

THANKFUL GIVING CONTINUED FROM FRONT COVER

When we understand and practice giving thanks for our blessings, we begin to develop an increased awareness of all that God has given us, and a greater sense of contentment with our life.

November is a great month for offering thanks to God, and for his abundant provision in our lives. One beautiful way we have to express our trust and gratitude to our Heavenly Father is in how we give; and a significant way we give is financially.

This November we will have our annual Pledge Campaign toward the cost of mission and ministry for 2019. We talk a lot about trusting God and deepening our relationship with him, and a major way of doing both is by bringing our finances under his authority.

I invite you to pray about taking your relationship with God to the next level; and, for many of you that would mean beginning the spiritual practice of tithing. A 10% tithe is biblical, and is a practice that God has said he would bless.

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the LORD Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. Malachi 3:10

If you are not ready to move completely to a tithe, then I invite you to commit yourself to taking it in steps. Perhaps increasing your financial gift to God by 1% of your income each year until you reach 10%.

Another way to work toward a tithe would be to increase your financial gift to God by 10% (or some other percentage of your choice) over what you have previously given. For example:

- If you are presently giving \$125/month, then you would increase your giving by only \$12.50/month for a total of \$137.50/month.
- If you are presently giving \$225/month, then you would increase your giving by only \$22.50/month for a total of \$247.50/month.

By the first Sunday in November you will receive a Stewardship Letter and a 2019 Pledge Card in the mail. I invite you to pray about this spiritual issue, and respond in the way the Lord leads you.

We will come together for worship on **November 18** for **Pledge Sunday**, and lay our financial pledges on the altar rail. It will be our chance to join with the one leper who returned to give thanks. Let's join together as the church and thank our Heavenly Father for what he has done for us through Jesus Christ.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Ross

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FRONTLINE

Focusing on the life and ministry
of Front Street UMC



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Thankful Giving: November Stewardship Campaign

As Jesus continued on toward Jerusalem, he reached the border between Galilee and Samaria. As he entered a village there, ten lepers stood at a distance, crying out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

He looked at them and said, "Go show yourselves to the priests."

And as they went, they were cleansed of their leprosy. One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, "Praise God!" He fell to the ground at Jesus' feet, thanking him for what he had done. This man was a Samaritan.

Jesus asked, "Didn't I heal ten men? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?"

And Jesus said to the man, "Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you." (Luke 17:11-19)

From the moment we put the big bird in the oven till the last of the turkey sandwiches are gone, the focus of Thanksgiving is usually food. To be honest I'm a big fan of the turkey, dressing, and cranberry sauce sandwich...with white bread and a slather of Duke's mayo.

The Bible tells us to *give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.* (Psalms 107:1) Yet that attitude can be lost in our secular-minded, "I deserve everything I have" culture. That may have been the mindset of the 9 lepers who were healed in the Luke passage above. Maybe they thought that they deserved to be healed, so there was no need to thank anyone. But there was one other. Perhaps he realized that he didn't deserve any of the blessings that came into his life. So when a blessing did fall upon him, he knew it was proper to thank the author of his blessing – God.

(CONTINUED)

A LOOK AHEAD:

KNOWING CHRIST

ALL SAINTS' DAY



Sunday, November 4 at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Please note that there will not be an 8:45 a.m. service.

GROWING IN CHRIST

YOUTH AT PILGRIMAGE | NOVEMBER 9-11 THEME: PLUG IN!

Pilgrimage is a weekend-long event where youth groups come to celebrate, worship, and learn about God on a large scale. Youth and their leaders will gather at the Crown Coliseum in Fayetteville, NC for 4 amazing worship services with a house band full of youth leading the music, youth shared testimonies, and a guest speaker sharing their message.



Front Street has 36 youth and 6 adult leaders attending Pilgrimage this year. Please pray for their safety, for new friendships, and that they would feel the presence of God.

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Front Street's annual Charge Conference is on **Sunday, November 18 at 3:00 p.m.** at First UMC, 303 N Main Street, Graham. The members of the Visioning Council are the voting members of the Charge Conference. This is a time for us to celebrate the life of the church in preparation for a new year. Everyone is invited to attend this important event.

SHARING CHRIST

C4C OPPORTUNITY



Eastlawn Elementary (our C4C partner school) provides Thanksgiving meals for some of the most food insecure families in their school. **Front Street has agreed to purchase the turkeys for these meals (approximately 100 families).**

Turkeys are \$20. Please make checks payable to Front Street UMC with "turkey" in the memo-line and turn into the church office by **November 16**. Also, volunteers are needed to assist with delivering the turkeys to Eastlawn on **Monday,**

November 19 at 9:00 a.m. Please contact Marcy at marcy@frontstreetumc.org to volunteer. Thank you for your support of this ministry and for your part in sharing Christ with the children of Eastlawn Elementary and their families.

A WAY FORWARD INFORMATION SESSION

Some of you may already be aware that our United Methodist denomination is having a special called session of General Conference for the express purpose of addressing diverse opinions within the church on the issue of human sexuality. Plans will be presented at the General Conference session in February 2019 that have the possibility of affecting the denomination. We will have an information session on **November 11, 2018**, from 4 p.m.-6 p.m., during which the 3 proposed plans coming before the General Conference will be shared. We will attempt to answer any questions that we can at that time.



SOME REMINDERS:

- ⇒ This **Sunday, November 4**, Daylight Saving Time ends. Turn your clocks back 1 hour!
- ⇒ Cereal Sunday is **November 4**. Please deposit cereal or other canned/dry goods in the tubs in the cabinet in the Welcome Center.
- ⇒ Playschool Fundraiser: Marketplace, **Sunday, November 4 from 2 - 5 p.m.** in Aldersgate Hall.
- ⇒ UMW will meet on **Monday, November 5 at 10 a.m.** in the United Methodist Heritage Center for fellowship and refreshments followed by a general meeting in the Chapel at 10:30 a.m. Circle 5 meets on **Tuesday, November 13 at 7 p.m.** in the Heritage Center.
- ⇒ Bel Canto Company (Greensboro, NC) will present their Christmas Concert: Joyful Noël on **Monday, November 26 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Sanctuary. Also performing are the Western Alamance High School chorus and the Graham High School chorus, under the direction of Mr. Sean Lucier and Ms. Jennifer Wells.
- ⇒ Poinsettia orders are due by **Sunday, November 18**. The cost is \$23.00. Order forms are available in the Welcome Center and on the church website.



Prayers

- **Jane Bazemore** as she continues to recover from her heart procedure

Special Gifts

Allied Churches

In memory of Polly Vaughn by Donald and June West

Eastlawn Backpack Ministry

In memory of Alice Hobbs by Donald and June West UMW Circle #1

Chancel Choir

In memory of Edith Fogelman by John and Judy Pratt

In memory of Alice Hobbs by John and Judy Pratt

In memory of Peggy Miller by John and Judy Pratt

In memory of Polly Vaughn by John and Judy Pratt

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Martha Downer by Dee Evans

United Methodist Women

In memory of Polly Vaughn by Salley Bradford

October 2018

FINANCIAL GIVING UPDATE

YTD Actual Giving - \$973,831.13

YTD Budgeted Giving - \$1,111,906.20

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