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NOVEMBER 2023

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**MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR**

Dearest Faith,

Did you know that All Saints Day, which is celebrated on November 1st, was one of John Wesley's favorite holy days? In his journal, he referred to it as "a festival I truly love." And he wrote, "I always find this a comfortable day."

All Saints Day is an ancient tradition of the church dating back centuries. It's a day when we celebrate the lives of those who have gone on before us: people who encouraged us in faith, people who taught us and pointed us to Jesus. While we miss them, probably with some sadness, as we remember them, we give thanks for them, rejoicing that we have been "surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1).

On Sunday, November 5th, we will remember our loved ones, our saints, as we worship together. As Charles Wesley, John's brother, wrote in the hymn "Come, Let Us Join our Friends Above," we proclaim, "let saints on earth unite to sing, with those to glory gone, for all the servants of our King in earth and heaven, are one."

I'm looking forward to joining you in worship and Holy Communion.

Grace and peace,  
Jed



## MESSAGE FROM LAY LEADER

### “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 not just during this season, but 365 days a year!

Grateful and blessed,

Susan



Rachel and Rev. Jed ready to serve lunch recently at the Bethel House.



**BETH'S MISSION MESSAGE**

November means Thanksgiving. We have the ultimate gift to be thankful for, salvation due to the love and blood of Jesus. In your prayers, please try to include the homeless and unsaved. If you can, make a gift either through the church or directly to Pathways or Bethel house. The grocery stores often offer opportunities to help feed our neighbors.

As always, I am so very thankful for your prayers, well wishes and meals as I continue this journey.



Stewardship News as of  
October 31, 2023

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

<b>2023 Budget \$50,519.00</b>	
Needed to date for budget	\$44,456.72
Received to date for budget	\$33,296.00
Behind Budget	\$11,160.72
Paid out to date for budget	\$33,835.37

**WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS!**

**NOVEMBER 2023 DATES TO REMEMBER**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM  
WORSHIP 11 AM**

**NOVEMBER 1 – All Saint’s Day** honors and recognizes all of the saints of the Christian church, many of which were martyrs. The church sets this day aside to celebrate over 10,000 recognized saints.

**NOVEMBER 2 – All Souls Day** pays respect and remembers the souls of all friends and loved ones who have died and gone to heaven. It is a time to pray for their souls that they may be received into heaven.

**NOVEMBER 5 - Daylight Savings Times** ends at 2 AM.

**NOVEMBER 11 - Veteran’s Day** honors all members of the Armed Forces who served this country valiantly, and in a very big way. They served and fought to protect us, keep our country safe, and preserve our way of life. Veterans gave their time and risked their lives for you and me. In many cases, they made the ultimate sacrifice.

This holiday originally was called Armistice Day and was first celebrated in 1921. In 1954, President Eisenhower changed it to Veteran’s Day, in honor of those who served and died in all wars.

Celebrate Veteran’s Day by

- No matter where you are, and what you are doing, honor the tradition of a moment of silence at 11:11 a.m.
- Buy a veteran a cup of coffee.

- Thank a veteran for their service.
- Buy a veteran lunch.
- Visit a cemetery and place flowers and flags at their graves.

### **NOVEMBER 17 – World Peace Day**

encourages us to be kind to others and teach others to be peaceful.

### **NOVEMBER 23 – Thanksgiving Day**

is a very important holiday, especially in the busy lives of busy Americans. And Thanksgiving traditions and history abound. It is a time to slow down, kick back and relax. On this day, we pause to enjoy the four Fs: Family, Food, Fun, and Football. Watch a football game or go to a movie, and enjoy a huge feast, most often with a roasted turkey as the main attraction. It's also time for us to give thanks to our God, for the things he has bestowed upon us and upon this great nation. No nation in the world has more to be thankful for than us.



### **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

7 – Rachel Burnette  
19 – Justin Scarbrough  
25 – Lexi Scarbrough



### **NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARY**

None