

Giving Thanks

8 Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! 9 Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! 10 Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice! 11 Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually!

1 Chronicles 16:8-11

This is the beginning of the Song of Thanksgiving that David wrote to be sung on the day the Ark of the Covenant first came into Jerusalem. It's tucked away in 1 Chronicles, and not part of the book of Psalms. As we move into November, the month we celebrate Thanksgiving, I thought it would be great to look at one of the most thankful songs in scripture. When we look at the world around us, it can be easy to be discouraged and wonder if God is really in control. Looking back to all the Lord has done and praising Him for it will help us remember that He is higher, greater, smarter, and more trustworthy than we can imagine. The God who was willing to die on a cross to purchase our salvation deserves all our praise and thanksgiving. As you read the last part of David's song of praise, contemplate all that the Lord has done and join the choir.

23 Sing to the Lord, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day. 24 Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! 25 For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and he is to be feared above all gods. 26 For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens. 27 Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his place. 28 Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength! 29 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come before him! Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness; 30 tremble before him, all the earth; yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved. 31 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice, and let them say among the nations, "The Lord reigns!" 32 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it! 33 Then shall the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.
34 Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

1 Chronicles 16:23-34

Thankfully Always,

Pastor Karl

1 Samuel 17

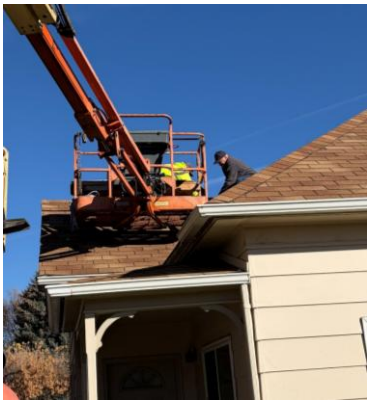
The Israelites had asked for a king because of the threat from the Philistines, and the threat remains. Rather than coming at the Israelites en masse, the Philistines have sent out one man. But what a man. Goliath is nine feet tall and seems to have superhuman strength. He is wearing a "coat of mail" or "scale armor" (1 Sam. 17:5). In other words, he looks like a nine-foot-tall serpent. And he has an alternative proposal to the bloody battle between the two armies: "Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us" (vv. 8–9).

Goliath has challenged Israel to "choose a man" to go out before them in battle, and of course, Israel had chosen a man for this! That had been the whole point of demanding a king. But Saul, the tallest man among the Israelites, is hiding in his tent. For forty days Goliath has come out and issued the same challenge, and seemingly Saul has no intentions of going out to meet him. It would seem that all Israel is destined to become slaves of the Philistines. And then hope arrives. Verse 12 begins, "Now David . . ." The shepherd boy has been sent to the battlefront with food for his brothers, and, when he hears the threats of Goliath, he can hardly believe it. The Israelite army sees Goliath as unbeatable, but David sees him as uncircumcised—wholly without the presence or power or promises of God. "Let no man's heart fail because of him," he says to Saul; "Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine" (17:32).

So David goes out to fight Goliath, the Dagon-worshiper who has blasphemed the God of Israel. Under the law of Israel blasphemers are to be stoned (Lev. 24:16). So David, with one smooth stone hurled at Goliath, crushes the head of the nine-foot serpent. The victory won single-handedly by the Lord's anointed becomes the shared victory of God's people. They do not go out to battle, yet they can claim victory vicariously through the one who represents them there.

As we read this story, we are not meant to see ourselves in the person of David. We are meant to see ourselves in the ranks of Israel's army, shaking and afraid, intimidated and tired. Our efforts at finding someone to rule on the throne of our lives who will be our champion and protector have completely failed, and it looks as though we will be slaves forever to our greatest enemy, Satan himself. But we have a champion. It is a boy from Bethlehem. When he went into battle against the great enemy of his people, he went alone. There, not in the valley of Elah but on the hill of Calvary, our champion was victorious—not through impressive strength but in crushing weakness. There on the cross Jesus, the offspring of the woman, our champion, experienced the bruising of his heel even as he bruised the head of the ancient serpent.—**Nancy Guthrie**

(Submitted by F.S.)









Many Hands Make Light Work

On Saturday, October 24th, nine guys and four gals came to the church to get things done. They accomplished everything on the list and more! The men brightened up the Worship Center by changing the fluorescent tube lights to LEDs, except above the balcony. While waiting to move pews and tall scaffolding around, they tackled other jobs, such as cleaning the ceiling fans in the Worship Center, the kitchen exhaust fan, the bathroom fans, pruning bushes, and vacuuming the mess in the Worship Center as things were winding down.

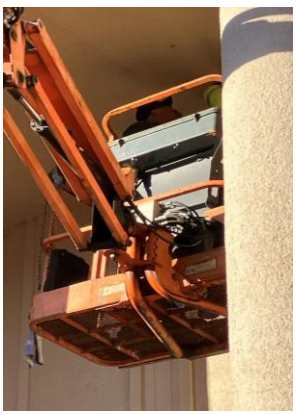
A dedicated crew of two went up in the lift and tackled replacing the outside light at the top of the outside steps on Third Street, as well as replacing loose shingles on the church office on the Broadway Street side, and secured the soffits on the church office on the Church Street side that were sagging quite a lot! The light on Third Street will now come on at dusk and off at dawn automatically, and never need to change the bulbs!

The fall decorations were put up; the high places around the church were dusted, the bathrooms and kitchen floors were scrubbed until they sparkled. We attempted to spot clean Browning Hall, but the machine would not cooperate. So that's coming next month by a professional! I was sorry I could not get pictures of them all in production mode. They used their time very wisely, and we could all head home for lunch with time to spare!



tap







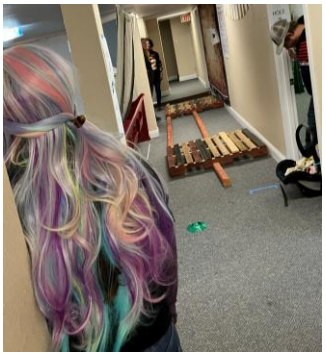
Thanksgiving Community Dinner Open House
November 26th, 2-4 PM

Our annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner Open House is coming up soon, like in three weeks😲 ! As in years past, we are looking for our church family to help with food preparation for this big event. We have already had two turkeys and about 150 pounds of potatoes donated, so we're off to a good start. There will be a signup sheet in the foyer this Sunday so we can keep track of who's bringing what. You can also check with Laurie if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for helping to make this event an annual success. KWW



Here are a few pictures From Mini Golf & Chili From Halloween









November Birthdays

8	Bill Yeager
17	Debbie DeMastus
	Anne Popa
20	Dennis Wright
25	Ben Morrison

December Newsletter Items due November 29th.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9am Prayer/SS 10am Worship Children's Church & Nursery Eat & Clear Golf Course	2 6pm Men Bible Study 6pm Ladies' Bible Study	3 Election Day 10:30a - 1pm CBC Serves at Sr Center	4	5 5-6 pm Community Dinner- *White Chicken Chili & Cornbread* 6pm Celebrate Recovery	6 9am Ladies' First Friday Breakfast Truck Corral	7
8 9am Prayer/SS 10am Worship Children's Church & Nursery Empty Browing Hall	9 BH Carpet Cleaning 6pm Men & Ladies' Bible Study Reset BH	10	11 Veterans' Day	12 5-6 pm Community Dinner— *BBQ'd Chicken* 6pm Celebrate Recovery	13	14
15 9am Prayer/SS 10am Worship Children's Church & Nursery	16 6pm Men Bible Study 6pm Ladies' Bible Study	17	18	19 5-6pm Community Dinner— *Delicious Dinner* 6pm Celebrate Recovery	20	21
22 9am Prayer/SS 10am Worship Children's Church & Nursery	23 6pm Men Bible Study 6pm Ladies' Bible Study	24	25	26 **2-4 pm Community Thanksgiving Dinner** NO Celebrate Recovery	27	28
29 9am Prayer/SS 10am Worship Children's Church & Nursery	30 6pm Men Bible Study 6pm Ladies' Bible Study Newsletter Items Due.	1 10:30a - 1pm CBC Serves at Sr Center	2	3 5-6pm Community *Dinner—* *Delightful Dinner* 6pm Celebrate Recovery	4 9am Ladies' First Friday Breakfast Truck Corral	5