

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Pastor Kirk Werner 2131 East Governor John Sevier Highway Knoxville, TN 37920 (865) 573-8684 Volume 15, Issue 11, November 2018

Friends and Family of Gross Walk,

As we enter November, our thoughts turn to giving thanks. With Christmas decorations already being displayed prominently everywhere you go, it is easy to overlook "Thanksgiving." But let's make an effort to slow things down a bit and focus on this blessing of Thanksgiving as we reflect upon the goodness of our Lord.

God *is* good all the time...and all the time God *is* good! It is easy to recall this when times are good but what about when things are not so good? I think about Paul's letter to his brothers and sisters in the faith in Philippi. At that time, Paul was in prison in Rome. Although in a horrible situation, Paul's words are filled with gratitude and joy. Just listen to his prayer for them as recorded in **Philippians** 1:3-11 — *"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart; for whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in the knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ — to the glory and praise of God."

I am grateful to God in every remembrance of *you*. What Paul prayed for the Philippians, I pray for you, for I have you in my heart. I know that God will complete the work He has begun in us. May His love abound in us and may we live as a people truly filled to over flowing with His love. Let us be kind to one another and not speak ill of a brother or sister, particularly when they perhaps have disappointed us or offended us in some way. In short, live in the love of Christ!

As Paul writes in Colossians 3:12-14 — "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."

Grace and peace . In His love.

Messages for the Month

NOY 04, 2018 – Mark 12:28 - 34 "The Most Important Commandment" – Communion

NOV 11, 2018 – Psalm 127:1 - 5 – "Sweet Sleep" – 25th Sunday after Pentecost NOV 18, 2018 – 2 Corinthians 9:10 - 15 -"Overflowing Thanks to God" – Sunday before Thanksgiving NOV 25, 2018 – 2 Samuel 23:1 - 7 - "Fitting Last Words" – The Reign of Christ





Our Staff

Pastor: Kirk Werner Child Care Director: Linda Odle Music Director: Joshua Jordan Director of Children's Ministries: Anna Baker

Class of 2018: Donna Carter, Matt Peterson & Greg Waldrop

Class of 2019: John Carson, & Courtney Scollard

Class of 2020: Carol Jordan, Jim Slyman & Maurice Briere



BIRTHDAYS



Kayla Miller – 3rd Laura Spargo – 3rd Rusty Spargo - 7th Sandy May - 10th Gwen Davis - 11th Marin Olafson - 20th Matt Scollard 20th Hayden Carter 28th Steve Clabo 29th Lindsay Rosa 29th





Ben & Becky Baker - 18th

November

NURSERY SCHEDULE

PLEASE EMAIL LINDA AT jlodle@comcast.net WHEN YOU ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO HELP CARE FOR OUR CHILDREN IN DECEMBER. THANK YOU.



Kids Crossing with Jim Odle, John Carson or Courtney Scollard

November 04: Anna Baker **November 11: Sue Werner** November 18: Susan Fletcher November 25: Travis Baker



Preschool Room with Linda Odle, Dawn Briere, Laine Donnell or Carol Jordan

Nov 04: Mike Walkup Nov 11: Lindsav Rosa Nov 18: Irving Rosa Nov 25: Brenda Clabo

Extra Helper Jeremy Cecil Stan Fletcher **Debbie Lutton** Matt Peterson Dawn Briere

Teacher Laine Donnell **Carol Jordan Dawn Briere**

If you cannot work your scheduled time, please swap with someone and if you cannot find a substitute, call Linda Odle at 690-9358 or 207-2623. When you know you can't work in the nursery, please e-mail the date(s) to jlodle@comcast.net or put them in writing and give them to Linda Odle in the nursery. Thanks!



PLEASE REMEMBER SCHOOL SUPPLIES **FOR NEW HOPEWELL!** Its flu and virus season.

Please help New Hopewell fight these germs with disinfectant sprays, wipes and tissues.

LEAVE THESE IN THE BLUE TUB IN THE **BACK OF THE CHURCH.**

WE ARE IN SERIOUS NEED FOR **MORE HELPERS IN THE** PRESCHOOL ROOM OR KIDS CROSSING.

It is taking more people because sometimes we have more children and because Linda Odle cannot teach at this time because of her cancer treatments. PLEASE CALL LINDA AT 690-9358 or email her at jlodle@comcast.net TO HELP. No preparation.



NEW HOPEWELL THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Adopt a family or two and bring milk, bread, and eggs for New Hopewell Elementary School's Thanksgiving Baskets. Collection date is Sunday, November 18th. Sign-up sheet and details coming soon. Contact Courtney Scollard or John Carson for more information.



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CrossWalk Café

Our next cafe' is **November 4th** as we enjoy our *Thanksgiving Edition* with Turkey and all the trimmings. Our church family has so much to be thankful for and one of our richest treasures is the fellowship of the body. What better way to celebrate than enjoying wonderful food and good conversation around the table. Don't miss out on this great time together as we share in His bountiful blessings!



THANK YOU...KUDOS...APPLAUSE!!!

The session would like to say THANK YOU to all families for your service on the *Refreshment Ministry Team*. When you join the church, you are assigned to this team, as we feel it is a ministry that all can participate in. You are paired with another family and given one month (every $1 \ 1/2 - 2$ years) to provide Sunday morning refreshments. Most teams take two weeks each; others share in the entire month. It is up to you. Please remember that you are NOT responsible for providing breakfast for everyone. This is just a light refreshment to have with coffee or juice. (Coffee is provided by the church.) What the teams provide is their gift to the church in service to our Lord. Be sure and show your gratitude... We are certainly grateful to each of you!!!

*The teams are posted on the bulletin board for the year and printed 3 months ahead in the newsletter, so that you can plan ahead.



Sunday Morning <u>Refreshment Schedule</u>

Good Morning

November 2018

Karen & Mike Walkup 573-0105 Judy Campbell 573-0037

December 2018

Dawn & Maurice Briere 809-2765 Jeff Hayes 573-4691 Greg Waldrop 598-0108

January 2019

Susan & Stan Fletcher 577-6099 Chelsea & Matt Peterson 356-2113

OPERATION







OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Packing Party is **November 11th**, 11am – 12 pm, following church service.





CrossWalk family, if you see a need to replenish coffee supplies - coffee, hot/cold cups, coffee stirrers, kitchen supplies - paper towels, kitchen dish soap or men's/women's room supplies, please let us know by; (1) noting what is needed on the bulletin board located in the kitchen so that supplies can be replenished before they are completely out. If you have questions, please contact Judy Campbell or Sue Werner. Thank you!



Have you checked out our website lately? It's a great way to introduce people to our church. Navigate through the site and see pictures of various activities. There are photos of JAM (Jesus And Me children's ministry), church events, a

calendar of events, and the weekly messages are catalogued in the media section. *This is a helpful tool in keeping informed and a good resource to refer to your friends.* The web address is

www.crosswalkepc.org.



Time Change!

Don't forget to set your clocks **back** one hour before **November 4th** before retiring for the night. *An extra hour of sleep Saturday night!* What a treat.



Church Cleaning Committee

Oct 31 -Nov 03 – John & Carolyn Carson Nov 07 – Nov 10 – John & Carolyn Carson Nov 14 – Nov 17 – Mike & Karen Walkup Nov 21 – Nov 24 – Mike & Karen Walkup Nov 28 – Dec 01 – Rhett & Donna Carter

If you use the church <u>during the week</u>, please, be sure to take your trash with you when you leave – especially food waste.

PLEASE !!



A Wonderful Thanksgiving Story author unknown

A blind boy sat on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet. He held up a sign which said: "I am blind, please help." There were only a few coins in the hat.

A man was walking by. He took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote some words. He put the sign back so that everyone who walked by would see the new words.

Soon the hat began to fill up. A lot more people were giving money to the blind boy. That afternoon the man who had changed the sign came to see how things were. The boy recognized his footsteps and asked, "Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?" The man said, "I only wrote the truth. I said what you said but in a different way." I wrote: "Today is a beautiful day but I cannot see it."

Both signs told people that the boy was blind. But the first sign simply said the boy was blind. The second sign told people that they were so lucky that they were not blind. Should we be surprised that the second sign was more effective?

Moral of the Story: Be thankful for what you have. Be creative. Be innovative. Think differently and positively. When life gives you 100 reasons to cry, show life that you have 1000 reasons to smile. Face your past without regret. Handle your present with confidence. Prepare for the future without fear. Keep the faith and drop the fear.

The most beautiful thing is to see a person smiling. And even more beautiful, is knowing that you are the reason behind it!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!



The Final Day

Written by *Marshall Ramsey*, a columnist of the Jackson, MS Clarion Ledger newspaper. A heartwarming, but sad story that I thought was worth sharing. As the story says, many have no clue what those few that still walk among us have sacrificed to protect the lifestyle we enjoy today.

"On June 6, 2011, in the corner of an unremarkable nursing home, sat a forgotten man who was desperately trying to forget."

Joseph looked around at the room; it was a cloudy blur. Cataracts were taking his one last good sense from him. He did know the room was full of women. Old, gossipy women, if you asked him. He was the only man in the room and a source of much of their gossip. It was enough to bring a smile to his weathered face. **"I would have killed to be in a room full of women when I was 20."** He rolled his wheelchair over to the window and looked out at the mountains in the distance. He loved the East Tennessee Smokies. The mountains faded to black as he closed his eyes and drifted off. He had killed when he was 20.

Explosions rocked the airplane. His C-47 Dakota, the military version of the venerable Douglas DC-3 two-engined transport, had caught fire. The Germans apparently did not want company. It was June 6, 1944 — D-Day as General Dwight D. Eisenhower had called it when he spoke to him and his fellow Rangers. They were in the 101st Airborne, the Screaming Eagles, and today was the first day of the end of Adolf Hitler's reign over the continent of Europe. Flak tore through the front of the aircraft, killing a private who had been throwing up just seconds earlier. He looked away from the blood and out the window to see the right engine was flaming. Not a good start to the day. Suddenly an explosion...

The old man woke up. Dorothy Snodgrass had dropped her tray, causing the young orderlies to scurry like ants. To the workers at the nursing home, he was just an old man, a crumbled relic of humanity. He looked out at the mountains again and could see shapes in the clouds. That one reminded him of the Eiffel Tower. Ah, the day he helped liberate Paris. He could smell the sweet smell of perfume in the air. He closed his eyes, took a deep breath and tasted the lipstick of the young French girl who had planted her lips on his.

A young worker tapped him on his shoulder. "**Time** for your pills, old timer." The man looked at the 24-year-old. The kid knew nothing about sacrifice. About pain. About losing everything and gaining ultimate victory. The kid shoved three pills into his mouth and gave him a drink of water. "Swallow these and I'll go get you some lunch."

Lunch. Mush or whatever the mystery gruel of the day was. Sigh. He remembered his first meal at the German cafe in Berchtesgaden. The taste of the beer. The softness of the bread. The fraulein who served him. Blonde. Busty. He closed his eyes again and his mind drifted off. More explosions. He floated down into Hell. The C-47 was on fire, lighting up the inky black of the Normandy sky — they had to jump early. Lord only knew where he was about to land. He looked over at his captain. Tracer fire ripped through the captain's body, causing it to burst into a cloud of red vapor. What was left of his body plummeted to the ground. The Germans weren't playing. He was jolted to his senses as his legs hit the ground. More explosions went off around him. ...

A door had slammed. The man lifted his chin, so the young man could wipe the food off it. How embarrassing. How could a warrior like him end up in this place?

He rolled over to a dark corner, forgotten, and closed his eyes once again. This time there were no explosions; he just saw his former comrades. They were coming out of the light, surrounded by fog. There was Lefty. There was Sarge. There was Jimbo. All had perished in the Battle of the Bulge. The captain came and grabbed his hand. **"Get out of that chair, soldier,"** he commanded. The man could walk for the first time in years. He walked arm and arm with his buddies into history.

His war was over. His victory had finally come. It was his final D-Day."

