



**SPIRIT of GRACE**

GRACE CHURCH, 820 Howard St, PO Box 596,  
Carthage MO 64836

**COFFEE  
HOSTS**

Nov  
Steve &  
Sherry  
Erwin



**November 2024**  
**From the Desk of The Rev. Joe Pierjok**

I was talking to a friend, who is still in seminary, recently and he told me that Thanksgiving is his favorite holiday, “and not just because of the food.” We spoke briefly about it and I discovered that I think it’s one of my favorites too. Last year at Grace I noticed that the church was almost full! People came to service not because they had to, but because they *wanted* to. You see, there is no rule saying that any of us must go to church on Thanksgiving. I’m sure there are several other things people have to do – turkeys to stuff, family to travel to, tables to set, and somewhere, there’s a football game begging to be watched. Yet, in the middle of all the busyness, going to church is not a requirement. Thanksgiving Day is not a day of obligation.

**It is a day of opportunity.**

It’s an opportunity for each of us to think back on what we have been given and to give something in return: thanks. It is an opportunity for all of us to gather to honor, with grateful hearts, all that God has done for us.

Often in our prayer lives we spend so much time asking for things from God. Pleading. God wants us to take our cares and worries to him. However, giving thanks is also vital and a necessary part of our relationship with God.

You see, thankfulness is a measure of our faith. It is a measure on our dependency on God, and of our own humility. But I understand that thankfulness can be extremely hard to express. We all know someone who will be struggling this Thanksgiving. Those that will experience a holiday for the first time without a loved one. Families that will be separated. Friends and neighbors who are hurting or alone. You may find that *you* are struggling to find something to be thankful for right now. Where are the blessings for these and others who are feeling a particular way, lonely, angry, cursed? **Those blessings, beloved, are closer than we may think.** Every breath is a blessing. Every moment. We are a part of God’s continuing creation in the world. What a blessing! The German mystic and philosopher, Meister Eckhart, once wrote: “If the only prayer you ever say in your whole life is ‘thank you,’ that will suffice.” That is why we are here: to pray those words, and to make them matter. So, taking our lead from Meister Eckhart, let’s make this something more than a holiday, more than an excuse to have a second slice of pie and take a long nap in front of the television.

Make this day a kind of prayer. Beginning here, and now.

## **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 2 Caleb Tidball, Maria Noemi Hernandez  
4 Anne Marie Hunter  
5 Tim Rogers  
6 Debbie Hertzberg, Amanda Smith  
7 Susan Campbell, Whitley Chesney  
8 Tad Herz, Grant Williams  
10 Marilyn Thompson  
11 Kelly Jessing, Cris Laytham  
12 Heather Anderson, Olivia Simmons  
14 Susan Meyer    16 Sydney Clark  
17 Pam Barlet, Susan Skaggs, John Schaffer    18 Donna Lane  
19 Connie Moss, Ted Evans Jr  
20 Shellie Ross, Scott Lambert  
21 Eduardo Puerto    22 Ron Stiles  
23 Zach Hess  
24 Gary Gillum, Cindy Putnam  
25 Michael Tolle  
26 Grace Curtis, Jed Bartosh, Brooklyn Lasley  
27 Patty Roberts, Beth Kang  
28 Cathy Kramer, Ann Carter, Jeff Neely, Marady Anderson, Ezra Simmons, Lorenzo Thompson  
29 Anthony Leiker, Michael Hays, Karen McKee

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

- 2 Rick & Sally Stuart  
3 Jeff & Sue Neely  
13 Terry & Cindy Chilton  
18 Rev Jose & Mercedes Palma  
22 Frank & Donna Lane  
29 Caleb & Lindsey Tidball  
30 Fr Roger & Sherrie Stinnett

## **VESTRY**

From the October Vestry meeting: The first Meet and Greet event for the Bishop candidates was at Grace; it went very well, with 158 in attendance. Special thanks to the Hospitality Committee for hosting and to everyone who attended. Spencer Orr has begun working as Parish Administrator and is off to a great start.

The Stewardship Breakfast kicked off our annual pledge drive with 51 in attendance. As of October 15, 28 pledges totaling \$83,280 have been received. The goal for this year is to have at least 120 pledges, totaling \$319,000. Please get your pledge cards turned in quickly!

September was not a good month financially. Donations for the month were down nearly \$13,000.

Under old business, the Vestry voted to replace the shingles on the roof, which were installed improperly, at a cost of \$81,000. Funds for this expense will come from Operating Funds, which has a balance that can cover the cost. Under new business, it was decided to hold the UTO end gathering on Sunday, November 24. On Sunday, October 27, the loose collection will be donated to Episcopal Relief and Development to help hurricane victims. From the Phelps bequest, \$3,000 will be donated to Great Americans Day and \$20,000 will be set aside to fund the summer feeding program.

### **Message from Senior Warden Jeanie Slates**

At the end of September, the total YTD income was \$337,522.24 which includes pledge, non-pledge, bequests, and special offerings with total YTD expenses being \$415,168.17 resulting in a deficit of \$77,645.93. We budgeted for a deficit of \$46,363.00 so at the end of September, the church is \$31,282.93 behind budget.

### **THANKSGIVING**

NOV 27, MASS 6 PM  
NO YOUTH ACTIVITIES  
NOV 28, 10 AM  
2 1549 BOOK of COMMON PRAYER  
LUNCH to FOLLOW

**The PARISH PRAYER LIST**

*St Luke's:* Louise Barton, Ann Carter,  
Tom Huntley, Karen Rouse  
*Oak Pointe:* Richard Goolsby,  
Lida McCulloch  
*Wildwood:* Helen Moss  
*Moberly:* Eric Adams    *OKC:* Kay Graham  
*Lockwood:* Edith Walters  
*College View:* Roger & Sherrie Stinnett  
*Foxberry Terrace:* Connie Moss  
*Parishioners:* Marilyn Kelley, Frank Lane,  
Gregg Vinson, Steve Wampler, Tracey  
Wilkowski, Vincent Wilkowski, Bill Wilson,  
Hans Ytell  
*Current:* Lisa Bannerman, Micky Boyer, Jim  
Bracht, Barry Brown, Rilann Burnett, Stacie  
(Barkley) Cox, Carla Day, Jim Hunter, Jen-  
nifer Jeffries, Robert Johnson, Dennis Lane,  
Tiffany Leigh, Lopez & Macias Families,  
Hillary Louise, Angie Miller, Gene Mitchell,  
Jane Mitchell, Ginia Oehlschlager, Mannie  
& Connie Orr, Lauren Petticrew, J D Sam-  
ple, Jeff Sawyer, Suzy Seim, Greg Turner,  
Kevin Watts, Dixie Wolf, Carolyn Wyatt,  
Michelle

Seminarian, Jory Mertens

**EVENSONG NOV 3, 6 PM**  
**\*\*\*\*\***  
**CLERGY & DELEGATES GONE**  
**DIOCESE CONVENTION**  
**NOV 8 & 9**  
**NO MASS FRI & SAT**

November Dates to Remember  
**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS**  
**NOV 3, SET CLOCKS BACK**  
**ONE HOUR SATURDAY NIGHT!!!**

**SAVE the DATE**  
**TEA & THEE LADIES**  
**FELLOWSHIP**  
**Every Wed, 10 am**  
**BIBLE STUDY**  
**Every Thurs, 11 am**  
In-person or via Zoom  
**QUILTERS**  
**Every Thurs, noon**  
**FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP**  
**Every Thurs, 3 pm**  
Pull up a chair and make new friends!  
**MEN of GRACE FELLOWSHIP**  
**1st & 3rd Sat, 9 am**  
Men of the parish are invited to join in  
the fellowship and activities.  
**KNITTERS**  
**Second & Fourth Tues,**  
**Nov 12 & NO 26,**  
**6 pm**  
**CAREGIVERS**  
**Third Tues, Nov 19, 2 pm**  
**VESTRY**  
**Third Tues, Nov 19 , 5:30 pm**  
**NOV 29, OFFICES CLOSED**  
**NO MASS**

## Nuestra Esperanza Cristiana.

El mensaje cristiano es un mensaje lleno de esperanza. El Evangelio nos invita constantemente a mirar más allá de esta vida, pues creemos en un Dios que nos espera tras la muerte, en la Vida Eterna. Para ello, Dios nos invita a confiar en Él. Poniendo en Él nuestro corazón y viviendo como nos enseña en el Evangelio llegaremos a esta vida dichosa del Reino de los Cielos. Maldito quien confía en el hombre; dichoso quien confía en el Señor.

El profeta Jeremías nos sitúa ante una doble postura: o confiar en el hombre o confiar en Dios. Hay que tener en cuenta que aquí, el profeta Jeremías entiende por confiar en el hombre el poner toda la confianza sólo en lo humano, en lo mortal, dando así la espalda a Dios.

1. Jeremías asegura que la vida de quien confía sólo en el hombre y se olvida de Dios será como un desierto árido, donde no puede crecer la vida.

2. Sin embargo, quien confía en el Señor será como un árbol lleno de vida, junto a una corriente de agua, y que no dejará de dar fruto.

3. Cuántas veces hemos podido experimentar lo pasajero que es la esperanza que se apoya sólo en lo humano, en lo mortal.

4. Sin embargo, ante esto, Jeremías nos propone la confianza en Dios, que nunca se acaba. Se convierte así para nosotros como una corriente de agua que no termina, que constantemente nutre las raíces del árbol de nuestra vida. Aunque venga el duro calor del verano y apriete la sequedad, el árbol plantado junto a una corriente de agua no se seca y sigue dando fruto. Si queremos una vida duradera y fecunda, nuestra confianza ha de estar puesta en el Señor. Recuerdo aquí la oración tan conocida de santa Teresa de Jesús: “Todo se pasa, Dios no se muda. Quien a Dios tiene nada le falta”. Porque nuestra recompensa será grande en el cielo. Pero esa confianza que nos da el Señor no está fundada en beneficios aquí en la tierra, más bien al contrario.

Las Bienaventuranzas en la versión de san Lucas, compuestas por cuatro Bienaventuranzas y cuatro “ayes”. No es la versión más conocida, pero también nos muestran el mismo camino: quienes sufren aquí en la tierra, los pobres, los que tienen hambre, los que lloran, los perseguidos, serán recompensados en el Cielo; mientras que los que tienen de todo, los ricos, los que están saciados, los que ahora ríen, los que son aplaudidos y aquellos de quienes todo el mundo habla bien, ya han recibido su recompensa aquí en la tierra. El mensaje de las Bienaventuranzas es un mensaje de esperanza en la Vida Eterna. No se trata de llorar porque sí, o de pasar hambre sin ningún sentido, o de padecer por el mero hecho de padecer. Sino que es una llamada a mirar más allá de la vida aquí en la tierra. Pues los cristianos esperamos la vida del Cielo. Esta Vida Eterna tiene un solo camino, que es el mismo camino que siguió Jesús: la cruz. La cruz, el sufrimiento, la entrega de la propia vida se convierten así en el camino que lleva a la Gloria. Es, en definitiva, seguir las huellas de Cristo, que no buscó el éxito aquí en la tierra, que no procuró tener de todo e incluso un poco más, sino que se reservó todo esto para el Cielo.

Advent is not far away and is a season of the church best entered into and experienced with a little bit of preparation. After all, this is also the time of year when we find ourselves becoming busier, as if that seems possible, families generally regather for holiday traditions, and with those gatherings often come all the normal experiences of life. Frustration amongst joy, and chaos amidst loving intention, stress and more mess, and harmony in the many pieces that always fall together, somehow, just right. In all of this, the church, all of us, is asked to draw our attention to the season of advent as we lead into those most holy days of Christmas.

We are called to look at the Christ; that which was, is now, and forever shall be, and we look at ourselves and our lives, and indeed wonder at the incarnation as we await His glorious coming again on the last day, and in anticipation for the babe of the manger in Bethlehem.

The time is now to prepare oneself for the season of advent. Take a moment or two to write down the intentions you have for the coming season. Perhaps you wish to look more introspectively at your relationship with Jesus Christ during advent and you want to write a weekly journal reflection on the Sunday readings. Or perhaps you are looking for spiritual practices to share with your family such as lighting an advent candle wreath before dinner and sharing what brought you joy with one another for the day saying grace. Whatever it is you are looking to gain spiritually from this season of advent – use this opportunity now to take a moment or two to make a plan for your advent.

All it takes is a moment or two to set an intention and follow through. Take a moment or two for yourself and ask God to show you what you need during this season of advent, and with God's help make a plan, and this advent will be a season of growth and renewal. Which is a gift we all should be thankful to receive. If you find yourself struggling for inspiration or looking for some creative ideas to make some changes to your prayer habits and spiritual life, seek out Fr. Joe, Fr. Jose, or myself and any one of us would be more than happy to help you in your journey this advent season.

## MINISTERS of WORSHIP: NOVEMBER

### Fri, Nov 1: 10 am

*Sacristan:* Sue Neely  
*Reader:* Carole Pryor  
*Server:* Mark Jones

### Sat, Nov 2: 9am

*Sacristan:* Becky Edds  
**5 pm**

*Reader:* Leigh Salyer  
*Chalice:* Michael Goolsby  
*Sacristan:* Becky Edds

### ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

### Sun, Nov 3: 8 am

*Reader:* Shirley Gollhofer  
*Chalice/Prayers/Server:* Bill Putnam  
*Sacristan:* Shirley Gollhofer

### ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 10:30 am

*OT:* Barbara Mountjoy  
*NT/Chalice:* Elaine Wurst  
*Prayers/Chalice:* Austin Rhymer  
*Mentor:* Tracy Wilkowski  
*Server:* Connor Wilkowski  
*Cross:* Allie Rhymer  
*Torches:* Elizabeth Frink & Owen

Hess

*Sacristan:* Becky Edds  
*AV:* Jennifer Rhymer  
*Ushers:* Jack & Jeanie Slates  
*Flower Delivery:* Gloria Gubser & Peggy Ralston

### Wed, Nov 6: 6 pm

*Reader:* A J Rhymer  
*Chalice:* Austin Rhymer  
*Sacristan:* Zelma Watts

### Fri, Nov 8: 10 am

**NO MASS**

### Sat, Nov 9: 5 pm

**NO MASS**

### XXV PENTECOST

### Sun, Nov 10: 8 am

*Reader:* Ashley Rouse  
*Chalice/Server:* Chuck Edds  
*Prayers:* Shirley Gollhofer  
*Sacristan:* Shirley Gollhofer

### XXV PENTECOST

### Nov 10: 10:30 am

*OT:* Michelle Theerman  
*NT:* AJ Rhymer

*Chalice:* Austin Rhymer  
*Prayers/Chalice:* Michael Goolsby  
*Mentor:* Jennifer Rhymer  
*Cross:* Allie Rhymer  
*Server:* Brooklyn Rhymer  
*Torches:* Peyton Lynch & Carson Stremke

*Sacristan:* Connie Leek

*AV:* Elisa White & Alana Harris  
*Ushers:* Max Hill & Steve Erwin  
*Flower Delivery:* Zelma Watts & Julie Anderson

### Wed, Nov 13: 6 pm

*Reader/Chalice:* Jon Haffner  
*Sacristan:* Zelma Watts

### Fri, Nov 15: 10 am

*Sacristan:* Sue Neely  
*Reader:* Carole Pryor  
*Server:* Mark Jones

### Sat, Nov 16: 9 am

*Sacristan:* Beth McDaniel  
**5 pm**

*Reader/Chalice:* Michael Goolsby  
*Sacristan:* Beth McDaniel

**XXVI PENTECOST**

**Sun, Nov 17: 8 am**

*Reader/Chalice/Server:* Bill Putnam

*Prayers:* Mark Sponaugle

*Sacristan:* Shirley Gollhofer

**XXVI PENTECOST**

**Nov 17: 10:30 am**

*OT/Chalice:* Ruth Hartman

*NT:* Regina Newport

*Prayers/Chalice:* Larry Hartman

*Mentor:* Elisa White

*Servers:* Alana Harris

*Cross:* Sam Hess

*Torches:* Barrett & Lincoln Cook

*Ushers:* Chris Orr & Spencer Orr

*Sacristan:* Beth McDaniel

*AV:* Jim Wakefield & Allie Rhymer

*Flower Delivery:* Diann Ferguson &

Cathy Thompson

**Wed, Nov 20: 6 pm**

*Reader:* Paige Rhymer

*Chalice:* A.J. Rhymer

*Sacristan:* Zelma Watts

**Fri, Nov 22: 10 am**

*Sacristan:* Sue Neely

*Reader:* Zelma Watts

*Server:* Mark Jones

**Sat, Nov 23: 9 am**

*Sacristan:* Elisa White

**5 pm**

*Reader:*

*Chalice:*

*Sacristan:* Elisa White

**CHRIST the KING SUNDAY**

**Nov 24: 8 am**

*Reader/Chalice/Server:* Chuck Edds

*Prayers:* Ashley Rouse

*Sacristan:* Shirley Gollhofer

**CHRIST the KING SUNDAY**

**Nov 24: 10:30am**

*OT:* Leigh Salyer

*NT:* Nic Smith

*Chalice:* Jennifer Rhymer

*Prayers/Chalice:* Andy Lynch

*Mentor:* Elaine Wurst

*Server:* Tristen Lynch

*Cross:* Walker Lasley

*Torches:* Peyton Lynch &

Carson Stremke

*Ushers:* Jim Wakefield &

Allie Rhymer

*Sacristan:* Elisa White

*AV:* Mike Robertson &

Brooklyn Rhymer

*Flower Delivery:* Jeanne Goolsby

**Wed, Nov 27: 6 pm**

*Reader:* Regina Newport

*Chalice:* Jory Mertens

*Sacristan:* Zelma Watts

**THANKSGIVING**

**Nov 28: 10 am**

*Reader:* Shirley Gollhofer

*Prayers:* Austin Rhymer

*Chalice:* A J Rhymer

*Sacristan:* Becky Edds

**FRI OFFICES CLOSED**

**NOV 29: NO MASS**

**Sat, Nov 30: 9 am**

*Sacristan:* Connie Leek

**5 pm**

*Reader:* Leigh Salyer

*Chalice:* Michael Goolsby

*Sacristan:* Connie Leek



## DAILY READINGS in NOVEMBER 2024

Fri, Nov 1: *Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9, Revelation 21:1-6a, John 11:32-44*

Sat, Nov 2: *Ecclesiasticus 35:1-17, Rev 13:11-18, Luke 12:32-48*

**ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY, Nov 3:** *Ruth 1:1-18, Hebrews 9:11-14, Mark 12:28-34*

Mon, Nov 4: *Eccl 38:24-34, Rev 14:1-13, Luke 12:49-59*

Tues, Nov 5: *Eccl 43:1-22, Rev 14:14—15:8, Luke 13:1-9*

Wed, Nov 6: *Eccl 43:23-33, Rev 16:1-11, Luke 13:10-17*

Thurs, Nov 7: *Eccl 44:1-15, Rev 16:12-21, Luke 13:18-30*

Fri, Nov 8: *Eccl 50:1, 11-24, Rev 17:1-18, Luke 13:31-35*

Sat, Nov 9: *Eccl 51:1-12, Rev 18:1-14, Luke 14:1-11*

**XXV PENTECOST, Sun, Nov 10:** *Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17, Heb 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44*

Mon, Nov 11: *Joel 1:1-13, Rev 18:15-24, Luke 14:12-24*

Tues, Nov 12: *Joel 1:15—2:2-11, Rev 19:1-10, Luke 14:25-35*

Wed, Nov 13: *Joel 2:12-19, Rev 19:11-21, Luke 15:1-10*

Thurs, Nov 14: *Joel 2:21-27, James 1:1-15, Luke 15:1-2, 11-32*

Fri, Nov 15: *Joel 2:28—3:8, James 1:16-27, Luke 16:1-9*

Sat, Nov 16: *Joel 3:9-17, James 2:1-13, Luke 16:10-18*

**XXVI PENTECOST, Sun, Nov 17:** *I Samuel 1:4-20, Hebrews 10:11-25, Mark 13:1-8*

Mon, Nov 18: *Habakkuk 2:1-4, 9-20, James 2:14-26, Luke 16:19-31*

Tues, Nov 19: *Hab 3:1-18, James 3:1-12, Luke 17:1-10*

Wed, Nov 20: *Malachi 1:1, 6-14, James 3:13—4:12, Luke 17:11-19*

Thurs, Nov 21: *Mal 2:1-16, James 4:13—5:6, Luke 17:20-37*

Fri, Nov 22: *Mal 3:1-12, James 5:7-12, Luke 18:1-8*

Sat, Nov 23: *Mal 3:13—4:6, James 5:13-20, Luke 18:9-14*

**CHRIST the KING SUNDAY, Nov 24:** *II Samuel 23:1-7, Rev 1:4b-8, John 18:33-37*

Mon, Nov 25: *Zechariah 10:1-12, Galatians 6:1-10, Luke 18:15-30*

Tues, Nov 26: *Zech 11:4-17, I Corinthians 3:10-23, Luke 18:31-43*

Wed, Nov 27: *Zech 12:1-10, Ephesians 1:3-14, Luke 19:1-10*

**THANKSGIVING, Nov 28:** *Joel 2:21-27, I Timothy 2:1-7, Matthew 6:25-33*

Fri, Nov 29: *Zech 14:1-11, Romans 15:7-13, Luke 19:28-40*

Sat, Nov 30: *Deuteronomy 30:11-14, Romans 10:8b-18, Matthew 4:18-22*

