

The Word

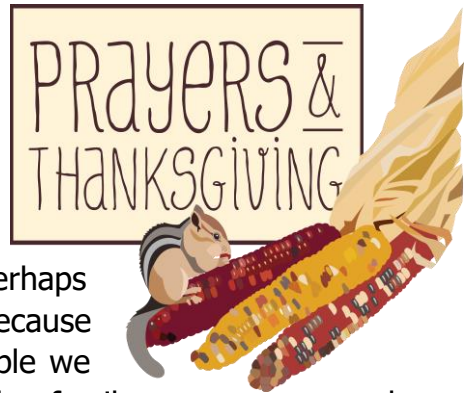


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November 2023

Minister's Musings

October's beautiful sunny days kept me in denial, but I'm afraid the truth is upon us; it's mid-autumn, it's getting dark, and the end of the year approaches. I don't mean that ominously, but the approach of the holidays – Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, in my life – forces me to be aware of the passage of time. Pilgrim salt and pepper shakers, large platters for turkey, and ornaments for the tree tend to get used but once a year. Pulling them out of the cabinets reminds us that we're still around, still able to give thanks and to experience joy. It also reminds us that there were many regular days in the past 365 which we may not remember precisely, but were filled with events that added to the fullness of our lives. At Thanksgiving, we give thanks for the year that has been. Maybe this year your prayers will include healing from illness, maybe they will include the joy for the opportunity to hold a grandchild in your arms or on your lap. Perhaps the prayers will be more difficult to speak this year because it's been a tough one; we will read names of people we dearly loved on Sunday, November 5 – friends, family members, people we've laughed with and cried with who have died in the past year. Loss is hard, and holidays can be especially difficult times as we celebrate without someone dear to us. Know that your community, your friends and neighbors hold you in prayer as you mourn, that you may find a way to peace. The wisdom of the gift of time is that even the holidays will pass, the intensity of pain and/or joy that they bring will not last, but God's love will last, and will go on beyond even this life itself. That's the good news that can keep us going – at Easter or Thanksgiving or Christmas or any and all of the days in between. God's steadfast love endures forever – those are the Psalmist's words from three thousand or so years ago. And they are our words as well. May God's steadfast love hold you fast, encourage you in your weakness, and fill you with peace.



Pastor Cathy

Highlights of October Parish Council

Council began with a sharing time during which Edie shared the story of “Stone Soup” and talked about the impact and memories of our former food ministries.

During Topic of the Month, Pastor Cathy shared some denominational updates. Our Charge Conference or Annual Meeting, will be held in January, but the rest of the Cooperative Council met on Saturday, October 14th. The current theme is “We’re Stronger Together” The Presbytery is meeting in our church every other week as a host site of Zoom meetings/trainings.

Playschool reported that Crystal Kennedy is a new member of the Board. Council approved the new officers Lara Mills- President, Crystal Kennedy- Secretary and Melisa Goff-Treasurer. Playschool will be having a bottle drive at Bagel’s and Cream on Saturday 10/28.

Laura Clark reported that as of September 30th, we should be at 75% income and expenses. We currently are sitting at 62% income and 68% expenses. There was extensive discussion about the fall being a time when many catch up on pledges.

Gideon Frisbee informed the council that we are locked in with Kiff’s for fuel oil at \$3.70 per gallon and we will be paying as we need it. Gordon Krick finished pressure washing the church. He will be scheduling the parsonage walk through with SPR chair Barb Jones. Trustees are researching options to help Playschool replace their copy machine.

The Finance Committee met on October 3rd and started work on the 2024 budget. A visual/narrative budget will be developed to try and better show/represent how our budget is connected to all that we do. Many are exploring options for the future to make our budget more manageable and less reliant on our Investment Funds. Outside grants are being applied for to support the Current Expense Budget. Edie will do a presentation about our food missions on Sunday during worship and Pat will talk about our music program in early November.

Barb Jones reported that SPR will be meeting on October 24th.

Pastor Cathy has been busy with many denominational activities including the Parish Coordinator meeting, District Clergy meeting and the Presbytery meeting. Cathy attended a small church workshop in Pa. two weeks ago. There was discussion about how the COVID Pandemic has expanded our field of reach using social media to connect. Deb is increasing the amount of Facebook posts to increase our exposure on there. Pastor Cathy reminded us that we need to understand that the Church is bigger than Sunday morning worship and involves more than those who attend on Sundays. She has also been busy with pastoral care and Ann Smith's memorial service.

Edie gave updates on the Food Pantry which fed 15 families already this month. 72 food boxes were distributed on October 14th to elderly in our community.

Fred reminded us that an important part of our Witness is our social media presence and activities like the Blessing of the Animals that took place on the Square on the 15th.

Evelyn attended the Cooperative Parish Meeting with Cathy on the 14th. She mentioned that there have been some coffee hour signups which we all appreciate. There were many comments about how Evelyn continues to make worship beautiful with her altar presentations.

We continue to open our doors to groups for the use of our building. We approved three requests this month. One of them was a new group (AA) to use our building on a regular basis. We also enabled the Community Halloween Movie to take place since they had to move their activities inside from the Square on a rainy evening. We opened Mac Hall so that this fun activity could take place.

If at any time you have questions, please feel free to talk with myself or other council members.

Carol Greene

Women's Open Circle

Women's Open Circle will meet on Thursday, November 9th at noon in the Harder Room. Please bring your own lunch. Beverages and dessert will be provided. We will collect the Thank Offering and dedicate it.

Don't forget the Birthday Box in the Harder Room!

Generosity/Stewardship/Giving in Love

The church needs you – your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service – to keep on keeping on into the year ahead. Sunday after Sunday this fall we have named and celebrated in worship much of the work and the ministry that happens here at United Ministry. Your ongoing support makes that work possible. As you consider and pray about your pledge for 2024, begin by

remembering what you love about this church, and give from that love. Pledge cards will come to you by mail in the next week or two. We will dedicate them in worship on December 3.

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

Thanksgiving Events

The Community Thanksgiving Dinner is held on Thanksgiving Day from 12-3. It is free and available to everyone. Take-out dinners are an option. Reservations for the dinner need to be made by November 14. St. John's Episcopal Church is pulling it all together, and they have asked for help.

- We need two people or families to roast turkeys for the dinner and deliver them to the firehouse Wednesday night. The turkeys will be provided; the task is to roast them.
- We are also asked to provide a few volunteers to help at the dinner itself – waiting and clearing tables, refilling turkey platters, etc. If you can help, please let the office or Pastor Cathy know and they'll sign you up.
- And we need to provide pies, pumpkin and apple. The sign-up is on the wall as you enter the church. Or call and claim a pie slot. Thanks.

Ecumenical thanksgiving Service

An ecumenical Thanksgiving service will be held on Sunday, November 19 at 4 pm at the First Baptist Church of Delhi. There's a soup and bread supper after the service, with soups from different congregations. Plan to be there.

Our Changing Family



Congratulations to Chelsea and Marcus Johnson on the birth of their son, Rai Tiyus Frisbee Johnson, October 29, 2023.

Their address is: 7 Cuddeback Road, Delhi 13753

Cathy Johnson is at Mountain Valley Hospice, Cathy Johnson
Room 111
108 Steele Avenue
Gloversville NY 12078

Beth Hildreth is at her daughter's home in Massachusetts for the winter. c/o Cynthia Bergamesca
120 Tea Rock Lane
Marshfield MA 02050

Play School News - November 2022

Play School has been very busy during the month of October. We had Delhi Firefighters in for fire prevention week. They talked to the kids about fire safety, stop, drop and roll, all of their protective gear they have to wear, and all of the equipment they carry on their ladder truck. Thanks Delhi Firefighters for your time and knowledge! Miss Marne and Boys for Science fun and Halloween Stories. So much fun!! We topped letter p week off with a trip to Delhi Pizza Company for some yummy pizza! Thanks Charlie, Theresa and Richie for having us. The kids had a blast and really enjoyed the pizza! We ended the month with our Play School Bottle Drive Fundraiser at Bagels and Cream. Thank you to everyone who supported Play School! Police Chief Mills and Halloween Safety! Thanks for showing us your cool police car! Play School Open House. Followed by our Halloween party and Trick or Treating around the church. Thank you Cathy and UM support crew for putting that together and helping out to make this extra special for the kids! The children are so excited to come to school, excited to learn new things, while having lots of fun too!!

We have a lot of fun events planned for November. We hope to stay on schedule for our letter of the week, fun topics, community guests, Thanksgiving projects, Share the Harvest Party, to name a few.

Play School is still collecting school supplies and monetary donations for the 2023-24 school year. Thank you for all the wonderful donations of supplies thus far for the children in the Play School Program! We have received a variety of items from the U.M. Congregation, Play School Families and the Community! We appreciate everything we have received for the Play School class and couldn't have done it without your help and support!! THANK YOU!!!

Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Savage, Play School Director

Kid's Club



*Being a
Christian
is like
being a
Pumpkin:*



- God picks you from the patch, and brings you in. (John 15:16)
- God washes all the dirt off of you. (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- God opens you up and scoops out all the yucky stuff, removing the seeds of doubt, fear, hate, and greed. (Romans 6:6)
- God carves you a new smiling face. (Psalm 71:23)
- Then God puts light inside of you to shine for all the world to see! (Matthew 5:16)



Community Thanksgiving Dinner

FREE
*Community
Thanksgiving*
DINNER

Thursday
23RD

November, 2023
12-3PM

Dinner at the Delhi Fire Hall

Reservations are required by November 14th

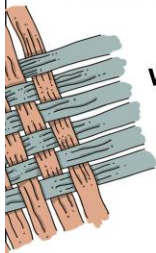
Take Out is Available

RSVP (607)437-2358 voicemail

Sponsored by Delhi Clergy Association and 2023 Host
St. Johns Episcopal Church



Handicrafts can spark appreciation for simple items. Weave this basket as a gift.



What you need:

- Paper plate
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Yarn (different colors)

What you do:

1. In the center of the plate, trace something round. Draw 9 lines (evenly spaced) from the circle to the plate's edge.
2. Cut along each line, stopping at the center circle. Trim more of the plate off so the cuts make a gradual V shape.
3. Fold the plate's sides upward to form basket sides. Keep these upright as you weave a bowl-shaped basket.
4. Begin weaving a length of yarn at the circle's base. Hold the end of the yarn in place as you spread the length over and under each side of the plate.
5. Switch colors to make a pattern. Keep the yarn tight as you weave up the sides.
6. To finish, bend down any remaining paper. Leave a tail of yarn and tuck it under a woven portion. Share your craft with a friend!



THANKS-FILLED GIVING

The virtues of gratefulness and generosity are connected. When we're truly thankful for all God provides, we want to sow generous seeds in other people's lives. What will be the harvest?

Directions: Solve the clues associated with each picture. Then write the words in the correct spaces to complete 2 Corinthians 9:10-11, NIV.

This becomes a plant _____



Willing to give _____

The result of planting seeds _____



The act of gratitude _____



Food made from wheat _____



Now he who supplies _____ to the sower and _____ for food will also



supply and increase your store of _____ and will enlarge the _____



of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be

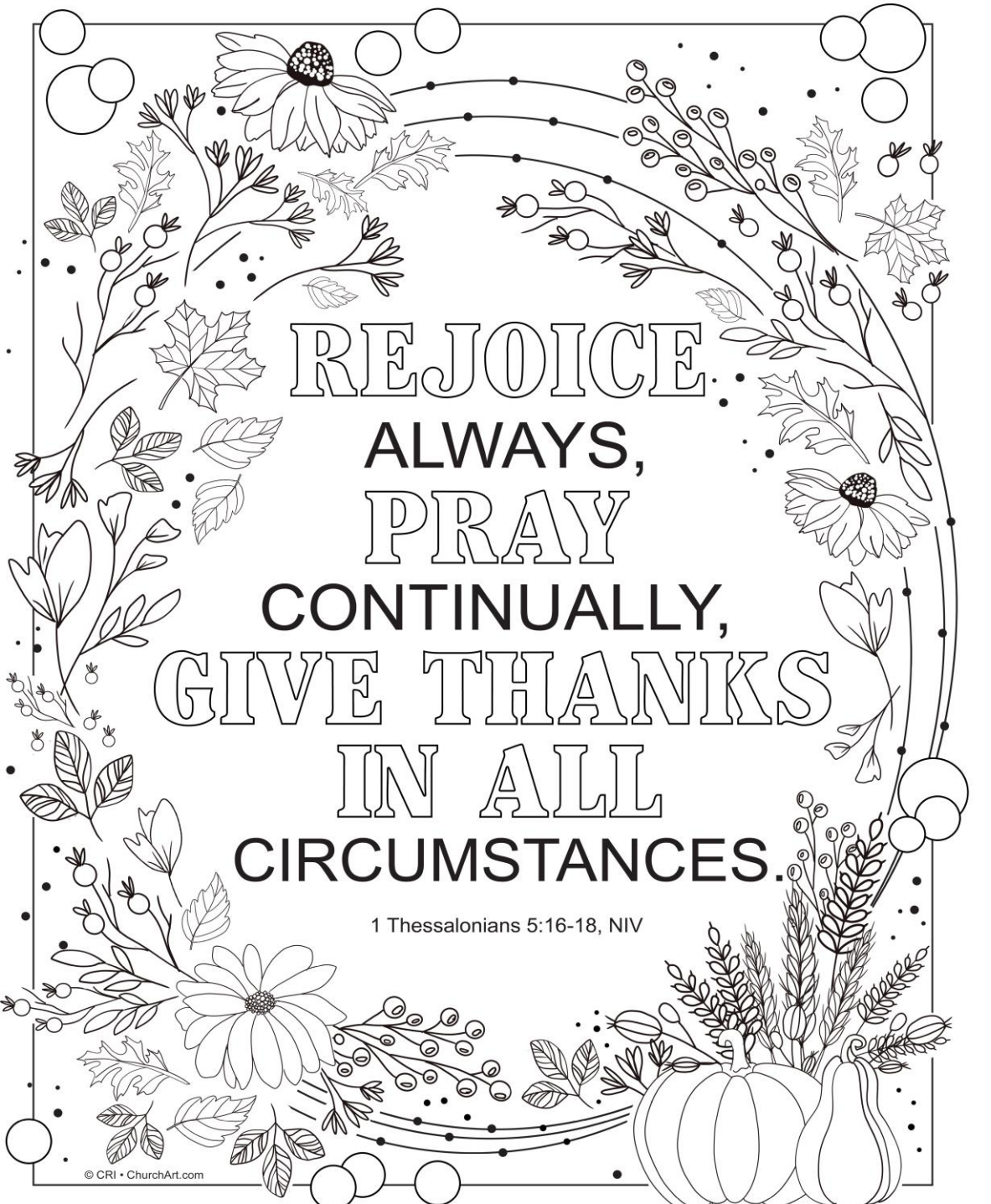
_____ on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result



in _____ to God. 2 Corinthians 9:10-11, NIV



Answers: seed, bread, generous, thanksgiving



**REJOICE
ALWAYS,
PRAY
CONTINUALLY,
GIVE THANKS
IN ALL
CIRCUMSTANCES.**

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV

Coffee Hour Hosts & Flowers for the Sanctuary



Have you signed up to host Coffee Hour yet? Coffee, tea, lemonade, and paper goods are supplied. Cookies are optional. Sign up on the sheet on the Bulletin Board or call the church office to pick your date.

Coffee Hour

Nov 5 _____
Nov 12 _____
Nov 19 _____
Nov 26 _____

Would you like to commemorate a loved one or special event in your life? Garden and wild flowers are always welcome! If you are uncomfortable creating the arrangement, call the office and we can make the arrangement for you.



Flowers

Nov 5 _____
Nov 12 _____
Nov 19 _____
Nov 26 _____

Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board outside the office.



Joel Greenfield	11/1	Shannon Robinson	11/14
Elaine Burt	11/1	Alexis Gielskie	11/18
Sharon Moyse	11/3	PenelopeIsadora Gielskie	11/21
Ron Tillapaugh	11/6	Kendra Ackerly	11/26
Melinda Shalkey	11/6	Emma Moyse	11/26
Laura Clark	11/7	Ethan Moyse	11/30
Ron Frisbee	11/7		

Word and Worship

November 2023

Sunday, November 5

All Saints Sunday

Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22

1 John 3:1-; Matthew 5:1-12

Sunday, November 12

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

Sunday, November 19

24th Sunday after Pentecost

Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

Thursday, November 23

Thanksgiving Day

Deuteronomy 8:7-18; Psalm 65

2 Corinthians 9:6-15; Luke 17:11-19

Sunday, November 26

Christ the King Sunday

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100

Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

Lectors


November

- ▮ Barb Onasch
- ▮ Gideon Frisbee
- ▮ Ann Peet
- ▮ Carol Greene

Bible Quiz

Fill in the blank:
“Rejoice always, pray continually,
give _____ in all circumstances;
for this is God’s will for you
in Christ Jesus.”


- A. alms
- B. praise
- C. thanks
- D. offerings



Answer: C (See 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV)

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Give thanks
in all circumstances;
for this is the
will of God
in Christ Jesus
for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:18