



# The Faith Circuit Rider



November 2019 Vol. 13 Number 11  
From the Pastor

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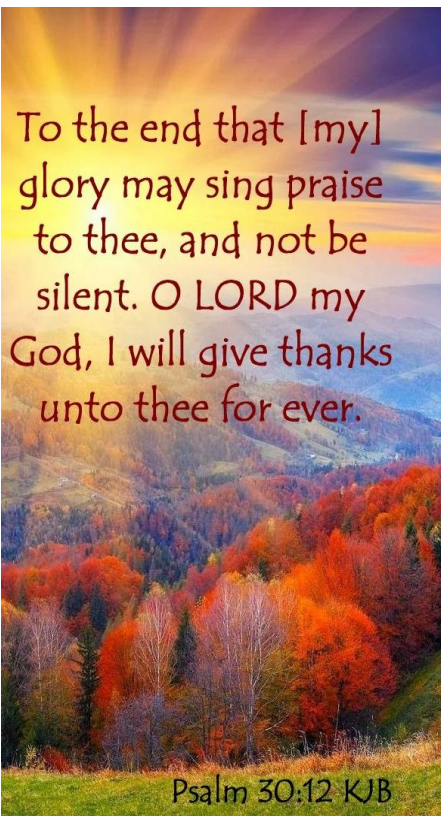
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### Scripture Thought:



To the end that [my] glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.

Psalm 30:12 KJB

Christmas decorations already line the store shelves. Before Halloween has been celebrated, we are already thrust into the frenzy of the Christmas season. But wait! November has its own place in the church calendar, an important one. We celebrate two key events that bring us closer to our Christian roots, to God and each other. At the beginning of November comes All Saints Day and then toward the end, Thanksgiving.

This year we will be celebrating All Saints Day on Sunday 11/3. This is a day of remembrance for us as we honor all Christians who have gone before us in the faith. This great cloud of witnesses is made up of our local community of faith and the church universal. This day gives us an opportunity to be grateful for our past.

Thanksgiving is traditionally a time when people gather with friends and family to give thanks. It is a harvest festival and a day to give thanks for all God's blessings. We honor the day that the Native Americans helped the first immigrants to this country. Without them, those early colonists may not have survived. Thanksgiving has a long history dating back to 1619. Our Thanksgiving worship will be on 11/20. This day helps us express gratitude in the present.

I would like to challenge you to cultivate a spirit of gratitude in your life this month. Often, we focus on what we don't have. What if we spend time focusing our thanksgivings to God for what we do have? Start a gratitude journal. Write 3 things each day that you are thankful for and pray those thanksgivings to God. Though we set aside a special day every year for Thanksgiving, giving thanks to God should be a daily practice. Practicing gratitude will also enhance your attitude.

Three of my personal gratitudes are serving two wonderful congregations, living in the beautiful mountains of Western North Carolina, and finding God so easily here in nature. I would love to hear some of your gratitudes.

So, let's be grateful people for our past, our present and what God will do in our future!

If you, or anyone you know, would like a call or a visit, please let me know and I will make time in my schedule. I look forward to getting to know you better.

*Your sister in Christ,  
Pastor Sharon*

*O Lord, my God, I will give thanks to you forever.  
Psalm 30:12b*

*From the Lay Leader*  
*November 2019*  
*“Seasons of Gratitude”*

On September 23, we transitioned from summer to fall. It seems the older I get, the more emotional I am about this season. I turn another year older each September, so that might have something to do with it!

My heart is filled with gratitude for each day and experience I am gifted. From seeing the lush green mountains become an artist's pallet of colors to the bountiful feast we share with family and friends on Thanksgiving. From all the sales circulars crammed in the post office box to the long check-out lines we navigate just to buy a loaf of bread. From the remembrance of the saints who have gone before us to the laughter of grandchildren who exert energy, we only wish we had. For what seems to be endless college and pro football games to countless leaves that mound the yard like small hills. The list goes on and on. One of the most important life lessons I have learned is to be grateful for what you have instead of dwelling on what you don't.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 reads as follows:

“To everything there is a season,  
and a time to every purpose under the heaven:  
A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant,  
and a time to pluck up that which is planted;  
A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to breakdown,  
and a time to build up;  
A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn,  
and a time to dance;  
A time to cast away stones,  
and a time to gather stone together; a time to embrace,  
and a time to refrain from embracing;  
A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep,  
and to cast away;  
A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence,  
and a time to speak;  
A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war,  
and a time of peace.

I hope this particular season is especially meaningful for you. May you experience gratitude that is unending 365 days a year!

Grateful and blessed,  
*Susan*

*Treasurer's Report*



*October 26, 2019*

*“I will be loyal to the United Methodist Church and uphold it with my Prayers, my Presence, my Gifts, my Service, and my Witness.”*

**2019 Budget \$51,739.00**

|                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Needed to date for budget   | \$43,460.76 |
| Received to date for budget | \$46,388.00 |
| Ahead of Budget             | \$ 2,927.24 |
| Paid out to date for budget | \$34,149.96 |

**2019 APPORTIONMENTS ARE PAID IN FULL,  
WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS!**

*JIF Class*



The JIF Class will begin a series of lessons on the first Sunday in November on events that helped the Teacher on his Christian Journey. Why not join the members of the class in hearing and discussing some really fun events? Due to the subject matter the teacher wishes to remain anonymous.

Our Class is blessed to have a fine roster of teachers who are willing to share their time and talents. Thank you, teachers.

The JIF Class offering each Sunday will be used for the Cops and Kids program.

The teachers met recently to choose our lessons for Advent. We look forward to the study, Sent, Delivering the Gift of Hope at Christmas.

Please join us on Sundays at 9:45 for study and fellowship.



Sometimes I get so overwhelmed by the needs of the people of Haywood County. Haywood Christian Ministry will be starting heating assistance on the first and we are feeding more people than ever. Pathways needs so much because they do so much. Senior Christmas boxes will be due soon. UMCOR is fighting one disaster after another. And the list goes on and on. Mother Teresa tells us to forget the numbers and do something for one person near us and continue on. And continue in prayer. Good advice. Keep eyes and ears open this month for opportunities to serve and give.

*Beth*



**SERVING MEALS  
TO THE HOMELESS**

OPEN DOOR - 32 Commerce Street,  
Waynesville, Saturday,  
November 16th at 5:30PM.

## Colorful Ladies of Faith

This wonderful group will meet on the third Thursday, November 21, at 10:00am.

Everyone is welcome to join in this ministry of our Church. Bring your own lunch and join us in continued fellowship after coloring.



Visit our website at [fumcwn.org](http://fumcwn.org)

It is updated weekly with the entire service from the greeting, announcements, prelude, prayer and hymns to the sermon, benediction and postlude!



We will be having our annual charge conference on Sunday, November 17th after church at noon. It will be a short, but important meeting. We will be electing new leaders and going over some other important business issues.

If you are interested in serving in leadership in some capacity, please let Pastor Sharon know. We would love to have you serve.



If any changes or additions need to be made please contact me by calling 828-456-6944 or email [jlf21@charter.net](mailto:jlf21@charter.net). Thanks, Judy

### Flowers for Faith



The Flower Calendar has many openings. This is the season to share beautiful flowers from your garden. You may sign the Flower Calendar on the Bulletin Board.

*Special*

## THANK YOU!

...to Tracy for the beautiful Autumn Bulletin Board

...to Eduardo for repairing the wall behind the cross

...to Susan and Judy for remembering our church family with cards and notes.

...to the faithful members of Faith UMC



## November Servants:



*Greeters:* Betty Gant

*Educational Entrance:* Committee of the UMM



Our church now has assistance for the hearing impaired. If you have trouble hearing the service, please pick up a hearing aid in the narthex.

## Rev. Robo Calling

Please be reminded to contact **Rev. Robo (400-7947)** if you have sickness, death, or any prayer needs.

It is a privilege for your Faith family to share your burdens or prayer concerns and lift you in prayer.

## November Celebrations



7-Rachel Burnette

19-Justin Scarbrough

19-Lucille Taylor

28-Jamie Gardner



13-Dare & Doyce Rogers

*O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,  
for His mercy endures forever. (Psalm 136)*



## HAYWOOD BEAR CLOSET - October 2019

The Bear Closet has been steadily growing since our opening in May 2018. In the last 3 months we have served more children and families than in the previous 6-month period. We are growing in more ways than numbers. We even supplied some fresh veggies from the Francis Cove community garden and instruction on how to prepare green beans. Personally, for me, it is not about the number of car seats, pack and plays, etc., it's all about our clients.... it's about blessings. I approached some volunteers from each church to ask for a blessing that they had from working in the Bear Closet. Here are just a few:

**Special visit.** A young mother to be, so excited and awaiting the birth of her first child, a child that had been wanted for 10 years by this couple. She came into the Bear Closet in need of some items. The needs were supplied which took some time due to a language barrier. A funny little game of charades indeed! The young mother just recently revisited the Bear Closet, not for items, but to show off her thriving baby boy. This precious mother also re-donated some clothing and other items that her baby had outgrown. ***A blessing for Bobbi Payne who is an Elizabeth Chapel-volunteer.***

**The Eddie Bauer bassinet.** The Bear Closet had received a really nice bassinet. This bassinet had been with us since the beginning, a real toe stumper, space taker, and somewhat of an irritation at this point. Patricia Robinson and I declared that this is the day, the Eddie Bauer must go, one way or the other. We moved it to another area and hoped for the best on a scheduled bear closet day. A young pregnant mother came in, and after some time inquired as to whether the Eddie Bauer was available. I am not too sure who was more excited, the client, or Patricia and me. We could not get the bassinet into her car, but Doug Robinson, Patricia's husband offered to meet the husband later. Doug met the young father to make the delivery. The young father was so pleased, and Doug was so happy to have helped this young couple. There was a home for Eddie Bauer, we just needed patience. What a wonderful revelation and how this was made known to us that day. The case of the Eddie Bauer closed and a happy ending. ***Blessings for volunteers Patricia & Doug Robinson, Beaverdam, & Karen Yarborough, Francis Cove.***

**The Fashion Show.** On what was a very busy day, a little brother and sister had been supplied with clothing and other items. They proceeded into the women's bathroom and began the show. These two little siblings were so excited and exclaimed upon every entrance into the hallway, "look it fits, it's so beautiful, I'm so excited". You would have thought it was Christmas in July, the fashion show continued until every piece of **used** clothing had been tried on and modeled. ***Blessings for all volunteers present!***

**Strolling Along.** There was a young lady that came into the Bear Closet who was adopting her brothers three small children, a three year old, 18 month old, and a new born. She was in desperate need of a double stroller. She worked full time and needed a way to get all three children to daycare each day. We did not have a double stroller available, but told her we would keep an eye out for one and call her. The very next day for some reason I decided to go to an antique shop that I had always wanted to visit - and standing right at the front of the shop was a top of the line, brand new double stroller on consignment. The shop owner called the owner, and they gave me a very good price for it. I called this amazing young lady caring for these children and met her to surprise her with what she needed most at that time. God works in mysterious ways! ***A blessing for Carol Bozeman, Maple Grove volunteer.***

**The Book** It was a relatively busy day at the Bear Closet. In the foyer, we try to keep items that will occupy our little ones as we attempt to fill requests. On this particular day, some books had been placed on the pew in the hallway. We had a young little lad who made the request of "can you read me a story about Jesus" to a volunteer..... ***the volunteer was Pastor Gordon Pike, Beaverdam .***

**Behind the scenes:** Paula Bostic is our shopper for supplies, phone, and text master with our clients. Her interaction with clients has provided her great inspiration as to their amazement and gratitude when they discover there is someone who cares, and that we are here to help. ***A blessing for Paula Bostic, Francis Cove volunteer.***

***In asking of volunteers what has meant the most to you, or have you been touched in a special way, Doug Robinson of Beaverdam summed it up the best, "I can't pick just one as all and every part of the Bear Closet is a blessing!" Amen!***

***The Bear Closet is a wonderful ministry. Whether your support is volunteering within the Bear Closet, helping on workdays, handmade blankets, clothing, equipment or financial support, all is so appreciated, more than words can express. The Bear Closet is becoming known as we have received many generous donations from several churches in Canton. We are learning and continue to learn on ways to improve the Bear Closet to better serve our clients. Pray that we can be the lamps to light the way, to plant the seed, God is great! God is Good! Karen Yarborough , Francis Cove UMC***