



Newsletter Presbyterian Disciples Church November 2017



Church Chat—"The S Word"--John Swisher, Supply Pastor

I recently (August) attended a suicide prevention conference in Columbia sponsored by the state's Mental Health Department called "Show Me You Care About Suicide Prevention" and by the time this goes out, I also plan to attend another event sponsored by one of our KC area churches on the same theme. The MH conference is an annual event, several folks from the prison have attended before. If you want links to the speakers at the conference, just google the "Show Me You Care about Suicide Prevention" website and click until you get to speakers, then a summary/Powerpoint slides.

But why bring this up here in the church newsletter? Well, a couple of reasons I would suggest. It's a reality we don't want to acknowledge but one we can't afford to be silent about. At the conference we previewed a new documentary "The S Word", directed by Lisa Klein (who was there and took our questions). The S Word, by the way, they say in the film isn't suicide, it's the SILENCE about suicide, and the willingness of lots of us to turn away, willing to look anywhere except to the families, the survivors (yes, there are suicide attempt survivors) and friends of suicide victims.

The film is about lots of folks in the suicide prevention/survivor network, but I found the focus on Dese'rae Stage and her "#LiveThroughThis" project quite amazing. She has been honored for the project, in which she has found, interviewed, and photographed many, many suicide attempt survivors. She is herself a suicide survivor and often speaks about the importance of those who have "lived experience" in the movement receiving a hearing and being included in suicide prevention leadership. She has worked with so many suicide survivors that actually some of them have been the victims of completed (completed is what is now suggested instead of committed) suicide attempts since she started interviewing/photographing them. So much for the "perfect" suicide prevention program, right?

Anyway, way back when (in another lifetime, or in a galaxy far, far away) I was a part-time employee of a committee which was with the hospital in Marshall charged with youth suicide prevention in our local area, because there had been an upsurge in suicide attempts among youth there and the hospital had received a grant to provide more in this area. We were concerned about doing something to help so we started a "warm-line", not a hotline, but just an emotional support line which functioned after hours through the hospital switchboard to make sure somebody local was available to talk to those who might call and refer them to "real help". Anyway, we called it "Heart to Heart (H2H)" which was probably a poor choice because we immediately started getting calls from all over the country from people who wanted a dating partner. But we did get calls from those who were troubled too. It was a little like a program at the prison called PACT (Peer Action Care Team), a group who listens and refers MO DOC employees to various services. The idea was to let people know somebody cared, and to show that could make a difference. I remember in our training for the H2H Volunteers we got the Head Psychiatrist from Mid-MO in Columbia to come to talk to us. A lot of our volunteers were so intimidated about having the line and the possibility of getting someone who was really suicidal on the other end. He said one thing which was so important for them at that training. Regardless of education or training, he said no therapy, no mental health treatment, no intervention gets done unless one important ingredient is there first: A CARING LISTENER.

So anyway, thanks for caring and listening. I didn't know how much this all matters personally until my first cousin's 17 year old son Jimmy completed a suicide in 2004 just before his upcoming senior year in school. He and my daughter Maria were very close friends as well as family and we all were (and sometimes still are) devastated. The training I received and all my best instincts say it's a good thing to share all we can to help each other live through each and every day, and that we're lucky to have and to have had the lives of all those we love, for however long we have them with us. Happy Thanksgiving to all of you.

Chapel Chuckle: Not a springtime joke, I can assure you--If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? Answer printed backwards--Smirglip



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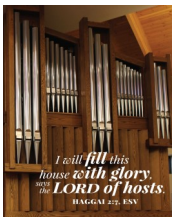


We will have a Fellowship Meal following worship service on Sunday, November 19th. We have invited friends from the House of Hope to join us. Please bring at least two dishes to share with your church family and new Friends!!



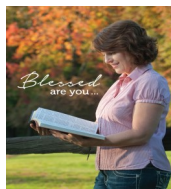
Board will meet again on Sunday, November 12th following worship.

Beginning Sunday, November 5th, we will begin practicing for the Children's annual Christmas Play during Children's Church. Brittney Bayne and Candy Myers will be in charge of Children's Church and planning the Christmas Play. Hope all the kids will be able to participate.



The next Confirmation Class will meet on Sunday, November 5th following worship. Lunch will be provided.

We will have a Family Fun Event on Sunday, November 5th from 2-4pm at Big River Ranch. We will have a wagon ride, pony rides, and hot dog roast. Permission slips required. Hope to see lots of you there for this fun family event.



Please refer to KMBC9 or KCWE for cancelations due to weather.

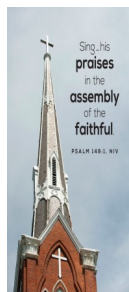


As we acknowledge this month those who've served in our military, we pray for peace throughout the world.



To keep up to date on current events and to see what visitors are seeing when they check out our town on the internet, go to the following websites:

- www.lexingtonmo.com
- www.historiclexington.com
- www.visitlexingtonmo.com
- www.lafayettecountymmo.com



Lectionary Readings for November:

- 05– Joshua 3:7-17; Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12
- 12 – Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13
- 19 – Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30
- 26 —Ezekial 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46



PRaise & THANKSGIVING

Upcoming Community Events

River City Players Fall Production
11-03-2017 to 11-11-2017

Location: Lexington VFW
Dinner theatre. Show dates Nov 3-4th and Nov 10-11th. The play is "Getting Sara Married" www.rcplayers.org

LRHC Blood Drive
11-13-2017

Location: LRHC 3rd Floor
Be a hero for patients in need. 12Noon-4:00pm

Chamber Annual Dinner
11-16-2017

Location: Lexington VFW

Small Business Saturday
11-25-2017

Location: Lexington

Elks Annual Pancake Day
11-05-16

Lexington Elks Lodge

Lexington Wind Symphony
11-06-16

Lexington United Methodist Church

LBS PTO Annual Carnival
11-10-17

5:30-7:30pm

LHS Musical
11-16-17 to 11-19-17

Location: Lexington High School

Old Church Tours
12-01-2017

Location: Lexington
5:30-9:30PM Tickets \$10.00 Sponsored by Lexington Tourism
www.HistoricChurches.VisitLexingtonMo.com

Festival of Lights Parade
12-01-2017

Location: Downtown Lexington
Parade starts at 7:00pm

Christmas Bazaar
12-02-2017

Location: Lexington High School
8:00am-3:00pm

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 6th. Remember to turn your clocks back an hour as we fall back.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

02 – Beverly Waddell, David Slusher, Cathy Powell
 11 – Joseph Redden
 13 - Michele Wrisinger
 15 – John Swisher
 17 – Zahra Jahanifard, Mindy Wells, Drake Wells
 19 – Dennis Long, Kody Evans
 21 – Linda Marchetti
 24 – Joey Roncelli



Our Servicemen:
 Bobby Maze, Bo Maze, Derek Morgan, Eric Morgan, MJ Myers, Mark Brubeck, Ryland Sims, Johnathan Lefholz, Brittany & Jimmy Register

We Pray for:
 Mary Williams, Anne Brubeck, Betty Swisher, Linda & John Larry Marchetti, Lela Bryant, Doris Bradley, Mary Ann Barker, Jake Means, Robert Smith, Chris & Stephanie Christenson, Steve Sellers, Bill & LaVeda Cross, Roy Marchetti, Bryant Family, Larry & Kathy Neil, Matthew Neil, Bev Waddell, Gloria Hutton, Cassius Cole, Steve Harlow, Doak Family, Alvera Johnson, Carson Eby, Children and missionaries in Belize, Disaster Victims & Future of our church

The Lexington Ministerial Alliance will sponsor the annual Thanksgiving Community Service on Sunday, November 19th at 7:00pm at the United Methodist Church. Please join other Christians in Faith to give thanksgiving to our creator for the glorious things He has provided



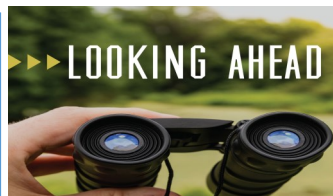
Pray for the families of those that have passed: Charles Rockhold, Cameron Cooper, Georgia Shaw, James Duncan, Tim Moore, Ira Hunter, Morris Walker, Janet Goodloe, Lexie Tallie, Tommy Walton, David Wallace, Joe Beretta, Lois Forsha, Wade Ensor, Justin Delana

Just a reminder that we will be participating with Ministerial Alliance to ring the Salvation Army Bell. Please watch the bulletin for the date we will be ringing the bell.



Wednesday, November 1st is All Saints Day. May we always remember our Saints and their families.

The Presbyterian Disciples Church will be one of the Churches that will be on the Historic Churches Tour on Friday, December 1st during the Festival of Lights Ceremony. We will need volunteers to be present during the tour to talk about the Histories of both the First Presbyterian Church and the First Christian Church-Disciples of Christ and how the churches have merged and become one. It would also be nice to have some refreshments in the narthex during this time so we will need someone to chair that committee and get volunteers to bring cookies or snacks. Please let Candy know if you can help in anyway.



Looking into December, the children will have their Christmas Play on Sunday, December 10th during worship. There will be a fellowship meal following.



If you are interested in some volunteer work, but don't know where to turn, you don't have to look far because we have lots of opportunities right here in our building. The Food Pantry is always looking for volunteers, especially to help them on Fridays. The food pantry has lots of programs and does some wonderful work for our community and it would be great to be more of a part of that. See Jan Wright if you are interested in volunteering at the Food Pantry. Also, the Discovery Room Preschool uses volunteers as Grannies, if anyone is interested in committing to 3 hours a day, two days a week, we could use your help. Please see Candy if you have any questions or want additional information.

The Festival of Lights Parade will be held on Friday, December 1st through downtown Lexington. The Christmas Bazaar will be held at the Lexington High School on Saturday, December 2nd from 8:00am-3:00pm.



We will have our usual Sunday Service at 10:45am on Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th and our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service on Sunday, December 24th at 7:30pm. All are Welcome to Attend!!!



Christ Our Feast

Christ is not only a remedy for your weariness and trouble, but he will give you an abundance of the contrary, joy and delight. They who come to Christ do not only come to a resting place after they have been wandering in a wilderness, but they come to a banqueting house where they may rest, and where they may feast. They may cease from their former troubles and toils, and they may enter upon a course of delights and spiritual joys.

—Jonathan Edwards



+Christian Symbol+

Crown

A crown, of course, symbolizes royal authority. As a Christian symbol it represents both Christ as King of kings (Revelation 17:14, for example) and the eternal life promised to Christ's followers: "Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10, ESV).

Communing With Nature

In *More Than Words* (Westminster John Knox), Erin Wathen tells of serving as pastor at a church where, following communion, the children take the leftover bread outside for the birds. One day, Wathen's own youngsters were playing church when they summoned her to a "meeting" for a new church plant.

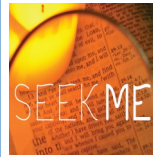
The kids had planned the building layout, an order of worship, a prayer garden, a grand-opening picnic — and something else, which Wathen didn't initially understand. Then her heart swelled with joy, recognizing that her daughter meant the post-Eucharist disposal of bread, which clearly, to the child, was a natural and assumed part of church. "[We need] a place," the girl stated casually, "for the animals to have communion."



Autumn Wardrobe

The leaves fall, the wind blows and the farm country slowly changes from the summer cottons into its winter wools.

—Henry Beston



Everyday Saints

Everyday things, relationships with other people, daily work, love of our family — all these may breed saints.

Jesus of Nazareth taught us to live every hour of the day as saints. Every hour of the day is useful and may lead to divine inspiration, the will of the Father, the prayer of contemplation — holiness. Every hour of the day is holy. What matters is to live it as Jesus taught us.



And for this, one does not have to shut oneself in a monastery or fix strange and inhumane [regimens] for one's life. It is enough to accept the realities of life. Work is one of these realities; motherhood, the rearing of children, family life with all its obligations are others.

—Carlo Carretto, *Letters From the Desert*

Counted Blessings

Numbered lists grab our attention. In the checkout aisle or on the internet, we gravitate toward headings such as "10 ways to lose weight by summer!" or "3 simple steps to acing that test!"

Ancient Jewish sages urged people to count out and speak at least 100 blessings, or statements of gratitude, each day. What would happen if we intentionally listed 100 blessings daily? Can you imagine?!

What if the first blessing we counted was simply the day itself? "Thank you, God, for this brand new day!" "Bless my use of this day, Lord, that I might glorify you." Scripture encourages such awareness and promises an additional blessing in return: "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (Psalm 90:12, NIV).

—Heidi Mann



A Wake-Up Call

The good God permits such small evils to befall us merely in order to arouse us snorers from our deep sleep and to make us recognize, on the other hand, the incomparable and innumerable benefits we still have. ...

With [our misfortunes], God gives us a light by which we may see and understand his goodness and kindness in countless other ways. Then we conclude that such small misfortunes are barely a drop of water on a big fire or a little spark in the ocean. Then we understand and love the words: "O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!"

—Martin Luther

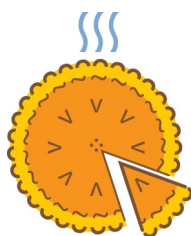


"Time to Thank, Time to Share"

Thanksgiving is a time to share. A roasted turkey stuffed with care, potatoes, yams and buttered rolls are passed around in festive bowls.

But first we thank our God above and share with others his great love. The dish served last is always best — a slice of pie for every guest.

—MaryAnn Sundby



Re-e-'value'-ation

I was brought up in a Christian environment where, because God had to be given pre-eminence, nothing else was allowed to be important. I have broken through to the position that because God exists, everything has significance.

—Evangeline Paterson

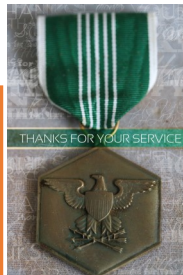
Exercising Our Gratitude Muscles

Expressing gratitude isn't just a good thing to do; it also appears to be good for us! Indiana University researchers found that participants who performed gratitude-focused writing exercises felt uplifted, and were more likely to express gratefulness through generosity, even weeks later.

Furthermore, brain scans revealed increased gratitude-related activity even months down the road (New York Magazine).

Though the study was small, we seem to have a "gratitude muscle" that can be strengthened through exercise. If so, there may be more than we thought to the popularity of gratitude journals and Mom's insistence that we write thank-you notes. Not to mention the biblical call to "give thanks to the LORD, for he is good" (1 Chronicles 16:34, for example).

Might God have hardwired us for gratitude — not only at Thanksgiving but year round — because it's good for us as well as for those we thank? To that, we respond, "Thanks be to God!"



Thank You, Veterans!

On Veterans Day, we honor men and women who've served and sacrificed in one of America's armed services.

On November 11, 1918, America and her allies signed a truce with German leaders, ending World War I. In 1919, President Wilson decided the United States should remember with gratitude the end of that war and honor military members by marking Armistice Day, or "truce" day. In 1954, Congress changed the name to Veterans Day, honoring veterans of every era.

Veterans Day highlights our country's quest for peace, justice and freedom throughout the world. Followers of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, pray for unity among all nations and for the day when "nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore" (Isaiah 2:4, NIV).

What's Your Rule?

J. Wilbur Chapman, a traveling evangelist in the late 19th century, practiced what he called a rule for Christian living: "Anything that dims my vision of Christ, or takes away my taste for Bible study, or cramps my prayer life, or makes Christian work difficult is wrong for me, and I must, as a Christian, turn away from it."

St. Paul offers similar advice — presented in positive terms — for Christians: "Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things" (Philippians 4:8, ESV).

What guidelines do you follow in your daily walk with Jesus?



Puzzle!

This matching challenge involves words from stories in John's gospel. Draw lines to connect the pairs that *best* belong together.

ANDREW	WINE
DOVE	SIMON PETER
ELIJAH	JESUS
JOHN	CANA
LIGHT	MONEY CHANGERS
PHARISEE	NATHANAEAL
PHILIP	NICODEMUS
RABBI	DARKNESS
TEMPLE	TEACHER
WATER	THE BAPTIST
WEDDING	PROPHET
WORD	SPIRIT

Answers: Andrew/Simon Peter; dove/Spirit; Elijah/prophet; John/the Baptist; light/darkness; Pharisee/Pharisee; Philip/Nathanael; Rabbi/Rabbi; Temple/temple; money changers; water/wine; wedding/Cana; Word/Jesus

Prayers of Thanks

The Bible's close connection between prayer and praise caused 19th-century preacher J.C. Ryle to proclaim, "I dare not call that true prayer in which thankfulness has no part." He points, for example, to Paul's words in Philippians 4:6 ("By prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God") and Colossians 4:2 ("Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful"), both NIV.

Whenever we speak to God, Ryle adds, thoughts of his mercy and the hope of heaven should be at the forefront of our minds. "Surely," he writes, "we should never open our lips in prayer without blessing God for that free grace by which we live, and for that loving-kindness which endures forever."

PUZZLE

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

God gives us many blessings every day. How can we thank him?

Directions: To complete the Bible verse below, follow the code and fill in the blanks.



A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, E=5, F=6, G=7, H=8, I=9, J=10,
K=11, L=12, M=13, N=14, O=15, P=16, Q=17, R=18,
S=19, T=20, U=21, V=22, W=23, X=24, Y=25, Z=26.

" _____ will _____ 1 _____ 9 _____ 19 _____ 5
 _____ 7 _____ 15 _____ 4 _____ 19 _____ 19 _____ 15 _____ 14 _____ 7
 and _____ 7 _____ 12 _____ 15 _____ 18 _____ 9 _____ 6 _____ 25 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____ 13 _____ with
 _____ 20 _____ 8 _____ 1 _____ 14 _____ 11 _____ 19 _____ 7 _____ 9 _____ 22 _____ 9 _____ 14 _____ 7 _____."

Holiday PLACE MATS



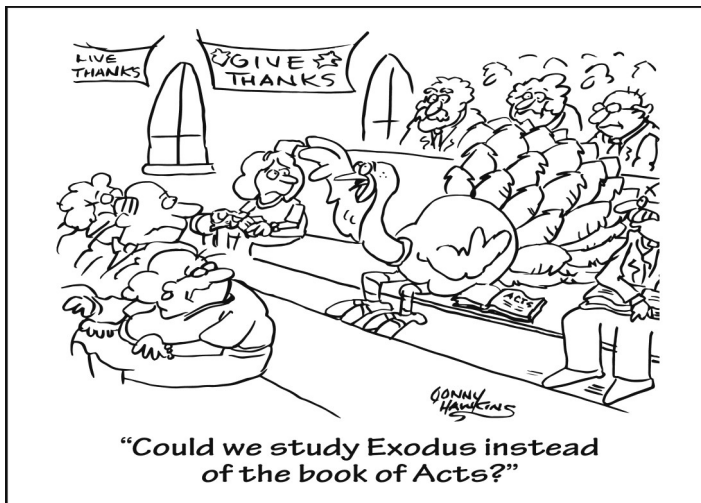
Add fall décor to your family's Thanksgiving table by making these festive place mats.

What you need:

- Large pieces of paper
- Several large leaves
- Crayons (fall colors)
- Fine-tip permanent marker

What you do:

1. Working on a flat surface, place the leaves underneath the paper.
2. Peel the wrappers off the crayons. Rub crayons sideways over the paper so the details of the leaves become visible.
3. Use other crayons to add additional details, if desired. With the marker, list what you're thankful for and add a Bible verse about thankfulness.
4. Optional: Laminate the place mats so they're reusable.

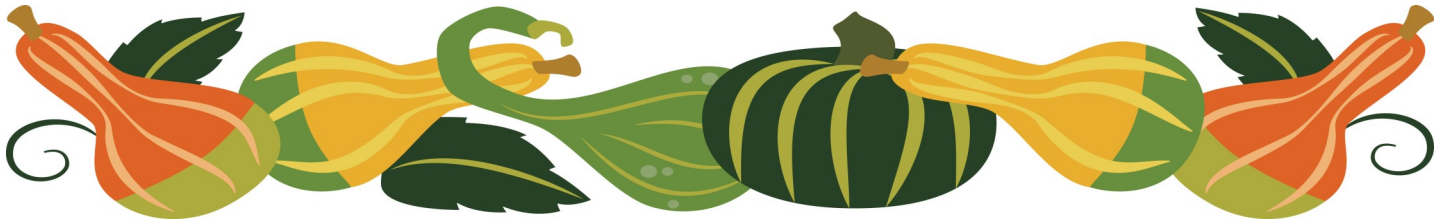


Bible Quiz

After Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were thrown, bound, into a blazing furnace for refusing to worship false gods, how many men did King Nebuchadnezzar see walking around in the fire?

- A. None — they were all dead
- B. Three — unbound and unharmed
- C. Four — and the fourth looked like a divine being
- D. Too many to count

Answer: See Daniel 3:25



November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 9-11 Food Pantry RCP Production	4 6am-1pm Elks Pancake Breakfast 10am Al-Anon RCP Production
5 Daylight Savings Time 12pm Confirmation Class 2-4 Family Fun Event 3pm Wind Symphony Concert –UMC	6 No School	7	8	9 Fellowship Hall Re- served-Retired Teach- ers Mth	10 5:30-7:30 LBS PTO Carnival RCP Production	11 Veterans Day 10am Al Anon RCP Production
12 12pm Board Mtg	13 8:30am Food Drop- UMC	14 6:30pm Ministerial Alliance Mtg-UMC	15	16 LHS Musical 7pm Fierce Warriors Cancer Support Group- UMC	17 1--3 Food Pantry LHS Musical	18 10am Al Anon
19 Fellowship Meal LHS Musical 7pm Community Thanksgiving Service	20	21 8:30-11:30 Commodities	22 No School	23 Thanksgiving Day No School	24 No School	25 10am Al Anon
26 Christ the King Sunday	27	28	29	30		



Presbyterian Disciples Church
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presdisciples@embarqmail.com
Rev. John Swisher

Worship Service 10:45am - 12:00pm
Childrens Church 11:00am-12:00pm
All Are Welcome



Minister- Rev. John Swisher
Organist- Perry Beam
Secretary- Candy Myers
Treasurer- John Morgan
Custodian- MJ Myers
Children's Church- Brittney Bayne