



NOVEMBER 15, 2018

THE JOURNEY

The twice monthly newsletter from Brown Deer Baptist Church, Brown Deer, WI.

"Building people through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ"

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for You, O God." Psalm 42: 1

"Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech."

I Peter 3:10

2.— Church News

3.— From the Pastor's Heart

4.— A praying Church

5.— PTAP news

(Pray Through the Arab Peninsula)

6.— Thanksgiving

PONDER ON THIS...

The tongue has the power of life and death.

Proverbs 18:21



GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD

FOR HE IS GOOD

PSALM 107:3

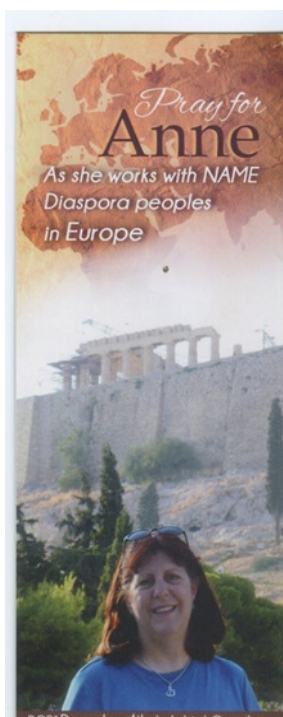
REGULAR SCHEDULE:

Every Sunday morning at 9:15 we offer age appropriate Bible Study for everyone, birth through senior adults. Our goals include learning what God said to us, and how to apply His teachings to our everyday living.

At 10:30 on Sunday morning, following Bible Study, we join in lifting praise to God the Father as we worship Him together.

Following Worship there is opportunity to join in a short time of fellowship.

Wednesday evening at 6:45 our adults enjoy in-depth Bible study. While the adults are delving into the Scriptures our youth and children are learning about missionaries and what they do. They also learn how they can share the Good News with their friends.



COMING EVENTS

On Sunday, November 11th, we will have a guest missionary speaker. Anne Davies has recently retired as one of our missionaries. She is a long-time friend of our churches in Minnesota/Wisconsin and we look forward to her being with us again to share about what God is doing in her ministry and with our missionaries around the world.

To give us more time to visit with Anne, there will be a pot-luck lunch following next Sunday's service.

PRESCHOOL EXTENDED SESSION

We are taking the kids, 4 and under, to the nursery after the children's sermon. This helps them learn to worship together and gives them an easier transition into regular worship services.

Nov. 4	Doug Bachert	Vickie Holt	Nana Yaw Oduro
Nov.11	Sandy Kruchell	Veronica De Ridder	Kwame Nsiah
Nov.18	Mary Krome	Lizzie Mensah	Aubrey Wycklendt
Nov.25	No Nursery	Thanksgiving weekend	

FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART...

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.”

--Colossians 3:15 (NASB)



There were two well-known great preachers who served their respective large congregations in London during the 1800's. They were Charles Spurgeon and Joseph Parker. Spurgeon's church funded an orphanage in the city. Parker wanted his church to help Spurgeon with this ministry and preached a sermon on the poor conditions of orphans in London. Word of this traveled to Spurgeon's ears through the grapevine. Unfortunately, by the time the news reached Charles Spurgeon, it had been "twisted" to say that Parker had criticized the orphanage itself. Spurgeon blasted Parker the next week from the pulpit.

The attack was printed in the newspapers and became the talk of the town. People flocked to Parker's church the next Sunday to hear his rebuttal. "I understand Dr. Spurgeon is out of town and not preaching in his pulpit today, and this is the Sunday they use to take an offering for the orphanage. Since Pastor Spurgeon is away, there may be fewer people attending his church today, I suggest we take a love offering for Spurgeon's orphanage here at our church, too!" The crowd was delighted. The ushers had to empty the collection plates three times. Later that week there was a knock at Pastor Parker's study. It was Spurgeon. "You know Brother Parker, you have practiced grace on me. You have given me not what I deserved, you have given me what I needed."

The key to thankfulness is recognizing the role which grace plays in our lives as followers of Christ. In Colossians 3:15 the Apostle Paul writes that we should "be thankful." But don't dismiss the first part of that verse! "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts." The peace of Christ only comes by way of the cross. Earlier, in Colossians 1:20 Paul said it is through the blood of Jesus on the cross that we are reconciled to God. "Reconciled" means to "make peace with."

The word Paul used for "thankful" in Colossians 3:15 is "eucharistos." We get our word "Eucharist" from this word as a term for the Lord's Supper, or Communion. The Gospels tell us the night before Jesus went to the cross for us that He took the bread and the cup giving "thanks" (eucharistos). The fundamental root word of "eucharistos" is "charis" which is the Greek word for "grace" in the New Testament. Grace simply means "gift."

Old Charles Spurgeon was right when he described grace as being given "not what I deserved, you have given me what I needed." Here is the basic idea behind being thankful: When the "peace of Christ" (reconciliation through the cross of Jesus) rules in our hearts, we can "be thankful" (recognizing the Lord has given us grace: what we don't deserve instead of what He should give us).

Happy Thanksgiving!

Love,
Pastor Larry



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please keep Kirk Quinbar on your prayer list. Kirk spent three days in the hospital this week for observation while a new heart rhythm medication was tried. Apparently all went well. The good news is that his liver function readings are back to normal. Still working on the thyroid.

Several in our church family have been plagued with illnesses. Pray for healing and protection during this coming flu and cold season.

Pray for spiritual growth of our church family and missions/outreach possibilities.

Sunday Bible study and worship attendance have been down lately. Pray for faithfulness as we learn more from the Bible, and worship our Holy God.

Real Life Class members as they learn ways to share their faith with others.

Pray for Pastor Larry and his family, our deacons, and other church leaders.

CHURCH FRIENDS

On Sunday, November 11, Anne Davies, a recently retired Southern Baptist missionary will be our guest speaker. Anne is well known and loved in the MN/WI Baptist Convention and has shared at Brown Deer Baptist before. It will be good to get an update on our work and to learn of her plans during these retirement years. To give us more time to visit, there will be a pot-luck lunch following worship.

We recently heard from Gary Romain and learned that he and his wife have moved to Green Bay. His mother and two sisters-in-law have died in the past year and his sister is now in hospice care.

OUR WORLD BEYOND THE CHURCH WALLS

Pray for government leaders at all levels as adjustments are made following the mid-term elections. Pray that Christians will set the high example of Christ-like attitude and conduct whether or not the persons we preferred were elected to office. Pray for peace and cooperation within leadership ranks.

PTAP NEWS—Praying Through the Arab Peninsula

He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of His people. - Psalm 113: 7,8

International Day of Prayer for Yemen November 10, 2018

November 10 is the International Day of Prayer for Yemen when Christians around the world will be uniting to pray for Yemen. As you know, PTAP has been encouraging much prayer for Yemen due to the immense suffering of the Yemeni people from the horrors of war, resulting in the worst humanitarian disaster in the world today. So please join us in prayer again, united in the Spirit as one body of Christ, for God to have mercy upon the people and country of Yemen.

Most of all, pray for the end of the civil war!!! Pray for successful negotiations and a resulting ceasefire. Pray for all fighting and killing to stop. Pray against famine and cholera and all disease. Pray for all humanitarian efforts to be successful. Pray for normal life to return so that the country can start to heal and prosper again.

Here is a short testimony from a Yemeni believer and also recent prayer requests from Yemeni believers themselves. Let's pray along with our brothers and sisters. They are greatly encouraged when they know that we are praying with them.

My story

"I used to live with fear and hatred, and I was tired of living this way. It made me sick. So one day, I fervently prayed to God to free me from this unrighteousness, and God sent me a brother who was actually my neighbor. He spoke to me about Christ. I saw Christ in his life. God gave me freedom like I have never experienced before.

Now, when I encounter challenges (people of another faith who want to harm me and give me trouble), the only thing I have to give them is love, joy, peace, patience, and reassurance in Christ. No more fear, no more hatred. I have complete freedom. I can now trust in my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ because He lives in me."

Prayer Points for Yemen

- Pray for the above believer to encourage other believers and seekers as he travels and continues to reach out in other areas.
- Pray for one believer's full recovery. He has been injured by the war. He has been the bread-winner of his house, and now his sister has taken his role.
- Pray for comfort for another believer. She is discouraged and broken hearted after her mother's passing. Now, she has the full responsibilities of the household.
- Pray that under persecution and pressure, the Lord will help us to keep our mouths from speaking evil. Pray that He will guard our hearts and that when we speak, we will glorify His name. Pray that God will keep us reflecting the love of Christ. Pray for the believers to walk in obedience, patience, and with a humble spirit.
- Pray for the women to have a whole-hearted desire to be an example to their children, to raise them in the knowledge of the Lord. Pray that as they feel overwhelmed with their limitations, that they will be strong and be an example for the next generation of believers, quoting scripture and psalms which they keep in their hearts.

Thanksgiving is more than food and football

“Thank the Lord because he is good. His love
Continues forever.” Psalm 107:1



For the Christian, the deepest roots of our thanksgiving go back to the Old World, way back before the Pilgrims, to a story as old as creation, with a two-millennia-old climax. It's a story that keeps going right on into the present and gives meaning to our little lives, even when we're a half a globe removed from history's ground zero at a place called Golgotha.

You could call it the true story of thanksgiving — or you could call it the Christian gospel viewed through the lens of that often undervalued virtue known as “gratitude.” It opens up a few biblical texts we otherwise may be prone to downplay.

Here's the true story of thanksgiving in four stages.

First, “God created humanity for gratitude. You exist to appreciate God. He created you to honor him by giving him thanks. Appreciating both who God is and his actions for us — in creating us and sustaining our lives — is fundamental to proper human life in God's created world.

Second, we all have failed miserably in appreciating God as we should. In her book on gratitude, Ann Voskamp gives memorable expression to the failure of the first man and woman — and the devil before them — to rightly experience and express gratitude. Our fall was, has always been, and always will be, that we aren't satisfied in God and what He gives. We hunger for something more, something other.

Third, God himself, in the person of his Son, Jesus, entered into our thankless world, lived in flawless appreciation of his Father, and died on our behalf for our chronic ingratitude. It is Jesus, the God-man, who has manifested the perfect life of thankfulness. If you've ever tracked the texts where Jesus gives his Father thanks, you'll know it's quite an impressive list.

Fourth, by faith in Jesus, we are redeemed from ingratitude and its just eternal penalty in hell, and freed to enjoy the pleasure of being doubly thankful for God's favor toward us — not only as his creatures, but also as his redeemed.

It is fitting for a creature to be in a continuous posture of gratitude toward his Creator. And it is even more fitting for a redeemed rebel to be in an ongoing posture of gratitude toward his Redeemer. The kind of life that flows from such amazing grace is the life of continual thankfulness. This is the kind of life in which the born-again Christian is being continually renewed, progressively being made more like Jesus.

For the Christian, with both feet standing firmly in the good news of Jesus, there are possibilities for a true thanksgiving which we otherwise would never know.

“Christians are thankful for all God's gifts, especially his eternal gifts.”

Excerpted from article by **David Mathis**, Executive Editor, desiringGod.org