

NOVEMBER

Open Door

2024



FROM THE PASTOR

The Heidelberg Catechism says that belief in the providence of God makes it possible for us to be "thankful when things go well" and "patient when things go against us" (Q&A 28). So sometimes we are thankful, and sometimes we are patient. Paul says that it is God's will for us to be thankful "no matter what happens" (I Thess. 5:18).

That might not seem very realistic, but may it help to note that Paul did not say we should be thankful FOR all circumstances, but instead be thankful IN all circumstances. Things might get difficult for us at times. There are days and seasons that are filled with joy and ease, and times where we are overwhelmed by troubles and hopelessness. No matter what happens, God is there walking with us.

How can we remember to be thankful when things are great, and find reasons to say "thank you" when things are difficult?

Perhaps a spiritual discipline called "The gift of noticing" can help. Sit still. Notice what you have. Notice who is with you. Notice the things that bring you joy or peace or love. Keep noticing when you get up to move. Make an ongoing list of the gifts that God gives. And offer prayers of thanksgiving!

Pastor Ray



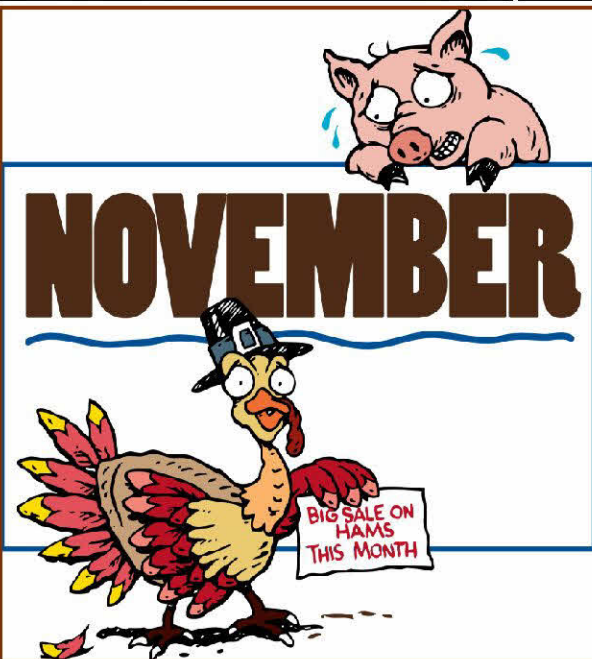
World Communion Sunday

On October 6th, we celebrated World Communion Sunday.

We all gathered around the tables with flags representing many countries around the world as we partook of the Sacraments.

It's amazing to know that we are gathered together with our Christian brothers and sisters worldwide to thank the Lord for what he has done in our lives. His body was broken, and his blood was spilled to be our living sacrifice for our atonement.

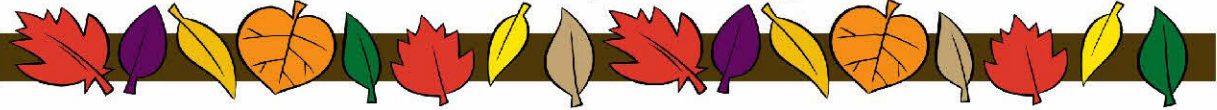
Thank you Jesus! Glory be to God!





Nov 3 Not Far from the Kingdom Hebrews 9:11-14, Mark 12:28-34
Nov 10 Devouring Widows' Houses Mark 12:38-44
Nov 17 Great Events from Small Beginnings 1 Samuel 1:4-20 Mark 13:1-8
Nov 24 No More Worries Matthew 6:25-33

November



Kum Ba Yah aka Kum Ba Zoom

We meet every Wednesday on ZOOM for fellowship, study and prayer at 7:00 PM. The link to the Zoom Meeting is sent in the Wednesday email each week.

Kum Ba Yah topics:

- Nov 6** They Met Jesus: The Pharisee and the Woman, the Centurion
- Nov 13** They Met Jesus: The Blind Man
- Nov 20** They Met Jesus: James and John
- Nov 27** NO KBZ

Adult Sunday School Sundays at 9:30am

- Nov 3** Voice
- Nov 10** Body
- Nov 17** Royal Priests of Eden
- Nov 24** Abraham and Melchizedek

BACKPACK PROGRAM

We are grateful for the leadership of Dave Foster and Janice Johnson who organize our weekly food program with children at Roosevelt Elementary School. We are currently serving 51 students by providing weekend “backpacks” of simple, nutritious food.



We would like to thank all the volunteers for their hard work and dedication. From helping pack the backpacks, to their generous donations. With out you, we couldn't make this ministry what it is today. We have given **1054 backpacks** since the beginning of January through the September.

MISSION COMMITTEE

The Mission Committee met on October 1st and decided to make a Global Mission donation of **\$1,000. to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance**. Their Local Mission Giving for October was to the **Miami Public Library (Excel Program) \$1,100.**



The Mission program is sustained in part by gifts from the Myers Sisters bequest and gifts from you. You can designate gifts to “Local Mission” or “Global Mission”. The Deacons Shoe ministry has delivered **24** pairs of shoes in the year 2024.

The Food Pantry distribution average for last year (2023) was 54 bags/month. So far, in 2024, we have given out **598** bags of food, as of **October 24, 2024**. **67** Bags just in **October as of the 24th of the month**. Your contributions of food and dollars makes a difference in many lives.

GOOD NEWS!!!

The feeding programs at First Presbyterian Church have been welcomed as a partner agency of the Community Food Bank of Northeast Oklahoma. This means that we will have access to better quality food at lower prices for our Food Panty and our Backpack program. In addition to bulk food available at a flat rate (currently 16 cents per pound), we will have access to other discounted foods and will hopefully be able to expand to fresh produce and frozen meats.

Reverse Advent Calendar

Advent begins **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST** this year.
DECEMBER 24th will end the season as we celebrate the
birth of Jesus.

Here's an idea that that can help so many people.

To get started....find an empty box.
Each Day of Advent add an item.



On December 24th, bring your box to the Christmas Eve Service and we will take it
to the local Food Pantry at the Presbyterian Church!

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| December 1 | Mac & Cheese | December 16 | Granola Bars |
| December 2 | 1 lb. Dried Pinto Beans | December 17 | Cup of Fruit |
| December 3 | 1 lb. Dry Rice | December 18 | Saltine Crackers |
| December 4 | Spaghetti Sauce | December 19 | Cups of Applesauce |
| December 5 | Package of Pasta | December 20 | Can of Veggie Soup |
| December 6 | Can of Corn | December 21 | Can of Mixed Veggies |
| December 7 | Can of Green Beans | December 22 | Can of Chicken |
| December 8 | Can of Pork & Beans | December 23 | Jar of Jelly |
| December 9 | Can of Tuna | December 24 | Can of Beef Stew |
| December 10 | Package of Ramen Noodle | | |
| December 11 | Can of Chicken Noodle Soup | | |
| December 12 | Can of Chili | | |
| December 13 | Jar of Peanut Butter | | |
| December 14 | Box of Instant Oatmeal | | |
| December 15 | Small box of Raisins | | |

NOVEMBER

2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 All Saints' Day 10-12 Food Pantry  <i>All Saints' Day</i>	2
3 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Fellowship 	4 10-12 Food Pantry	5 Election Day 10-12 Food Pantry 	6 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 pm KumBaZoom	7 10-12 Food Pantry 2:30pm Backpack 7:00 pm GA	8 10-12 Food Pantry	9
10 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Fellowship 11:30 Deacons Mtg	11 Veterans Day 10-12 Food Pantry 	12 10-12 Food Pantry 11:30 am Ladies Luncheon	13 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00pm KumBaZoom	14 10-12 Food Pantry 2:30pm Backpack 7:00 pm GA	15 10-12 Food Pantry	16
17 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Fellowship	18 10-12 Food Pantry	19 10-12 Food Pantry 11:30 Mission Mtg 7:00pm Session	20 10-12 Food Pantry 2:30pm Backpack 7:00 pm KumBaZoom	21 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 pm GA	22 10-12 Food Pantry	23
24 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Fellowship 	25 10-12 Food Pantry	26 10-12 Food Pantry	27 10-12 Food Pantry NO KumBaZoom	28 Office Closed Thanksgiving Day 	29 Office Closed Thanksgiving	30



Janice Johnson 11/3 Ashley Lomax Walker 11/21
 Doris Jean Price 11/6 Marcia McManigal.....11/23
 Judy Abel 11/19 John Thiesing 11/27
 DeMaris Gaines 11/20 Nancy Gee11/30

*Should your name be here?
 Please let the office know your birth date so we can include you!*



We received another shopping cart full of food for the **Backpack Program** from our brothers and sisters at **Community of Christ Church.**



Please Color Me!!

THANKS
GIVING



Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**HIS LOVE ENDURES
FOREVER.**

Psalm 136:1, NIV



Servers in the Lord's House		
Nov 3	Coffee Host	Backpack
Nov 10	Open	Thur Nov 7 Clyde & Karin
Nov 17	Open	Thur Nov 14 Open & Open
Nov 24	Open	Wed Nov 20 Open & Open
		Thur Nov 28 Thanksgiving Break

Please call the office to sign up for server slots!



**FPC Miami Ladies Luncheon
Tuesday, October 8, 2024**



We had another wonderful time of fellowship at the Ladies Luncheon. All the women enjoyed Kate's White Chicken Chili. Everyone else brought a side to go with the chili.

WOMEN'S LUNCH will include a study from "Badass Women of the Bible" this month.



**Next Luncheon -
Tuesday,
November 12th
at 11:30 am**



	<p style="text-align: center;">All Saints' Day Friday - November 1st</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Daylight Saving Time Ends Turn clock back 1 hour Sunday - November 3rd</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Election Day Tuesday - November 5th</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Veterans Day Monday - November 11th</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Christ the King Sunday Sunday - November 24th</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Thanksgiving Day Thursday - November 28th</p>

Hanging of the Greens



LOOKING AHEAD

Make a note on your calendar that Sunday, December 1st will be our Annual "Hanging of the Greens". Join us for a light lunch as we prepare the building for the celebration of the Advent and Christmas seasons!

NOVEMBER

	Nov 3	Karin Shaffer
	Nov 10	Diana Schmiedeke
	Nov 17	John Lomax
	Nov 24	Abbey Ankenman



"O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever."

1 Chronicles 16:34



*The First Presbyterian Church
1410 N.E. Veterans Blvd.
Miami, OK 74354*