service will be a blended service that includes elements of both current services. The decision was made in part due to the decrease in attendance in both services. The difficulty in getting volunteers to maintain both services was also a factor in the decision.

The Board would like to have your input after we have tried this for a period of time (mid to late December). A decision on whether to continue this arrangement or to alter it will be made during the January board meeting.

November 20 is the date for Church Council and on that day we will have Sunday School at 9 AM; Worship at 10 AM and our business meeting will begin shortly after worship.

**The period of time between November 27 and the end of January will have the following times for services: Worship at 9:30 AM and Sunday School at 10:30 AM. Both Christmas and New Years Day fall on Sundays and on those two days there will be no Sunday School.**

## Preaching Schedule through December 25, 2022

<b>November</b>	11/6/22		Ali Toms		
	11/13/22		Ian Irvin		
	11/20/22	Thanksgiving Sunday/ Church Council Meeting	Gretchen Sortzi		
	11/27/22	1st Sunday of Advent	Ian Irvin		
<b>December</b>	12/4/22	2nd Sunday of Advent	Ali Toms		
	12/11/22	3rd Sunday of Advent	Ian Irvin		
	12/18/22	4th Sunday of Advent	Gretchen Sortzi		
	12/24/22	Christmas Eve	All involved		
	12/25/22	Christmas Day	Liz Thorpe		



If you are in need of Pastoral Care or have an emergency, please contact the church office during the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at 717-264-6957. After hours contact Liz Thorpe at 717-360-5881. If unable to reach Liz, please contact Gretchen Sortzi at 223-386-8767 or Ian Irvin at 717-300-8844.



You're invited to play table games. We meet in the Brethren Haus each Wednesday from 1 PM to 4 PM. There are a variety of games, but if you have a favorite you want to play bring it along. Bring a snack too if you want!

Come every week or just now and then, I'm sure we'll enjoy your company.

Any Questions contact Lora Bucher at (717) 830-7992.

# REVOLUTION NEWS

## A WORD FROM THE LEADERS,

November is here! The holidays are close by, and we have so many things to celebrate. We have had a ton of fun the last two months. We enjoyed our corn maze and pumpkin party. We have played so many games and have had some exciting lessons, too!

We welcomed a ton of new students to our group. This has been such a blessing to teach the love of Jesus to others. We hope the group will continue to grow and thrive. Don't forget to invite your friends. We have lots of cool things to end the year strong!!

We also welcomed a new leader last month. Please take a minute to congratulate Devin Brandt on his new role. We are so pleased to have Devin working with us. He is an asset to our Youth Group, Sunday School and the church itself.

Our Sunday School class has done lots of growing and learning, too. Each week is a new chance to educate, step into leadership, have some fun and show some love. The littles are very excited to hear your stories this month. We highly encourage all Youth Group members to join us!

## IMPORTANT DATES

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**BRETHREN HAUS - YOUTH ROOM**  
Every Sunday 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

**YOUTH GROUP**  
**CHECK IN LOBBY**  
**BRETHREN HAUS - YOUTH ROOM**  
Every Wednesday 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

**COME TO CHURCH!**  
Every Sunday  
Traditional Worship 8:30  
Contemporary Service 10:45

**REMEMBER: YOUR FRIENDS ARE  
ALWAYS WELCOME!!!**

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**GLOW NIGHT**  
Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Bring your glow sticks, bring your flashlight...it's GLOW NIGHT. That means Sardines. Get psyched.

**FRIENDSGIVING**  
Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thanksgiving is such a special meal to share with family. It's a time to reflect on all our blessings and the things we have to be thankful for.

This year we are hosting a "Friendsgiving" to share that beloved meal together. You can expect turkey, mashed potatoes, and all the fixings. Come hungry!

**Did you turn in your profile sheet?**





# VOLUNTEER BELL RINGERS NEEDED!

*Ring a bell...help change a life*

## **Salvation Army Red Kettle Project**

Missions and Service Commission is sponsoring an opportunity to serve and share with the Salvation Army. Our congregation will again ring the bell for the Red Kettle Project at The Butcher Shoppe on Friday, December 2, 2022 from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex and sign-up for an hour or two. Thanks for your help!

A CALL TO  
CORPORATE  
PRAYER

**EVENING OF  
PRAYER  
A DISTRICT WIDE  
PRAYER EVENT**

Sunday, November 13, 2022  
Carlisle First Church of the Brethren  
1340 Forge Rd, Carlisle, PA 17013  
6pm



## Additions to the Library.....

*Snapshot* by Lis Wehl - The civil rights movement is expressed in the novel about a 4-year-old playing with an African-American girl at a Civil War March. Then a civil rights leader gets murdered.

*Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens - How an abused and abandoned little girl manages to grow up in the Marsh Lands alone to become a writer.

*The Happiest Man on Earth* by Eddie Jaku at age 100 - In spite of the Nazi control of his early years he lives to be 101. He loses most of his family and friends as the Jews are treated lower than the animals. Toward the end of the war he manages to escape and decides he will be happy and make the world better. He always wonders what greatness the world has lost as the murdered Jews were very skilled and their skills were wasted. Eddie's wish for all is to be happy.

*The Red Thread* by Rebekah Pace - A Holocaust survivor settles in his tiny apartment for 70 years. Suddenly he dreams of his childhood sweetheart and feels she is seeking him.

*Why I Jumped* by Tina Zahn - a story of postpartum depression, dramatic rescue, and hope.

Don't forget to check out the books on the giveaway table.



## Dine to Donate program with Big Oak Cafe

November 7-12, we will be participating in a Dine to Donate program with Big Oak Cafe. Every time you visit the cafe during that week AND present them with a new flyer EACH TIME, they will donate 15% of your bill to Smart Cookies Preschool. You don't have to buy anything you wouldn't be buying anyway. Please consider helping us out during that week. There will be flyers in your mailboxes on November 6 and many available outside the Brethren Life Center if you would like to give to your friends and family. You are also able to make copies of the ones you are given if that suits you better.

Thank you in advance for your continued support of Smart Cookies Preschool!



October has been a very active and busy month. We are learning about autumn, apples, pumpkins, scarecrows, fire safety, and lots of other exciting things. Our students will learn about how pumpkins grow and complete a pumpkin investigation. They have learned how to dial 911 in case of a fire, the importance of firefighters and what they do, and learned “Stop, Drop, and Roll”. We even had a fire drill. We also have been learning rhyming, colors, and different math skills.

On October 14<sup>th</sup>, we attended a field trip at Stoner’s Dairy Farm. The class had a great time learning about the cows in the barn, looking at a birthing pen, and seeing how cows are milked in the milking barn. After that, we went on a wagon ride and got to pick a pumpkin. The students had a great time.

On October 24<sup>th</sup>, one of the parents came in to have a craft day with the kids. They loved making scarecrow magnets.

On Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, we will be having our harvest festival. The students are looking forward to trick or treating around the church.

### **November Special Dates**

11<sup>th</sup>- No School-Veteran’s Day

17<sup>th</sup>- Smart Cookies Preschool Sharing Meal

23<sup>rd</sup>- 12:30 Early Dismissal for Thanksgiving

24<sup>th</sup>- 29<sup>th</sup> - No School- Thanksgiving Break

30<sup>th</sup> - Preschool Reopens





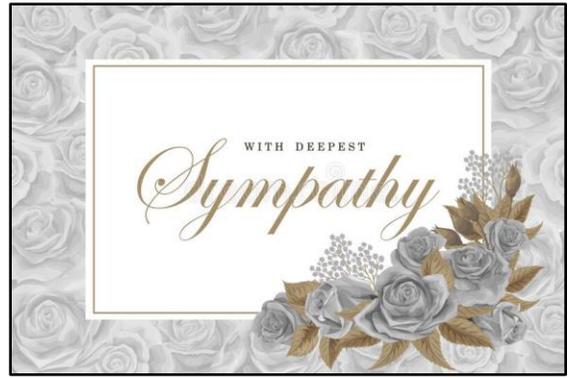
Wow! Chambersburg COB really turned out to support Camp Eder's Fall Festival. Members of our youth group and their parents did a super job of bussing tables, serving beverages and pie. We also had volunteers greeting people. We were asked to provide 10 pies and we delivered 14! Many thanks to all of you who provided pies.

A big thank-you to Ana, Zachary, Juliet, Ann and Brian Deardorff, Bob and Linda Gorman, Tangela Gibbons, Katryna, Allyson, Amy and Donald McNeil, Jacob Shaffer, Annika and Natalie Gardner, Kim Frazer, Haley Sortzi-Buonassisi and Gretchen Sortzi for making the day successful. Thank you all!

Attendance at the Festival was higher than last year, more meals were served and income from meals, the auction and food court were higher than last year.  
--**Linda Hawbaker**

I would like to thank all that sent me cards and phone calls for my 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The highlight was the couple from the Church that called and sang Happy Birthday! God bless you all.  
--**Don Blattenberger**

Thank you to all who participated in the Apple Dumpling fund raiser for Smart Cookies Preschool. We were able to make over \$1800 for the preschool thanks to you and the generous donations from Tracey's Orchard, Shatzer's Orchard, Andrew's Orchard, Giant on Wayne Ave, Johnnies Restaurant Supplies, and Sav-a-Lot.  
--**Smart Cookies Preschool Committee**



**Our Sympathy to:**

The Family of Fern I. Bosserman following her death on Monday, September 26, 2022.



**DON'T FORGET TO TURN BACK YOUR CLOCKS**

Daylight Saving Time will officially end at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 6, 2022. Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour before retiring Saturday night or you will be an hour early for church in the morning!

**NewsLetter DEADLine**

**Newsletter Deadline**

**Deadline for December Pastor's Pen**  
Sunday, November 20, 2022.

Please submit all information to the church office.

# UNITED AGAINST HUNGER

*in Franklin County*



Thank you for helping to fight food insecurity in our community.

**\$59,047** will be distributed in to the Franklin County community

Because of your gift, \$59,047.50 will be put back in to the community to help fight food insecurity in Franklin County. Over 40 organizations throughout the community will be invited to apply for grants through the newly established United Against Hunger Fund. Funds will be distributed over the course of the next year. We look forward to updating you throughout the distribution process and reporting back where your gift is helping to meet the needs of our fellow community members.

"Hunger is prevalent. It is seen and it is unseen, but for those who experience hunger it knows no time of the day or day of the year. We cannot solve it, but we can try to solve it. My family, and every associate of WAYZ / BOB Rocks and The Goat, want to be part of the attempt to solve it in our community and we thank those who have joined us, and hope more will be willing to join us, in this worthy effort. We are so appreciative to United Way of Franklin County for joining hands with us to help feed many. Without them this could not happen." - John VerStandig

## 119 Donors

Your gift will go directly to the individuals and families that need it the most. Thank you for standing UNITED against hunger.



United Way of Franklin County, PA



**WHAT: Mid-Week to Go.....**

**WHEN:** Wednesday, December 7th  
5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

**WHERE:** Chambersburg COB

Meal delivered to your car!  
First come-first served basis.

260 South Fourth Street  
Chambersburg, PA 17201  
717-264-6957

*Mid-Week Connection's purpose is connecting our Brethren family to the community through fellowship and service.*

## Finances at a Glance

October 23, 2022



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Actual Income through 9/30/22  
\$332,832.00  
Actual Expenses through 9/30/2022  
\$376,808.00  
Net as of 9/30/2022 - \$-43,977.00

## November Senior Day

Wednesday November 9th

9:30 am **Gathering/ Morning Program**

Join us as we enjoy a Chalk Talk done by Elva Hurst! This Chalk Talk will be about Faith and Thanksgiving. You will hear from the journals of Christopher Columbus & William Bradford, as well as details from the Mayflower voyage.

12:00 pm **Lunch** Pork Dinner, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Salad, & Apple Crisp

1:00 pm **Afternoon Program**

Christmas story & Activity

Cost: \$18 Per Person  
RSVP by calling 717-642-8256 or  
Email [mshmittel@campeder.org](mailto:mshmittel@campeder.org)



Camp Eder · 914 Mount Hope Road Fairfield, PA 17320 · (717) 642-8256 · [www.campeder.org](http://www.campeder.org)



## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDERS

Poinsettias will be placed for Sunday Worship on December 18, 2022.  
Orders **MUST** be returned by Sunday, November 20, 2022.  
Please place your order in the boxes provided in the Narthex and the BLC Lobby.  
**Payment in full is expected when you place your order.**

The price is: **Red and White with gold foil** – 6-inch pot with 5 to 7 blooms - \$9.00

Number of 6-inch pots \_\_\_\_\_ Total (cash) \_\_\_\_\_ (check) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

All Poinsettias will be Placed in the Sanctuary.

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# Children's Aid Society Annual Dinner

## CAS Annual Dinner

November 5th, 2022

York First Church of the Brethren

6:00p.m. - (Doors open at 5:30p.m.)

Our annual dinner recognizes our donors, volunteers, staff, and community for helping us complete the mission of CAS. Local entertainment creates a festive atmosphere while dining on a delicious meal!

Registration is now LIVE:

[Click HERE to Register for the 2022 CAS Annual Dinner!](#)

## Contact

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