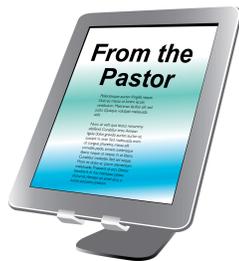




THE *Spiceland Friend*

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November 2021



“Be Thankful Every Day”

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.” Colossians 3:15 (NIV)



It is November already! It is time to start the holiday season. Seems like the year just began and now we are coming to the end. November is the month that we celebrate Thanksgiving. Everyone has their own way of celebrating this holiday, but in general it involves gathering with friends or family, eating, watching football, visiting, and in general having a good time. For some the holiday weekend involves shopping for Christmas presents and taking advantage of the sale prices they find. Some families have a time for sharing what they are thankful for and some look back over the year and realize how much they have come through and they are overwhelmed with thankfulness to God.

I am suggesting that this November we emphasize being thankful each day in November. Note the scripture above from Colossians. Paul reminds us that being thankful regularly is a key part of letting the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

Instead of focusing just on what we need, focus on what we have already received. *The Message* puts it this way: **“Cultivate thankfulness.”** That implies that thankfulness is something that we must work to develop. That is why I am suggesting that every day of November we work to develop an attitude of thankfulness. It might be through prayer – thanking God specifically for blessings he has given you. It might be through journaling – writing some things down each day. It might be through talking with your spouse or a good friend about what you are thankful for. There are many ways to cultivate thankfulness.

In Chapter 2 of Colossians, Paul put it this way: **“So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.”** These two verses (verses 6 & 7) show us that thankfulness is a key part of our spiritual growth and drawing closer to God. Living our lives rooted in Christ Jesus includes being thankful for God’s presence in our lives and developing eyes to see the many blessings that have been given to us.

Being thankful for a gift that you have been given does not take away from your empathy for others you know that were not given that gift. For instance, I am grateful that I survived my heart attack one year ago last week. I am grateful for the gift of more time, and I am challenged as to why God chose me to live and how he wants to use me to share his love with others. However, I know many others who did not survive a heart attack, cancer, or Covid. I need to be careful to empathize with those families and be an instrument of God’s love, healing, and peace to them. That is a part of being thankful for the gift I have been given.

David Brock

Letting Go, Letting God

Once **AGAIN** I looked in the mirror and realized I had put on a lot of extra weight. Once **AGAIN** I don't feel as mentally focused and physically vibrant as I did when I weighed 50 pounds less. Once **AGAIN** I am making a decision to eat a healthier diet. I use the word **AGAIN** because that seems to be my life theme when it comes to my love of and addiction to food. A home-cooked meal, a stop at the convenience store, and a visit to a restaurant are on my mind during the course of every day. While writing this article the thought of a good slice of pumpkin pie flies through my mind...**AGAIN**. "What a miserable wretch I am."

We have all been in this situation **AGAIN** and **AGAIN**. It may be eating or another bad habit, but it could also be a more dangerous habit or a particular sin. It could be a bad habit or a sin that not only impacts ourselves but the world around us. It might even be interrupting the quality and quantity of your service to God's glory and kingdom. Let's go back to my over-eating example.

When I was 17, I chose to express a believing FAITH in Christ. At that age I understood my personal need to accept God's grace and began to live for Him. However, long before the age of 17 I had begun a struggle with food. Some of this struggle was inherited (nature), and some from how I was raised (nurture). As an adult, this continued struggle with food is my own selfish desire to indulge myself whenever and however I want.

After decades of this constant battle I have recently come under the conviction that this indulgence is "pleasing of self" showing up in my life. God has revealed this in my life through his word and the Holy Spirit. I have come to realize that because God is for me and wants me to be used for his glory, I will need to approach my desire for food as what it is. It is an interruption in the plan God really has for me. It is an interruption of both the quality and quantity of time I have on earth to help bring glory to Him.

I am sharing this publicly because I cannot continue to fight this battle through human means. I need you. I need fellow believers to pray that God helps me overcome this struggle. I need for fellow believers to hold me accountable as I resist the temptations that show up each day. I need God's

forgiveness, his strength, as well as other believers in my sphere to help me move another step closer to God's design for my life in Him.

What about you? Are you living God's best plan for your life or is there a habit or sin that keeps tangling your feet as you attempt to serve Him? Let's remember that as we walk with Him, He will continually reveal a better and better path that we can choose to be our best for his kingdom.

"So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace. For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will. That's why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God." Romans 8:6-8 NLT

Eric Bowman

52nd Annual Holiday Bazaar Is November 13

Vendors are booked! Menu is ready! The Quilt is on display! All we need are volunteers to work and donations for Sweet Shop/Deli, Attic Treasures, and the Kitchen to be delivered. We are getting excited about our annual **Holiday Bazaar!** Sign-up sheets for workers and donations are on the table in the Welcome Center at church. Please help wherever you can. Please bring items for Attic Treasures the week of November 7-13. There will be someone here each day in the morning. If you have questions about vendors, please see **Marilyn Thompson**. If you have questions about anything else, please see **Nancy Wadman**.

Seasonal Choir is Busy Practicing!



The choir is off to a great start! We are currently up to 18 members and would love to have a few more. Everyone is welcome. Remaining practices will be from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on November 7, 14, 21 and Dec. 5, 12, 19. Performances will be November 21, December 12, and the Christmas Eve Service on December 24 at 9:00 p.m.

– Eric Bowman

Please Remember in Prayer



Church Family

Family of Rick Little
Kenny Miers – sepsis and pneumonia
Debi Zimmerman – recovering from stroke
Pat Bogue – recovering from back surgery
George Lacy – lung cancer; chemo
George Fort – recovering from back surgery
Judy Smith – health problems
Marilyn Thompson – Bell's palsy
Don & Barbara Meade – health problems
Irene Goodwin – health problems
Janet Craft – health problems
Steve Neal – liver cancer

Extended Family and Friends

Terri Butler (sister of Helen Rust) – heart blockages
Wendy (Teresa Batt's daughter) – COVID-19
Abigail (God-daughter of Rusts) – miraculous release of family in Burma
Susan Weaver (Kristen Davis) – lung cancer
Daniel Sears (Kristen David) – stomach cancer
Geoff Ostler (Nancy Wadman) – liver cancer
Wayne Schatzle (Bob Rust) – COVID-19
Par Sung (Bob Rust) – kidney problems
Amie Thornburg – kidney stones
Jamie, Daughter of Peggy MacFarlane – in critical condition
Larry & Peggy MacFarlane – Larry at home
Jayna Womack (Virginia Newkirk) – health problems
Abeba Darling (Darlings' granddaughter) – in need of prayer
Tivon Lee (grandson of Sadlers) – health issues
Carolyn Lantz – health problems
Abby (God daughter of Bob & Helen Rust)
Emogene Putnam (Jim Putnam's mother) – health issues
Franka Dick (Pyles) – health issues
Rita Beaver (Garners) – bladder cancer
Melissa Humerickhouse (Jenny McDaniel) – brain tumor
Jill Stansberry (Claudia Garner) – mass removed from spine
Sue Engle (Kandi Rutledge) – breast cancer
Andy Davis (Janet Putnam) – cancer has returned
Charlene Haugh (Claudia Garner) – recovering from bad stroke
Parents of Teresa Batt

Please Remember in Prayer *(Continued)*

Joyce Lacy (Sandi Swann) – needs prayer
Byron Hanes (Relative of Pam Reno) – radiation
Students, teachers, and school administrators
Our country and servicemen and women
Prison Staff and Prisoners
Long-term care facilities staff and residents dealing with COVID-19

Wednesday Night Bible Study

You have two opportunities to join us for food, fellowship, and Bible Study. **Nancy Wadman** will be leading the discussion for Romans 8:28-39. Wednesday, November 3, we will discuss verses 28-30. Ham and Beans will be the main entrée for the meal plus all the delicious sides and desserts other people bring. On November 10, pizza will be the main entrée, and we will finish Romans 8 with the discussion of verses 31-39. Please feel free to join us even if you have missed the other sessions. The meal starts at 6:00, and the Bible Study starts at 6:45. The Bible Study will be available on Facebook Live, Spiceland Friends Church.

– **Nancy Wadman**

Sermon Topics for November

Eric Bowman will be preaching on November 28 and leading the choir in a presentation on November 21. **David Brock** will be preaching November 7, 14, and 21.

November 7

Sermon – "Who Is Interceding for Us?"
Scripture – Romans 8:22-30

November 14

Sermon – "Who Can Separate Us from the Love of Christ?"
Scripture – Romans 8:31-39

November 21

Sermon – "Cultivate Thankfulness"
Scripture – Colossians 2:6-7 and 3:15

November 28

Eric Bowman will be preaching.

Worship Assistants for November

Scripture Readers

Nov. 7 – Nancy Wadman
Nov. 14 – Sandi Swann
Nov. 21 – Teresa Batt
Nov. 28 – Janet Putnam

Children's Story

Nov. 7 – Linda Brock
Nov. 14 – Mike Van Osdol
Nov. 21 – Janet Putnam
Nov. 28 – Diana Bowman

Junior Church

Nov. 7 – Linda Brock
Nov. 14 – David Lahr
Nov. 21 – Linda Brock
Nov. 28 – Claudia Garner

Greeter for November – Marilyn Biehl

With Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of **Rick Little** upon his passing on October 13.

Daylight Saving Time Ends!
Remember to set your clocks
back an hour Saturday night,
November 6!



Congratulations

Congratulations and best wishes to **Joey & Rachel (Putnam) Heindl** who were married here at Spiceland Friends on October 9.

Note of Thanks

"Thank you to the church for making our tough day a little easier – it meant the world to us."

**Family of Charles Magee –
Amy, Greg & Lisa**

Mark Your Calendar for November Events

Mondays and Wednesdays – 10:00 a.m. – Walkers
Thursdays – 4:00-6:00 p.m. – Crochet Group
Nov. 1 – 6:30 p.m. – Ministry & Oversight Meeting
Nov. 3 – 6:00 p.m. – Wed. Night Bible Study
Nov. 9 – 10:00 a.m. – Music Committee Meeting
Nov. 10 – 6:00 p.m. – Wed. Night Bible Study
Nov. 13 – 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. – Holiday Bazaar
Nov. 15 – 3:00-4:30 p.m. – Second Harvest Food
Distribution in parking lot
Nov. 16 – 6:00 p.m. – Christian Education Meeting
Nov. 29 – 9:00 a.m. – Deadline for articles for
December newsletter

Coming in December – Mark Your Calendars Now!



Dec. 1 – Family Advent Night at the church – 6:00 p.m.
Dec. 5 – Monthly Business Meeting after church
Dec. 8 – Family Advent Night – Caroling at Glen Oaks and Raintree Square, then returning to the church for soup and desserts
Dec. 12 – Youth Christmas Service and Christmas Dinner after church
Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Service – 9:00 p.m.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

We are so proud of this church! Forty-one shoeboxes were put out to be filled and as of right now (Monday, Oct. 25), there are only three boxes left to be filled. Please return them by November 15 with a \$9.00 check made out to Samaritan's Purse for shipping and handling.



– Missions Committee

Food Bank Will Be Having a Distribution

Second Harvest Food Bank will be giving away food at Spiceland Friends on Monday, Nov. 15, from 3:00-4:30 p.m. Please see **Nancy Wadman** if you are interested in helping that day.