



“GIVING THANKS IS NOT A SEASON...!”

It's not easy for anyone. I typically deplore generalizations, but some things are generally true. Here are a few things which fit that category:

No one is perfect and all have sinned...

We all need nature and nurture to survive and flourish...

We all experience life through our own lens of understanding...

So, whereas we should avoid generalizations as a rule in understanding one another, there are some that we must admit and embrace in order to appropriately know one another... It is true and indicative of the fallen state of the world that we all have some kind of challenge, problem, barrier, and or darkness within ourselves we must overcome. It's not easy for anyone!

¹⁸ For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. ²² For we know that the whole creation groans and travails in pain together until now. ²³ And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. (Romans 8:18, 22-23)

Here's a question worthy of pondering. Why give thanks in such an environment? The answer is simply God is! We give thanks because God created us as unique free will beings and refuses to turn us into mindless obedient automatons. Instead, He gives us an opportunity for real life. Thank you, Lord! We give thanks because God has delivered Himself as a sacrifice that we might not suffer the penalty of sin. Thank you, Lord! We give thanks because we have been given a roadmap for right and wrong called the Bible, and if followed will extinguish all suffering, sorrow, and lack. Thank you, Lord! We give thanks because before we were brought forth, He provided a way of redemption. Thank you, Lord. We give thanks for He has made us more than conquerors! Thank you, Lord!

³³ These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. (John 16:33)

The month November casts an indelible air of anticipation of a large meal, family, and fellowship as an opportunity to give thanks. But this is not so for the Christ Follower. For we are forever thankful, giving thanks in all things and in every situation. Why? Because the spirit of the Lord gives us joy in all circumstances, it is liberty! We thank God as we look to Him for respite from the malevolent world. He does indeed provide it, in the present as well as the eternal. God is our source of thanksgiving and continual peace...

⁶ Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7)

Enjoy the Thanksgiving Holiday. But never forget that thanksgiving is never seasonal for you. In fact, thanksgiving is how you live...

¹⁸ In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

With Christ's Love,
Marty McMichael
Sr. Pastor

1	7:00am	Stretching w/Rosie	11		Veteran's Day-Office Closed	20	7:00pm	Bible Study w/Pizza
	9:00am	Hand Bells		2:30am	Grief & Loss Support		7:00pm	NA Meeting
	10:00am	AA Meeting		4:00pm	Bible Journaling	21	7:00pm	GA Meeting
	1:00pm	Boy Scouts Eagle Ceremony	12	11:00am	Young @ Heart on the Road	22	9:00am	Stretching w/Rosie
3		All Saints Sunday		6:00pm	Cub Scouts	23	9:00am	Hand Bells
	4:30pm	Glory Fire Youth Band	13	9:00am	Nurture & Care		10:00am	AA Meeting
	5:00pm	Youth Fellowship		5:30pm	Choir	24	Noon	Our Neighbors Table
4	5:45pm	SS Team		7:00pm	NA Meeting	25	2:30pm	Grief & Loss Support
5	11:00am	Staff Meeting	14	7:00pm	GA Meeting	26	9:00am	Holy Folders
	6:00pm	Cub Scouts	15	9:00am	Stretching w/Rosie		6:00pm	Cub Scouts
6	5:30pm	Choir	16	9:00am	Hand Bells	27	5:30pm	Choir
	7:00pm	Bible Study w/Pizza		10:00am	AA Meeting		7:00pm	NA Meeting
	7:00pm	NA Meeting		10:30am	Book Club	28		Thanksgiving Day- Office Closed
7	6:00pm	Scouts of the Round Table	17	5:00pm	Thanksgiving Potluck	29		Office Closed
	7:00pm	GA Meeting	18		Meals on Wheels Week	30	9:00am	Hand Bells
8	9:00am	Stretching w/Rosie		5:45pm	SS Team		10:00am	AA Meeting
	9:30am	Feeder of the Pack @Food Pantry	19	11:00am	Staff Meeting			
9	7:30am	UMM Breakfast		6:00pm	SAS Meeting			
	9:00am	Hand Bells		6:00pm	Cub Scouts			
	10:00am	AA Meeting		7:00pm	Service & Missions			
10			20	5:30pm	Choir			

Our Neighbor's Table

FREE Community Meal
 the last Sunday of every month starting at 12:00 noon
 in the Murphysboro United Methodist Church
 Fellowship Hall. 1500 Pine Street.

November Meal
**Chili, Rice, Cupcakes
 & Cookies!**



Everyone welcome!



Noisy Offering

**November
 Methodist on A Mission
 Relay for Life Team**

Make a joyful noise
 unto the Lord ~ Psalm 100:1



4	Roger & Terri Twenhafel	17	Paul & Arlene Bitner
7	Bill & Glenda Martin	25	Adrienne & Wes Will
15	Harry & Susan Wirth	27	Gary & Gloria Likins
16	Terrin & Michelle Thies		



2	Kathy Blackwell	16	Arlene Bitner
2	Cole Fletcher	16	Cecelia Crawshaw
4	Ethan Finke	16	Sharon Graff
4	Kay Lirely	16	Landire Green
4	Caroline Pederson	17	Michelle Clark
5	Robert Frank	18	Katie Stewart
6	Alayna Krummrich	22	Pam Graham
11	Liam Guthman	22	Pat Porter
11	Robert Williams	25	James Nimmo
12	Dave Auxier	26	Tabitha Mack
12	Julie Erbes	29	Beverley Jarrett
12	Bill Quigley	30	Ben Barringer
13	Jonas Schaldemose	30	Jerry Giffin
15	Brant Wingerter		

Deadline for December Compass is November, 18th.

WEEKLY BULLETIN DEADLINE is Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.



The Saturday Book Club
 Church Library
 November 16th, 10:00 a.m.
 My Name is Lucy Barton
 By Elizabeth Strout

Lucy Barton is recovering slowly from what should have been a simple operation. Her mother, to whom she hasn't spoken for many years, comes to see her. Gentle gossip about people from Lucy's childhood in Amgash, Illinois, seems to reconnect them, but just below the surface lie the tension and longing that have informed every aspect of Lucy's life: her escape from her troubled family, her desire to become a writer, her marriage, her love for her two daughters. Knitting this powerful narrative together is the brilliant storytelling voice of Lucy herself: keenly observant, deeply human, and truly unforgettable.

There is no Book Club meeting in December. The read-ahead book for January is *This is Happiness* by Niall Williams



We are looking to add to our Acolyte team. Requirement is individual is in the 3rd to 8th grade. Please contact the Church Office or Shelia Stewart 618-201-3328. I appreciate all the kids that step up and serve without asking. Thank you! Shelia



Young at Heart will be back on the road on Tuesday, November 12. We will be leaving the church parking lot at 11:00 am for 11:30 am reservations at Rob's Pit BBQ in Carterville, IL. Rob's is known for its delicious brisket, pulled pork, and fried fish, along with a salad bar, offered in a casual setting. After lunch we will be traveling to the Crab Orchard Wildlife Refuge for a tour of the new visitor's center. YAH on the Road is open to all retirees/seniors. We always have a great time on our outings, so please join us for food, fun, and fellowship, and don't forget to invite a friend.

Young at Heart last month at BJ Garden's Inn in DuQuoin, IL



Teams for this Month

Usher Teams

Date	Team #	Names
3rd	2	Todd Lirely, Vanessa Lirely, Dick Graff, Sandy Herring, Ed ThrailKill, Dan Bratton
10th	2	Todd Lirely, Vanessa Lirely, Dick Graff, Sandy Herring, Ed ThrailKill, Dan Bratton
17th	1	Rick Runge, Jim Hughes, Mike Clark, Matt Hardwig Nancy Fager, Tim Imhoff
24th	1	Rick Runge, Jim Hughes, Mike Clark, Matt Hardwig Nancy Fager, Tim Imhoff

Welcome Center/Greeters

3rd	Wilma Westerfield
10th	Wilma Westerfield
17th	Patty Thrailkill
24th	Patty Thrailkill

Call to Worship/Liturgist

3rd	Vanessa Lirely
10th	Cameron Taylor
17th	Nancy Fager
24th	Rosie Wece

Acolytes

3rd	Pending
10th	Pending
17th	Pending
24th	Pending

Breakthrough Prayer/Scripture Reader

3rd	The Voss Family
10th	Vanessa Lirely
17th	Nancy Fager
24th	Graham Family

End of Week Volunteers

1st	Sandy Herring
8th	Janet Porter
15th	Nancy Fager
22nd	Sharon Jones
29th	Sandy Herring





The All Church Thanksgiving Potluck will be held on Sunday, November 17 at 5:00 pm in the MUMC Fellowship Hall. The church will provide the hams and turkeys, table service, bread, and drinks. A member of the MUMC Nurture and Care/Women's Ministry Team will be in the Welcome Center on Sunday, November 3, and Sunday, November 10, to answer any questions you may have about the event. We will also have a sign up sheet there so you can indicate how many family members or friends will be attending with you, and if you will be bringing a side dish, salad, or dessert. Please don't miss this wonderful opportunity to join together in fellowship as a church family to remember - and give thanks for - all the blessings that God has provided for us throughout the year.



For the month of November, the Seekers Adult Sunday School Class will be continuing their DVD/ book study of Adam Hamilton's *Revival: Faith as Wesley Lived It*. The study focuses on how Wesley's message and his faith continue to speak to 21st century Christians - calling for a revival of our hearts and souls that our world might be changed. In this study Adam Hamilton travels to England, following the life of John Wesley, and exploring his defining characteristics of a Wesleyan Christian. Wesley's story is our story. It defines our faith and it challenges us to rediscover our spiritual passion. Adults of all ages are welcome and invited to participate for a time of study, fellowship, and prayer.

Radical Hospitality Team Forming Now!

Remember the term Radical Hospitality? Is it time to return to that policy? We're working with the security team to hopefully make our church open, welcoming and safe.

If you're interested in helping please call or text Vern Cline @ 618-303-2336 or email laverne_cline@yahoo.com.

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Pledge Cards will be collected Sunday, November 10th during our service.



Kingdom Stewardship Sermons	
6th	The Motivation of Kingdom Stewardship <i>2 Corinthians 9:6-11</i>
13th	The Priority of Kingdom Stewardship <i>Proverbs 3:9-10</i>
20th	The Responsibility of Kingdom Stewardship <i>Matthew 25:14-30</i>
27th	The Freedom of Kingdom Stewardship <i>2 Kings 4:1-7</i>
3rd	The Perspective of Kingdom Stewardship <i>1 Timothy 6:6-10</i>
10th	The Legacy of Kingdom Stewardship <i>Luke 16:1-13</i>

I have prayed about supporting the United Methodist Church of Murphysboro, and my plan is to:

- () STEP UP BEYOND TITHING. My desire is to do more than God's minimum.
- () STEP UP TO TITHING. I will give 1/10 of my income to God's work.
- () STEP UP TOWARD TITHING. I am not yet a tither, but I am moving toward that goal.

My/our commitment is \$ _____ weekly or \$ _____ monthly, for an annual commitment of \$ _____

Name _____ Date _____

Street Address _____ Phone/Cell _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____ Email _____

I feel it is necessary to share some thoughts with my church family. Many of you have seen the church have many issues but we have always resolved problems by working together. Whether the problem was building, staff performance, or financial we got our act together. Today, we have a financial situation coupled with side effects of Covid and the United Methodist Church's lack of agreement as to just who should we serve and/or not serve.

The one area I can speak to is financial. It is a simple numbers game. We have lost so many members we have a crisis. Either we financially support our church or it will become very limited.

The Financial Secretary reports that Giving Units (GU's) have decreased from 113 in 2021 to 97 in 2024. A Giving Unit is either one person or a couple. From \$285,279 of giving in 2021 to projected giving of some \$232,000 in 2024...a little over \$53,000 less than needed to perform services. The weekly Church Bulletin tells us that about \$6,500 in offerings are needed each week. We are short of that by quite a bit. What can we do?

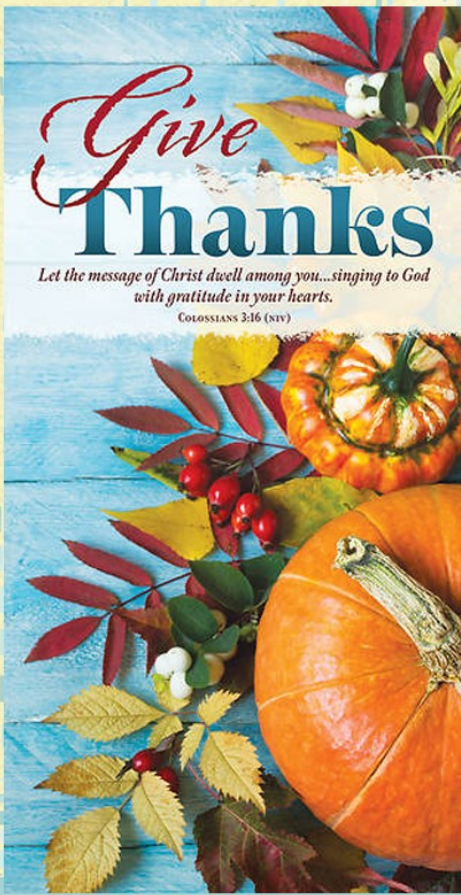
1. Watch us wither away. Not good!
2. Move to another church. Not something I could do.
3. Hope for a windfall of money from someone's death. Not likely!
4. Work with the SAS Board to agree on path to take...sounds like a good remedy if progress is made. So, this may be a good time to give the board some ideas. SAS (Simplified Accountable System) is a new board and would probably like to hear from you. Their names and email are in the weekly Church Bulletin.
5. While time goes by over the next few months, go ahead and increase your giving by 5%...it will help immensely! If you give, for example, \$40 per week that means you would go to \$42 a week, or \$2,184 a year. If you give \$80 per week that means going to \$84 per week or \$4,368 per year. If you're at \$160 per month that means going to \$168 per week or \$8,736 per year.

Seem reasonable enough?

Perry H. Patterson, Member since 1966.

A Fun time was had by all at the Fall Ball Paint & Pie Workshop that we held on Oct., 6th. This was a fundraiser for the Annual Women's Prayer Breakfast that is held each year in May.





Thanksgiving Special Offering

We Got You Covered Diaper Ministry

*Envelopes will be in the pews on
Sunday, November 17th
& November 24th.*

We will collect them during offering on the 24th.



Mike and I would like to thank you - our church family - for the extraordinary kindness and generosity that was shown to us during Pastor Appreciation

Month. For the past nine and a half years you have loved us, supported us, and encouraged us, and for that we are so very thankful. You have blessed us over and over again as we have done ministry together, and we look forward to what God has planned for the Murphysboro United Methodist Church in the days ahead. May the God of peace be with you all.

Michelle

MURPHYSBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1500 Pine Street

Murphysboro, IL 62966

OFFICE HOURS

Mon 9am—Noon & Tues-Thurs 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Phone: 618-687-2317 Fax: 618-687-2604
E-Mail: murphysboroumc@gmail.com
Website: www.crossandflameministries.com

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Sunday Service: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.



Staff

Ministers The Congregation
Pastor Marty McMichael
Pastor of
Congregational Care..... Michelle Parker-Clark
Director of Children
& Family Ministries.....Melanie Harp
Financial Secretary Christine Nolan

Custodian Pat Sullivan
Church Secretary Melba Ziegler
Pianist/Organist Cameron Taylor
Music Director Keith Javors
Nursery Attendant Ashlee Sanders
Technology.....Melba Ziegler

