

SUNSHINE CHURCH OF CHRIST

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www.sunshine-church.org

Ready or Not, Thanksgiving Is Here

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving's upon us and there's loads of preparing to do. We have to plan everything for the kind of meal that leaves us in a pitiful food coma on the sofa for the rest of the day. We shop for the countless groceries, lug home that prized turkey and thaw it out for days. We endlessly prepare our homes for our influx of house guests. Then there's all the cooking after making several calls to the 1-800-Butterball Turkey hotline.

After all the preparation, we are left with a massive cleanup effort in a kitchen that now resembles a high school cafeteria after a food fight. Then finally, It's time for Thanksgiving dinner, where everyone delightfully wolfs down days of cooking in just 10 minutes; only to be followed by TV channel surfing - affording us the opportunity to watch at least three football games at once! Yes, Thanksgiving, the one time of year when pigging out and watching football seem to be our patriotic duty!

I am of course joking, at least a little.

In spite of all my playful holiday sarcasm, Thanksgiving is my absolute favorite holiday! I love everything about it. For starters, I love to cook. It makes me happy to cook all of the old family favorites that everyone looks so forward to. I enjoy having a noisy, messy, fun-filled house again because my boys are home on break. Thanksgiving kicks off the holiday season with Christmas right around the corner. It's a wonderfully magical time of year. I love all these things about this day; but what I love most is that we can all be together for no other reason than to just give God a glorious shout out of thanks and praise for ALL He does for us!

Turkeys and football aside, we should always remember we are gathering to give our heartfelt thanks for life's bountiful blessings; for it is in these moments our lives become so enriched. Mindful of the very meaning of Thanksgiving, we can thank our Heavenly Father, who is the amazing benefactor and provider of all we have. We might take a few moments and do nothing other than simply count our blessings, numbering each and every one; simultaneously praising the Lord for His love, protection, and kindness in our lives and in those whose lives we deeply cherish. Seeing those faces I love so much surrounding my holiday table fills my soul with divine peace.

"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever." Psalm 107:1* (NIV)

We need not wait for a chilly Thursday in November to express our gratitude. On the contrary, we should begin each and every glorious morning with a prayer of thanksgiving!

I know this sounds a bit cliché, but let's literally stop and smell the proverbial roses. Look around us as if we are seeing our surroundings for the first time. Put on our rose-colored glasses and see God's majesty everywhere! We will be so moved by what God has done for us. Open our eyes to each new day and be thankful for absolutely everything! Being grateful turns all we have into all we need.

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:18* (ESV)

Let's pause, reflect a bit, and bask in His love! Let's enjoy every moment of our wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and every day to the fullest with our hearts overflowing in immense gratitude. Let's measure our thanksgiving not by our blessings themselves, but how well we use them.

Enjoy this Thanksgiving feasting on turkey, mashed potatoes, and cranberries; thanking God abundantly first, and by all means ... save room for pumpkin pie!



Prayer Concerns

For our national leaders and world leaders as they lead their respective nations.

For our troops in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Korea, Iraq, Liberia, Haiti and other places.

For the "people in the box"-- the lost in our families and community.

For those who are being martyred and persecuted for Christ in our own time

For marriage to stand in our laws as God ordained it.

For the church in Siliguri and Naresh Chhetri and Ashok Basfor

For the churches in Honduras and Haiti who partner with us in the gospel

Jim Young (Terri Young's husband) declining.

Kensley McCray home now.

Chris Blume (Jo Ann Miller's nephew) in OSU Med Center recuperating from gastro-intestinal surgery.

Peggy Hollback recuperating at home from transplant. Some good days, some not so good.

Garnet Lindeman stable for now. Living at Nancy's house.

Bernice Pierce (June Book's aunt) surgery on broken vertebrae hopefully this week

Henry Mason now at home, current treatments taking a toll on him, a lot of coughing.

Sharmila Chettri (wife of Naresh Chettri in Siliguri) is having problems with a tumor in the roof of her mouth.

Cole Dever (Gampp Lane) still having problems with infection of his appendix. In and out of Children's in Columbus.

Cathy Ramey surgery on knee postponed this week.

Jeff Hayward had hip repair surgery at the Cleveland Clinic, able to be a church on Sunday

Martha Oberly involved in serious auto accident in Tampa, FL two weeks ago. Having many surgeries to treat burns received in accident

John Feters (former extension agent for the county known to many) waiting for a liver transplant, struggling along in poor condition.

Cami Cole (Don and Cathy Ramey's daughter in Parkersburg) 7 months pregnant was taken to the hospital last night and then on to Children's in Columbus. Her baby has come 2 months early. Prayers for the mother and the baby.

EVENTS AT SUNSHINE



Looking Ahead at Sunshine

11/29	Thanksgiving Service
12/4	Bookmobile at Sunshine
12/13	Teen Caroling
12/7	December Sweet Monday
1/15	Bookmobile at Sunshine

Singing Tonight

This evening at 6 pm all are invited to come and enjoy a time of singing before our evening Bible study. See Nick Davis for details.

Teachers Needed

We are needing three teachers to teach younger children in our Bible School on Sunday and Wednesday. Please check with Nick Davis if you would be willing to take this responsibility for awhile.

Companion Quilt

If anyone has a block to go in the companion quilt to the centennial quilt or needs a block to do, see Teresa Hayward ASAP. Work on the companion quilt will happen soon.

Thanksgiving Service Planned

For many years we have used the Sunday following Thanksgiving to have a special thanksgiving service for the congregation. November 29 is our date for this year. Gabe Coriell is handling the arrangements for the service this year. If you need more details, check with Gabe.

Coats for Kids in Progress

Another tradition we have at Sunshine is providing coats and hats and gloves for the children in the Minford School district as winter approaches. It takes about \$40 to buy a winter coat, hat and pair of gloves for a child. We are beginning to collect money for this project as of today and continuing through the early days of December. Teachers and administration at the school will be giving us a list of students that they believe need the coats, etc. If you wish to contribute see Eugene Risner, Kristine Coriell or Laryssa Grashel.



Clothing Needed

Dee Bradshaw is aware of three teenage girls who have been taken from their parents in Florida and are now living locally. They are in need of clothes because they are coming from Florida and winter is different here. The oldest "Gaby" is a senior in high school and wears size 12-14 in pants, large - XL in shirts and 8.5-9 wide in shoes. The middle child "Thalia" is in 10th grade and wears size 0 in pants, Small - XS in shirts and shoes 8.5-9 narrow. The youngest "Veronica" is in 9th grade and wears size 5 in pants, medium shirts and 7.5-8 in shoes. If you have clothes or shoes that would fit these girls, please contact Dee Bradshaw or leave them in the church office.

Christmas Caroling for the Youth

The youth group will be going Christmas caroling at nursing homes on **December 13** between church services. We will be staying after morning services to make Christmas cards and fill goodie bag. Upon completion we will travel to the nursing homes where we will hand out goodie bags and cards to the residents, we will also be caroling. In advance, please make and bring at least 5 dozen cookies to give to the residents. We will order pizzas and have lunch together at the church. If you have any questions please see Tim

Bookmobile Coming to Sunshine

The Portsmouth Public Library's Bookmobile will be at Sunshine from 12-2 pm on the following days: **Dec. 4, Jan. 15, Feb. 12, March 11, April 8, and May 6.** This is a great opportunity that the library has made available to the group of homeschoolers here at Sunshine. The Bookmobile is available to anyone with a library card that would like to come check out a book!

December Sweet Monday

December Sweet Monday will be **Dec. 7** at 6:30 pm in the annex. This event is open to all the ladies and you are welcome to bring the kiddos! We have an ornament exchange planned (\$5 or less), a small craft for the kids, and you can bring your favorite Christmas treat to share if you want! We always have a great time at this one, so we hope you will be there!!

Prayer Pals Coming

The ladies of Sunshine are starting a "Prayer Pals" program joining as many of our ladies with our young ladies in a one-on-one prayer partner team. We would like to meet very briefly right after morning services to give information to anyone who is interested in participating in this! If you have a form to turn in, we would like to get those today. We kick this program off with a cookie reception during evening services on December 6. We will meet in the front of the auditorium as soon as the closing prayer is over.

Message from Peggy

"Lonnie and I want to thank everyone for your prayers and cards that I have received during my extended illness. Your cards and notes have been a blessing and made me feel that I was a part of the service even when I wasn't there. I still have a ways to go but hopefully it won't be as bad as it has been."

Peggy Hollback

In the News

Kim and Aaron McCray and family were in Nashville this past week to be part of the ShowHope Fellowship 2015. There were 600 people present and over 2 million dollars was collected to help in the work of adoption worldwide. Kim and Aaron and family were featured as one of the family's to tell the story of adopting Kensley. Check Facebook and you will be able to see some of the photos made during the celebration. ShowHope is an adoption ministry started by Stephen Curtis Chapman and his wife in 2003 shortly after the death of their daughter. To date the ministry has provided substantial help to more than 5000 families who have adopted.

Building/Annex Reservations for 2016

We allow our building to be used by community individuals and groups free of charge on a first-come, first-served basis. However, we hold off on making reservations for non-members until our members have had a chance to reserve their dates. The month of December will be our month to make our reservations for the building for 2016. If you anticipate needing the building or annex for 2016, see Delores Gampp right away and make your reservation. Registering for a date starts the first Sunday in December. This does not mean you cannot make a reservation later in the year. It's just a way of giving our members first chance at the dates. Ministry leaders, if you know your dates, get them reserved ASAP through Delores Gampp.

Church Events Calendar

In our church office we have a large calendar on the wall for church events. In order to help us in planning and organizing ourselves, we would like for all church events (whether they involve using our building or not) to be recorded on the calendar as soon as you know their date. If everyone works with the calendar things will run a little smoother for all of us. Thanks for your cooperation.

Those Who Serve

Sun. Morning	11/22/2015	11/29/2015	12/6/2015
Welcome	Tom Kelley	Rich Book	Don Coriell
Reading	Tyler Evans	Steve Williams	Pete Kouns
Midservice Prayer	Jon Coriell	Tim Gamp	Roger Cooper
Communion	Alan Graff	Shawn Gragg	Aaron Kallner
Sermon	Jamie Riley	Steve Miller	Steve Miller
Closing Prayer	Mark Risner	Derek Miller	Price Gammon
Sun. Evening	11/22/2015	11/29/2015	12/6/2015
Song Leader	Jacob Miller	Zach Coriell	David Deacon
Reading	Jared McCray	Tim Coriell	Jordan Book
Communion	Caleb Miller	Gabe Coriell	Mike Gamp
Assist	Alex Coreill	Tyler Meredith	Ed McLaughlin
Prayer	Mark Villinger	Mike Gamp	Wesley Book
Wed. Evening	11/25/2015	12/2/2015	12/9/2015
Song Leader	Mark Gamp	Matthew Hoskins	Greg Shepherd
Prayer	Josh Coriell	Dale Kuhn	Don Ramey

Regular Service Times

Sunday

Worship - 10:00 am
Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.

This bulletin is a publication of the Sunshine Church of Christ. To learn more about the Church of Christ you may contact us at the telephone number or address on the front cover. Deadline for each issue is 3 p.m. Saturday. Content should be emailed to info@sunshine-church.org

Visit us on the web:

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**WORD
SEARCH**

P D X I O B X F E A S T R H A R V E S T
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AMERICAN
BLESSINGS
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BREAD
CELEBRATE
CORNUCOPIA
CRANBERRIES
DRUM STICK
FAMILY
FEAST
FRIENDSHIP
GATHERING
GRATITUDE
GRAVY
HARDSHIP
HARVEST
MAYFLOWER
NOVEMBER
PIE
PILGRIMS
PLYMOUTH
PUMPKIN
STUFFING
THANKSGIVING
THURSDAY
TURKEY

Thanksgiving Word Search Solution

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