

CHILDREN'S CORNER

November – what a busy month this is for both the old and young in our church. Children's Church will be working on Thankfulness and Counting Our Blessings this month. Our AWANA program will start its **"Season of Giving"**. This friendly competition is Boys against Girls. The teams compete by bringing in canned goods and the winning team will be served milk and cookies by the other team. Last year this competition brought in over 725 canned goods for the food pantry.

We are still looking for a nursery worker to work on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings for a total of 6.5 hours per week....so let's pass the word folks. Happy Thanksgiving and Remember to Count Your Blessings!
The Children's Ministry Team



UPCOMING EVENTS

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| November 1 | Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM |
| November 2 | Mid-Week Activities: Prayer Meeting, Youth, AWANA (Sunday on Wednesday), 6:00 PM
Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
Choir Practice, 7:30 PM |
| November 3 | Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
WMU, 10:00 AM |
| November 5 | Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8:00 AM |
| November 6 | Daylight Savings Time ends |
| November 8 | Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
Election Day |
| November 9 | Mid-Week Activities: Prayer Meeting, Youth, AWANA (Make cards for homebound), 6:00 PM
Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
Choir Practice, 7:30 PM |
| November 10 | Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM |
| November 11 | Veteran's Day |
| November 13 | Building & Grounds Committee, 12 N |
| November 14 | Budget & Finance Committee, 5:00 PM
Deacon's Meeting, 6:00 PM |
| Nov. 14-21 | Operation Christmas Child Collection Week |
| November 15 | Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM |
| November 16 | Mid-Week Activities: Prayer Meeting, Youth, AWANA (AWANA store), 6:00 PM
Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
Choir Practice, 7:30 PM |
| November 17 | Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM |
| November 21 | Hanging of the Greens workday, 9:00 AM |
| November 23 | No mid-week activities, Church Office Closed |
| November 24 | Thanksgiving Day, Church Office Closed |
| November 27 | Hanging of the Greens |
| November 29 | Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM |
| November 30 | Mid-Week Activities: Prayer Meeting, Youth, AWANA (Favorite Christmas Shirt), 6:00 PM
Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM |



CHRISTIAN CALLER

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MISSION STATEMENT:
WE DESIRE TO HONOR GOD BY
LEADING PEOPLE TO BECOMING
FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS
OF JESUS CHRIST.



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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Some people say that the children’s story, Chicken Little, has the best opening in all of literature. “‘The sky is falling,’ cried Henny-Penny, ‘and a piece of it just fell on my head.’” I don’t know if it’s the best opening line in all of literature, but it likely one of the truest sentiments in the minds of many people. The story of Henny Penny, also called Chicken Little, or sometimes Chicken-licken (not to be confused with “Finger-licken” from Kentucky Fried Chicken), the terrified little chicken convinced that the sky is falling and that life as we, or at least as chickens know it, is over, is common thought so often throughout much of our world today—so common that “the sky is falling!” and “Chicken Little” and related names have become bywords for fearmongering, and the often tragic results that occur. And why not when we are told on an hourly basis how bad everything is? I recently read an article that won’t come as surprise to you because we are living it, but when you see it in writing it almost confirms what we are all feeling and experiencing. The article stated the following statistics concerning the news and news media we hear today: approximately 90% of all media news is negative, sensational stories make up 95% of media headlines, Nielsen rating are at fault for 50% of negative news statistics, approximately 1 in 10 American adults checks the news every hour (I suspect it much higher than this), 65% of media outlets today purport cover-ups, ignore mistakes and engage in purposeful misinformation practices to increase readership, 49% of people are more likely to read something negative than positive. Those are just some of the findings concerning what daily, hourly, moment by moment is invading our lives. Ta-da! As you can probably see, and probably already now negative news is a purposeful and engineered device. I think it is on purpose for two main reasons: (1) Firstly, negative news sells. The public has proved to have a bias toward the negative. More often than not, they find positive news boring, (2) Secondly, negative news statistics show that bad news can catch readers’ attention and hold it. People will read past the headline if its negative to see how it might impact their life and so they can be the first to pass on the sensational and juicy tidbits. Sadly, many like to share bad-news! No wonder we are so controlled by the negative “sky is falling,” Chicken Little, mentality. We are being dosed it like a drug... drunk on it like bitter alcohol. And it is not healthy! It’s killing us! And for Christians, listen, it is spiritually debilitating and not what God has called us to.

I’d like to report that the sky is indeed not falling, all is not lost, hope is not abandoned, the news is not all bad. There is in fact “good-news.” And rather than living like a chicken (Henny-Penny) running around with our head cut-off by all the doom and gloom, negative news of the day, as believers we have much... much to be thankful for. The Apostle Paul said, “*In eve-*

rything (everything) give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you (Christian)” (1 Thessalonians 5:18). And I think he meant it! Don’t fall prey to the new of the day! Fall in love with the good news of our Lord! There is hope in Him. And as believers we must be thankful holding out the hope for our doom-gloom world to hear and see. When it looks like, feels like, seems like the sky is falling point to the One who upholds the sky. There is hope in Him. And for Thanksgiving this year let’s roast that old bird and put to death this “sky is falling” mentality and give thanks to our God above for His abundant blessing and the good news He has poured out in our hearts. ***Blessing for a Thankful Thanksgiving! Bro. Buddy***

YOUTH RE+MIND

*“It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night,
to the music of the lute and the harp,
to the melody of the lyre.*

*For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.” – Psalm 92:1-4 ESV.*

Gosh it’s my favorite time of year, the turn of the holidays, the cooler weather, the subtle hint of hope and joy as the year winds to a close. Okay I admit this is a very rosy view of this season of life but I can’t help it, this time of year brings out the positivity and optimism in me. I have always been like this, I get through the grind of the long late summer, and the bull rush of a hectic school year start and by the time we get through Halloween the light at the end of the tunnel shines on me. Yes, I am whistling as I write this even now. I honestly think our world could use some hokey positivity, a change of pace from the brooding volatility so common in today’s time. I also think a remedy to this is re-learning the art of thanksgiving.

Let me explain, I think many of us look at thanksgiving (the verb, not the holiday) as something we just conjure up from within us by adding a few ingredients like a scientific formula. Take 2g. of gratitude, 4g. of courtesy, a pinch of graciousness, add water and stir. That’s not what thanksgiving is, it’s more of an art form, a gift, or a skill that needs to be developed within ourselves. This Psalm is one of my favorites because it shows us that giving thanks to God always as an act of worship grows our ability to give thanks to the blessings around us, as we live with joy. We as followers of Jesus walking in relationship with God should have a posture of thanksgiving throughout our lives. This Thanksgiving (the holiday) may we let the joy of the Lord flow through us and may giving thanks be a common practice among us. ***Trey***

MUSIC NOTES

Is it really already November? It must be because the choir has been hard at work on our Christmas musical, The Glorious Light of Christmas.

I’m sure you’ve noticed how full our choir loft is getting. I am so thankful for all our new members. If you’re interested in joining the choir, we’d LOVE to have you. **In His Name, Nancy**

WMU

WMU did not meet in October. We continue to collect items for our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. **At this time we need more bar soap, markers, crayons, & small toys.** You can leave your items in the designated basket in the church foyer. We will have our **“shoebox packing party”** on Sunday, November 13 beginning @ 3 p.m., & all shoeboxes **are due at the church on the 13th.** We will deliver the shoeboxes on the 14th. Your donations are welcome and appreciated.

WMU will meet on November 3rd at 10:00 to discuss activities for November and December. **As always, thank you for your support!**



TRIVIA

Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November and has been celebrated since 1621. The first Thanksgiving was a feast celebrating the first bountiful harvest of the pilgrims of Plymouth and New England. It is still celebrated in a similar way, with families coming together and sharing plentiful amounts of food traditionally available during November.