



Newsletter

Presbyterian Disciples Church

November 2016



Church Chat—"Thanksgiving"--John Swisher, BCC Chaplain

I'll be gone for Thanksgiving this year, for the first time in a long time in my life. I plan to spend the holiday and about a week and a half of my vacation time to travel to the L.A. Area to be with my daughter and son and their families who live out there in la-la land.

Thanksgiving is always an interesting time. So many families have funny stories around the Thanksgiving holiday and their travels over the river and through the woods to Grandmother's (and Grandfather's) houses.

So without apology, here are a couple stories featuring the lighter side of Thanksgiving, from Will & Guy's Funny Thanksgiving Story website.

I. It was the Monday before Thanksgiving, Bobby Evans collapsed in a Wal-Mart in Worcester Massachusetts. Other customers gathered around and the first-aider was summoned. It did not look good for Bobby, there was blood coming out of his ear, his face looked white and he was unconscious.

The store manager dialled 911 and when the medical team arrived the first thing they did was take off Bobby's hat, to everyone's amazement inside was a partially frozen turkey. What felled Bobby was the chill from turkey numbing his brain. The blood came from the giblets which had melted and leaked over his hair and down into his ear.

As it was Thanksgiving the manager took pity, and rather than prosecuting the shop-lifter, gave him the partly thawed bird and sent Bobby on his way. Two days later the manager got a letter from Bobby apologising for his behaviour and thanking the manager for his action. Also inside the envelope was \$15, the price of his turkey.

II. The Taylor's were proud of their family tradition. Their ancestors had travelled to America with the Pilgrim Fathers on the Mayflower. They had included Congressmen, successful entrepreneurs, famous sports people and television stars.

They decided to research and write a family history, something for their children and grandchildren. They found a specialist genealogist and writer to help them. Only one problem arose - how to handle Great Uncle Jefferson Taylor who was executed in the electric chair.

The writer said she could handle the story tactfully. When the book appeared the section about Jefferson read: *Great Uncle Jefferson Taylor occupied a chair of applied electronics at an important government institution, he was attached to his position by the strongest of ties, and his death came as a great shock.*

Well, anyway, everybody, Happy Thanksgiving. Celebrate safely and fully, and blessings on your way!



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Sunday, November 6th is "Bring a Friend to Church Sunday". We will have a Fellowship Meal following worship service with our 'friends'. Please bring a dish to share with your church family and new Friends!!



Board will meet again on Sunday, November 13th following worship.

Beginning Sunday, November 6th, we will begin practicing for the Children's annual Christmas Play during Children's Church. Brittney Bayne and Brittany Register will be in charge of Children's Church and planning the Christmas Play. Hope all the kids will be able to participate.



Join the Choir-Rehearsals Wednesdays, November 9th & 16 at 7 pm and Sunday, November 20th at 10 am



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

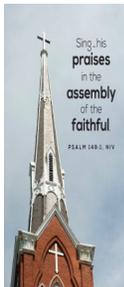


As we acknowledge this month those who've served in our military, we pray for peace throughout the world.



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



Upcoming Community Events

Elks Annual Pancake Day
11-05-16
Lexington Elks Lodge

Dinner & Dance
11-05-2016
Location: Lexington Moose Lodge
Dinner 5:30 Dance 7-11pm

Lexington Wind Symphony
11-06-16
Lexington United Methodist Church

Election Day
11-08-16
Lexington United Methodist Church

Community Soup Night
11-10-16
6:00-8:00pm
Lexington VFW

Veterans Day Breakfast
11-11-16
Lexington High School
Reservations Required

River City Players Fall Comedy
11-11-2016 to 11-12-2016

Location: The Lex Civic Auditorium
Fall Comedy play is "BLITHE SPIRIT" Dinner theater will be held all night. Dinner at 6:30 with curtain time at 7:45.

Breakfast at Trinity UCC Church
11-12-2016

Location: Trinity UCC Church
7-10am Proceeds Benefit Habitat for Humanity

Lexington Chamber Annual Membership Dinner
11-15-16

VFW Breakfast
11-19-2016

Location: Lexington VFW

Small Business Saturday 2016
11-26-2016

Location: Lexington
Show your love for Small Business - Shop Local



Lectionary Readings for November:

- 01– Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 24; Revelations 21:1-6; John 11:32-44
- 08 – Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17; Psalm 127; Hebrew 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44
- 15 – 1 Samuel 1:4-20; Hebrews 10:11-25; Mark 13:1-8
- 22—2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-18; Revelations 1:4-8; John 18:33-37
- 29—Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36



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 Register, Jimmy Register

We Pray for:
 Mary Williams, Anne Brubeck, Alma Richter, Betty Swisher, Linda & John Larry Marchetti, Lela Bryant, Doris Bradley, Beryl Myatt, Maria Lappert, Mary Ann Barker, Jake Means, Beth Maxwell Burk, Robert Smith, Chris Christenson, Ruth Cook, Getty Miller, Steve Sellers, Bill Cross, Roy Marchetti, Bryant Family, Vanessa Moore Disaster Victims & Future of our church

The Lexington Ministerial Allinace will sponsor the annual Thanksgiving Community Service on Sunday, November 20th 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: Anna Belle Maschmeier, Carolyn Wright, Carol Weeks, Jean Lichte, Joe Musato, Ruth Wainscott, Brenda Cohron, Betty Ralston, Tom Shaw, Fairlan Shaw,

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



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.



Looking into December, the children will have their Christmas Play on Sunday, December 11th 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 Kansas City Girls Choir and the Kansas City Boys Choir will be fellowshiping with us again on Sunday, December 18th at 4pm. Please tell all your friends and family about this wonderful, uplifting event as the concert is open to the public.

We will have a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service on Saturday, December 24th and Christmas Service on Sunday, December 25th at 10:45am as usual. All are Welcome to Attend!!!



The Festival of Lights Parade will be held on Friday, December 3rd through downtown Lexington. The Christmas Bazaar will be held at the Lexington High School on Saturday, December 4th from 8:00am-3:00pm. The Holiday Homes Tour will be held Saturday, December 4th and Sunday, December 5th.

A HUGE Thank You to Janice Mayfield for all of her numerous hours and hard work she put into making the new Presbyterian Disciples Church brochure. It looks fabulous and is available to all our congregants to hand out to neighbors, friends and new residents. Let's fill the pews!!!



The next Board meetng will be Sunday, December 18th following Worship Service.

Use It All Up

About two-thirds of Americans say eating Thanksgiving leftovers is more important than eating the actual holiday meal. That's one of the few times people hope food is left on the table.

When it comes to giving out blessings, God doesn't want any leftovers to remain. In Genesis 12:2, God blesses Abraham so he will be a blessing to others.

Charles Stanley writes: "A hoarded blessing is never enjoyed as richly as a shared one. Using your gift to meet someone else's need glorifies God by demonstrating his grace at work in your life. Don't let his generous provisions end with you. Pass them on and discover the joy of a never-ending cycle of blessings."

Where Is Thy Sting?

Death's power is limited. It cannot eradicate memories or slay love. It cannot destroy even a threadbare faith or permanently hobble the smallest hope in God. It cannot permeate the soul and it cannot cripple the spirit. It merely separates us for a while. That is the only power death can claim — no more.
—Donna VanLiere

A Long View of Advent

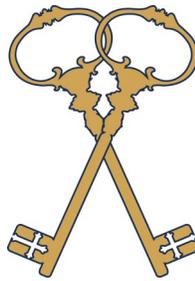
Advent is about preparing not only for Christmas but also for Jesus' return. According to Scripture, that won't be the calm, silent scene described in Christmas carols.

In 1928, Dietrich Bonhoeffer preached: "It is very remarkable that we face the thought that God is coming so calmly, whereas previously peoples trembled at the day of God We have become so accustomed to the idea of divine love and of God's coming at Christmas that we no longer feel the shiver of fear that God's coming should arouse in us. We ... [forget] the serious aspect, that the God of the world draws near to the people of our little earth and lays claim to us."

God is love; we'll be in good hands at the end of time. But during Advent, also be in awe of God. Embrace a reverent fear of the Lord that reminds you how profound it is that God chooses again and again to draw near and lay claim to you.

The Meaning of Life

The greatest thing is to give thanks for everything. He who has learned this knows what it means to live. He has penetrated the whole mystery of life: giving thanks for everything.
—Albert Schweitzer



+Christian Symbol+

Keys

A key symbolizes the church's authority to forgive sins in Jesus' name. In Matthew 16:19 (ESV), Jesus says to Peter, who would come to represent the Christian church, "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."



A Grateful Heart

Thou hast given so much to me,
Give one thing more — a grateful heart;
Not thankful when it pleaseth me,
As if thy blessings had spare days,
But such a heart whose pulse may be thy praise.
—George Herbert

Imitating Grace

The biblical use of the term saint in the book of Acts ... applies to each of us. All who are attempting to imitate the Christ in their lives merit the title of saint. Some do it more fully than others and are willing to let go of more to get the job done.
—Matthew Fox, Confessions

Fueled by Thankfulness

Thankfulness is not a minor virtue. It is not one of the elementary virtues [that] may be left behind as we become more mature. I believe that thankfulness is essential to the strength of every virtue, and that without it every other branch is starved and lean.

Life without thankfulness is devoid of love and passion. Hope without thankfulness is lacking in fine perception. Faith without thankfulness lacks strength and fortitude. Every virtue divorced from thankfulness is maimed and limps along the spiritual road.
—John Henry Jowett

Forgive and Let Go

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Love in Action

Fiddler on the Roof, the 1964 musical about an Orthodox Jewish family navigating cultural change, includes a duet by the main character, Tevye, and his wife, Golde. As they watch their daughters marry for love, they contemplate their own arranged marriage.

“Do you love me?” Tevye sings. After first deflecting the question, Golde recounts the many things she’s done for or with him during 25 years together — cooked, cleaned, endured hardships, raised a family. She concludes, “If that’s not love, what is?”

When Jesus speaks of love, he uses a word that might be better translated as “serve.” Above all, love is an action. Sometimes we feel loving; sometimes not. But Jesus calls us always to act lovingly. And in the end, serving is the best way to show our love.

Learning to Repent

Just as we learn to read, share and play ball, we learn to apologize, right a wrong and repent. Grace-filled parents, teachers and other adults can guide that process.

A young visitor to a national park took home a pine cone, despite the adage to “take only photos and leave only footprints.” But the child — likely prompted by Mom or Dad — later thought better of it. Opening a lumpy envelope from the mail, a park ranger was tickled and touched to discover the pine cone. An anonymous note in childish script explained regret for “my decision” and asked that the bit of nature be returned to its rightful place.

Repentance is tough, but the caring support of someone more mature in life and faith can make it easier. May we all keep learning to say we’re sorry. into good (see Genesis 50:20).



Always Thankful

Martin Rinkart, a German Lutheran minister, wrote the hymn “Now Thank We All Our God” in 1636. At the time, the Thirty Years’ War was ravaging central Europe, claiming millions of lives. Rinkart served as pastor in Eilenburg, a walled town that became a crowded refuge for starving fugitives. Although Rinkart was struggling to provide for his own family, he opened his own home to people in need.

After the plague entered Eilenburg, Rinkart conducted up to 50 funerals a day — including services for his wife and the only other two pastors in town. Amid the despair, he wrote many hymns, including “Now Thank We All Our God.” Originally intended as a table prayer, it’s now sung at Thanksgiving to remember God’s “countless gifts of love” — even during hardships.



Puzzle!

Use the clues to fill in the blanks.
The only vowel used is the letter A.

1. The mountain where Noah's ark rested (*Genesis 8:4*)

2. Jacob's grandfather and Ishmael's father (*Genesis 18:1, NIV*)

3. She sometimes laughed inappropriately. (*Genesis 18:12*)

4. He had a talking donkey. (*Numbers 22:28*)

5. This bird is both a color and a species. Did he come from the Islands?

6. This can refer to a hat, canal, country or isthmus.

7. The country with the largest area in the Western Hemisphere

8. This animal is an early entry in the dictionary.

9. A magician's exclamation

10. A brand name for motorcycles and pianos

Answers: 1. Ararat, 2. Abraham, 3. Sarah, 4. Balaam, 5. Canary, 6. Panama, 7. Canada, 8. Aardvark, 9. Abrahamic, 10. Yamaha

Everyday Miracles

When Joan Luise Hill’s son survived a dire medical diagnosis, two friends recognized that divine intervention had occurred. Hill wasn’t so sure, though. “How could I have experienced a personal miracle in today’s world?” she writes in *The Miracle Chase* (Sterling Ethos). “Wasn’t that something that only happened in the Bible or to someone else?”

Then one day, during a visit to the park, Hill learned a lesson about everyday miracles. “There’s a white rainbow!” shouted her 5-year-old son. She told him it was just a jet trail, but the boy replied, “Not to me. It’s beautiful.”

That was an “aha!” moment for Hill. “Why couldn’t a rainbow be white?” she asks. “Maybe it was time to shift my thinking. Perhaps there are ‘rainbows’ all around us; but since we only see them a piece at a time, we mistake them for something else. Miracles happen. We may not always notice them, but they exist, and the choice to recognize a miracle is up to each of us.”

PUZZLE

Blessings from the Lord

Throughout the Bible, God blesses his chosen people. How can we receive these gifts?

Directions: In the word search, find all the words in the box. Then write the words in the correct order on the blanks below to complete the verse.

come you these Lord if blessings you the accompany
Deuteronomy All on your obey will God you and

I	J	T	Z	Z	L	M	X	N	W	C	I	Z	Y	H
X	V	U	B	M	O	O	O	V	I	O	L	T	R	T
N	L	V	L	I	R	A	D	S	L	M	R	H	A	T
B	F	C	E	Z	D	T	X	O	L	E	D	E	L	D
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F	S	X	F	R	T	L	P	M	F	B	L	A	A	O
Y	Y	Y	O	U	H	T	U	A	P	A	I	U	N	M
E	O	K	N	U	E	A	Z	U	F	E	F	B	D	Y
T	Q	U	Y	N	I	N	O	O	V	E	O	T	Z	I

" All _____
_____."

28:2, NIV

Answer: "All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God." Deuteronomy 28:2, NIV

BLESSINGS JAR

Thanksgiving reminds us of our many gifts from God. Count your blessings all month long with this craft.



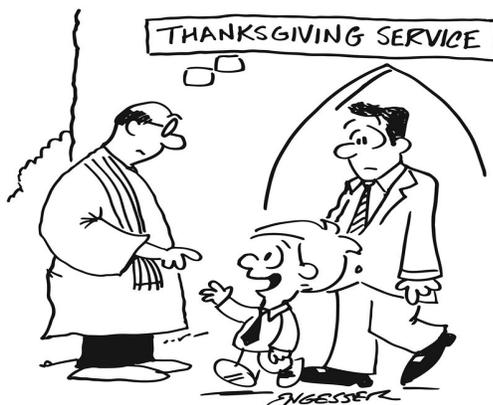
What you need:

- Jar
- Ribbon
- Scissors
- Glue
- 3 sheets of paper (different colors)
- Marker or pen



What you do:

1. Measure and cut enough ribbon to wrap around the jar's neck, below the lid. Glue in place and let dry.
2. Fold each piece of paper in half three times, resulting in eight rectangles per sheet. Cut along the fold lines, and you'll have 24 rectangles.
3. Each day in November until Thanksgiving, write down one blessing from God. Then place that blessing in the jar.
4. On Thanksgiving, open the jar and read all your blessings to your family and friends.



"Dad's thankful service finished in time to rush home and see the big game!"

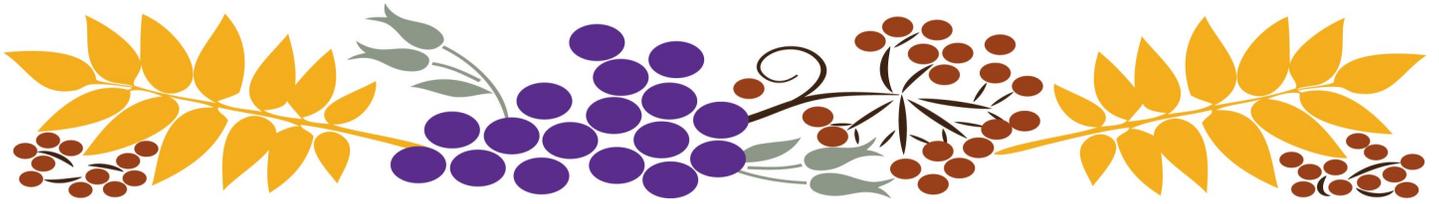


Bible Quiz

Fill in the blank to complete this verse from a psalm of thanksgiving: "Bless the LORD, O my _____, and forget not all his benefits."

- A. people
- B. soul
- C. heart
- D. children

Answer: See Psalm 103:2, ESV



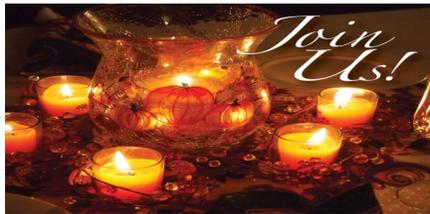
November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 9-11 Food Pantry	5
6 Daylight Savings Time Fellowship Meal	7 Lexington NO SCHOOL	8 7pm City Council Mtg	9 7pm Choir	10	11 9-11 Food Pantry	12
13 12pm Board Mtg	14	15 6:30pm Ministerial Alliance Mtg- First Baptist Church	16 8:30-11 60+ Commodities 7pm Choir	17 9am AIMS Mtg- LUMC 7:30pm LHS Musical	18 1-3 Food Pantry 7:30pm LHS Musical	19
20 LHS Musical 7pm Community Thanksgiving Service	21	22 8:30-11:30 Commodities 7pm City Council Mtg	23	24 Thanksgiving Day NO SCHOOL	25 9-11 Food Pantry NO SCHOOL	26
27 1st Sunday of Advent	28	29	30			



Presbyterian Disciples Church
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Lexington, MO 64067
660-259-2102
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- Matthew Neil
Secretary- Candy Myers/Matthew Neil
Treasurer-John Morgan
Custodian- MJ Myers
Children's Church-Brittney Bayne/Brittany Register