

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2024

""Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessaloníans 5:16-18

A VIEW FROM THE PARSONAGE Senior Pastor Frank Sawicki

It seems like in our society we tend to skip over Thanksgiving. I wonder why? Do we just get caught up in the candy and then... boom... it's Christmas? Do we just feel entitled enough that we do not need to be thankful? Some people even say,

"Well we are supposed to be thankful all the time. Why do we have to celebrate it on one day?" I agree with that statement. If you must do something big on Valentine's Day, then are you really loving that person? However, you might be like me, a hopeless romantic and buy gifts all the time. Anyway, So why do we skip Thanksgiving? Well, that is between you and God and we need to be thankful all the time and in all circumstances. Christians should be different from the world and celebrate Thanksgiving every day. I do not mean cook a turkey every day and have canned cranberry sauce, which is my favorite. What I do mean is that no matter what, we must be different.

Weekly Events

• Sundays: Class 101

Join us at 10am on Sunday for our introductory Bible Study

• Tuesdays: Class 202

Join us as we deep dive into the book of Book of Isaiah every Tuesday at 6pm

• Thursdays: Small Groups Men's and Women's Small Groups meet Thursdays at 6pm

Christians deep down are thankful and humbled that we breathe, eat, sleep, have clothes, etc. and if we do not, we still need to be thankful. Psalm 100:4

Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

It does not say when things are going good give thanks or when things are going your way give thanks but all the time. Ephesians 5:4

Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. Philippians 4:5-7

November Events

- 11/10 <u>Monthly Board Meeting</u>
 1pm Grace Community Hall ALL ARE WELCOME
- 11/15 <u>Family Game Night</u> Spend an evening at the Sawicki's playing board games and having dinner.
- 11/28 <u>Community</u> <u>Thanksgiving Dinner</u> – Meal 2pm-5pm at Monadnock Congregational Church in Colebrook; Talk to Dean to volunteer

5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:17-19 17 pray without ceasing, 18 give thanks in all circumstances: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 19 Do not quench the Spirit. However you celebrate Thanksgiving. Remember as a Christian we should celebrate Jesus and be thankful all year long. Happy Thanksgiving everyone.

CHURCH BOARD PROJECTS UPDATE

- Board voted to pay of the remainder of the mortgage before years end in honor of Lois Judkins.
- Jason has been hired to work on projects around church building and parsonage.
- Gave Vera \$400 toward her trip to Honduras.
- Frankie has reached out to people to be Elders they will be meeting soon.
- Dean is organizing a Christian Foundations Class that will be offered starting next year.
- NEXT Board Meeting is November 10th at 1pm

ALL ARE WELCOME!

FINACIAL UPDATE

Shellie Bresnahan

Thank you for your incredible support. It is because of individuals like you that we are able to pursue our mission and make a meaningful impact on the community.

September Income \$4,576.63 September Expense \$6,804.92

- 1. \$3,976.63 Offering 1. \$287.65.00 Ministry, Missions,
- 2. \$450.00 Rent
- 3. \$150.00 Yard Sale
- Outreach and Benevolence
- 2. \$2,201.08 Facilities

Maintenance and Mortgage (WIX Website Fees)

- 3. \$188.57 Events and Youth
- 4. \$1,899.33 Administrative Staff and Supplies

Checkbook Balance \$30,112.20 Savings Account Balance \$30,898.55

We recently purchased a new refrigerator/freezer which was badly needed and also upgraded our music equipment. We are working on a clean-up around the building to create a welcoming environment for everyone. Can't wait to see you all at our upcoming events!

MISSIONS

Grace continues to have a focused missions ministry, focusing on supporting, Local, Regional, and Global missions. Some of the local missions that Grace has supported over the last year are NEKCA, Area Churches Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen, as well as helping many individuals. Regionally, we support Berea Ministries (Camp Monadnock), and Globally supporting VIM and Samaritan's Purse. Grace works with Vision International Missions (VIM)

Upcoming Events

- 11/11 <u>Free Veterans Day</u> <u>Breakfast</u> 6:30am-9:30am Monadnock Congregational Church in Colebrook
- 11/24 <u>Community</u> <u>Thanksgiving Service</u> – 5pm Trinity United Methodist Church in Colebrook; Dean is giving the sermon
- 11/28 <u>Community</u> <u>Thanksgiving Dinner</u> – Hosted by Colebrook Food Pantry at Monadnock Congregational Church in Colebrook; See Dean to volunteer
- 12/7 <u>Food Pantry Christmas</u> <u>Craft Fair</u> - 9am-2pm Colebrook School Cafeteria

sending local missionaries to serve God in different parts of the world. PRAY for Vera as she leaves for Honduras the first week of November. She will be helping with dental clinics through VIM. If you are interested in going to Guatemala in April talk to Frankie, he is still building a team.

BIBLE STUDY

We want to thank each of you that come to 101, 202, and/or small group! If you haven't checked out one of the groups, we encourage you to! Each group is full of brothers and sisters eager grow in our Gods word and talking together is a great way to grow. Proverbs 27:17 says, "Iron sharpens iron, as one man sharpens another". We want to make sure you know you are welcomed if you come to every group every week, one group sometimes, or whatever it looks like.

THANKSGIVING DINNER

The Colebrook Food Pantry is hosting a free Thanksgiving Dinner at the Monadnock Congregational Church building in Colebrook on Thanksgiving Day from 2pm-5pm. If you would like to volunteer, we will be peeling vegetables on Wednesday 11/27 at 3pm. If you would like to help cook, help serve or help clean up please talk to Dean. If you are not able to help but would like to join us to eat all are more than welcomed! Hope to see you there but if not have a blessed Thanksgiving!

OTHER NOTES

• Please sign up for the church directory in the back of the sanctuary

PRAYER LIST

If you have something on your heart you would like the leadership to pray about, please send us an email or let one of us know. We want to pray for you and requests sent to us will never be distributed to anyone outside leadership, unless clearly specified.

THANK YOU FOR BEING YOU

If you would like to include something for next month's newsletter, please email Dean at dean_339@yahoo.com or call (603) 331-1261