First Presbyterian Church 1322 19th Street Auburn, NE 68305 October 2023 Volume 1, Issue 3



# THE PRESBY TIMES

As the leaves are changing colors and things are beginning the end of their lives, we are reminded to be thankful. In fac, there is an entire holiday this month directed towards just that. But what does that really mean? Basically, to the appreciative of what you have. There is no doubt that we all have something to be thankful for in our lives. Some examples are: health, food on the table, roof over our heads, family around us, and even being able to just get out of bed each morning. Some days are harder then others, but if you think about each day, I am sure that you can find something to be thankful for. One of the many things that we can be thankful for is that we are able to worship a God that is loving and forgiving. This is good news because "we have all sinned and fallen short of the Glory of God" (Romans 3.23). As imperfect humans, one of the biggest things that we can give thanks about is that when we fully accept our mistakes and asks in earnest to be forgiven, God forgives. In a world where mistakes are inevitable, this is truly Good News.

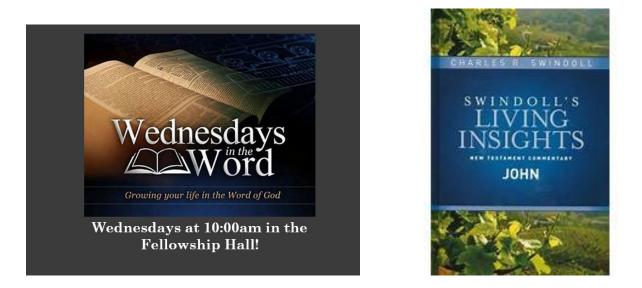
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Why do people just love November?

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Join us on Wednesday morning at 10am in the Fellowship Hall as we continue to study the Gospel of John. Currently, we are using the Layman's Commentary by Swindoll as we delve deeper into the Gospel. In November, we are getting ever closer to the end of the book of John, a time when things are interesting and make us think even more about the ministry of Jesus and who he is to us today. We would love to see you there! Wednesday morning led by Ruth Leslie.

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe.

Hebrews 12:28 (NIV)

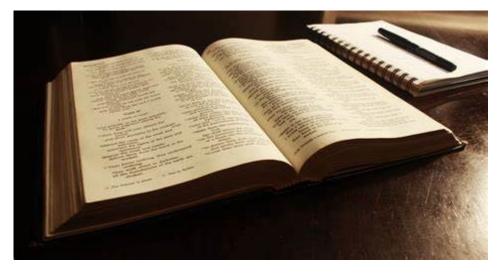
### WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Due to the very busy schedules of everyone, we will be taking the months of November and December off. We hope to reconvene in the new year. Thank you to all who have participated and we hope to see you again when we start back up in 2024.





Sunday, November 5, 2023



### NOVEMBER DEVOTION

<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray continually, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

#### 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

As someone who has seen and been through so many things in my lifetime, especially at a young age, I could most definitely be someone who loathes God and rejects Him. I could easily have turned from God in fall of what I have been dealt. And no one would blame me. However, I have done just the opposite. I have turned closer to God. It is because of Him that I am able to get up and out of bed each day.

One of the things that I am most thankful for this year is that I was able to spend the time that I had with my husband of 8 years. During that time, we grew together as a couple and as a family. I know that I have challenges ahead of in my life, like raising a son as a female. However, I also know that I am surrounded my a wonderful family, both biological and not, to help me raise my son. What is even more amazing and wonderful is that my son, Thomas, is so much like his father. Each day, I am still able to feel Will with our family through our son.

As you go through your lives, I hope and pray that no matter your situation, instead of turning away from God and blaming Him for what is happening in your life, that you will turn toward God. One of the things that I have learned is that God's shoulders can handle whatever "it" is in your life. I am so thankful and blessed that God has been in my life. I rejoice in knowing God and for knowing that no matter what is happening in my life, God is going to be there to walk with me, and if needed, carry me through. Amen.

In Christ,

Bonnie Ratcliff

#### Answer: Because they fall for it.



Pecan Bars Pumpkin Bars November 5, the Deacons are inviting you to join us for a Thanksgiving meal following the worship service. This is a meal you will not want to miss out.

We will also be receiving Holy Communion during worship.

Don't forget to fall back one hour.

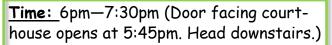


snacks & fellouship



We are in need of people to help with snacks for fellowship after worship. If you would like to help with this, please sign up on the calendar on the East wall of the fellowship hall. Snacks can be as easy as store bought cookies to one of your favorite homemade snacks. Please plan for about 30 people.





<u>Who:</u> 2nd grade and older are welcome to attend

<u>Questions:</u> Contact Bonnie Ratcliff: 706-936-0327





Youth group is up and going! We have 2nd graders all the way up to high schoolers and it is wonderful! We start with some games and attempt to get out some of the wiggles. Then, we eat a dinner and finally we delve into the Bible.

If you haven't heard, Bonnie is getting ready to move and she hopes to host youth group at her home throughout the school year about once a month. When this happens, you will get a notice so you can plan accordingly.

> Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.

> > 1 Corinthians 15:58 (NIV)



"Without a pastor, and surrounded by a community ready to celebrate Christmas, a small country church struggles to keep their 'community Christmas Show' tradition alive. With time running out and resources thin, all seems lost until ... Christmas' true message is found." Mark your calendar for performances of "A Lost & Found Christmas," November 24th, 25th, and 26th at 6:30, Auburn Presbyterian Church. Make sure you make your reservation by call Linda Moody at:

308-466-9113

Pick your date you would like to come. You definitely will not want to miss this show!



# **November Anniversaries** November 24—Brett & Lauren Vinson

Do you know of someone who is not on the list for birthdays or anniversaries? We would love to make sure that they are included in our church family.

Also, if you have a someone with whom you like to put on the prayer list, please contact Bonnie Ratcliff at 706-936-0327 or ratcliff0615@gmail.com.

# November Birthdays

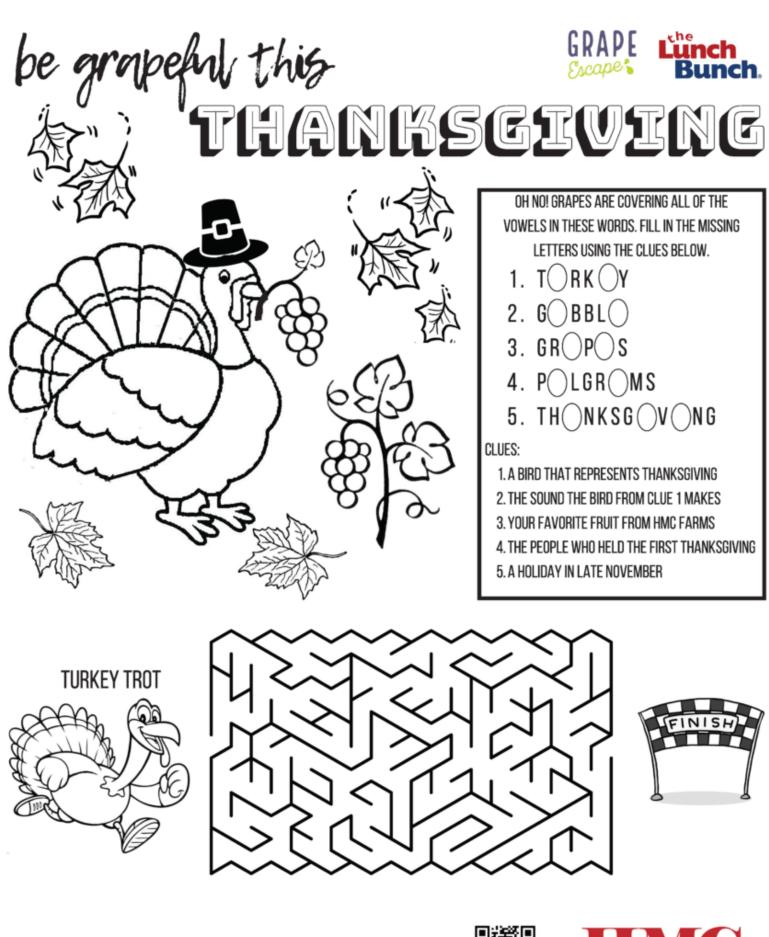
November 9—Michael Gilbert November 10—Jonah Schuetz November 10—Samantha Daugherty November 16—Mariah Bantz November 19—Sylvia Pohlman November 30—Dave Meyerkorth



## <u>Prayer List</u>

Laura Lea Bucher Al & Yancy Armstrong Will Ratcliff Helen Moody Sandy Kite Janet Kirkendall Sheril Petet Augie Rauner Hunter Hestermann Dorothy & Tom Rivett





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#### Would you like to receive communion?

We know and understand that there are those who cannot attend church on Sundays. On Sundays that we are serving communion, we would like to be able to take communion to those who cannot attend. If you would like to receive communion, please contact Deacon Desaray at 402-414-0352.



