



THE LAMPLIGHTER

Volume 61, Issue 10

November 2011

Series: Giving Thanks

Key Verse:

Give thanks to God. Call out His name...Shout to the nations, tell them what He has done, spread the news of His great reputation! Isaiah 12:4 (MSSG)

NOVEMBER 6:

Title: "Learning Contentment"

Scripture: Acts 16:16-29

NOVEMBER 13:

Title: "Attitude of Gratitude"

Scripture: Romans 12: 1-8

NOVEMBER 20:

Title: "Being Thankful in Tough Times"

Scripture: Matthew 6:25-34



Series: Attack Heart

Key Verse:

Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life. Proverbs 4:23 (NLT)

NOVEMBER 27 (First Sunday of Advent)

Title: "God, Give Me a Pure Heart"

Scripture: Romans 3:21-27

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Pen	2
Help List	3
Silver Seniors	5
Senior High Activity	7
Church Conference Minutes	9-10
New Structure	11

Special points of interest:

- Note from Corey
- NECM Needs
- Kids Page
- Calendar



10-9-2011

The 17th century hymn, “Now Thank We All Our God”, in our UM Hymnal, takes us through a journey of sorts. We travel through our lives as infants, in our mother’s arms, to a time of needing God’s guidance. The maturation process is a common experience, and a time when God is needed. This hymn helps bring our attention to the intersection of God’s love for us and our love for each other. And, guess what, those two places are one in the same.

*Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things
Has done, in whom this world rejoices; who from our mother’s arms has blessed
Us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

There are two things, I believe this song calls for us to be thankful for, or better yet, thank **full** for. God’s people are thank **full** for God’s glorious deeds, and for God’s presence.

God’s people become filled with thanks when all the wonderful things God does are pondered. Think with me for a moment, about the air, the food, the sun, the stars, the trees, the water, the grass, the animals, and let us not forget the people we know and love. These are just a few of the things God has done, for us. And are we thank **full** enough?

What about God’ presence? When we turn to God in our distress, when we cry out to God in pain, God is there. When we sing for joy and praise God’s Holy name, we acknowledge God’s presence in our lives. We can celebrate the presence of God in the good times, and also the hard times. Thanksgiving is about believing God has provided everything we have. Thanksgiving is about showing God the gratitude of our hearts, and doing so even when times are tough. Thanksgiving is about knowing God loves us so much, that he sent His one and only Son, (John 3:16) to save us. I don’t know about you, but that makes me thank **full and thank filled!**

SEE YA IN CHURCH! *Jim*



Coffee Time

- 6 Wanda Skutt
- Pat Whyatt
- 13 Bob & Jody Hamilton
- 20 _____
- 27 _____



Greeters

- 6 Wanda Skutt
- Pat Whyatt & Russells
- 13 _____
- 20 _____
- 27 _____



Birthdays

- 3 Lynn Herman
- 7 Bob Clawson
- 7 Aubree Tinker
- 8 Lorraine Rayner
- 10 Lee Grey
- 11 Xavier Weidenfeller
- 12 Marcia Loveless
- 13 Ed Salzemnieks
- 13 Wanda Skutt
- 14 Roberta Brockway
- 15 Sadie Jensen
- 17 Elsie Montie
- 19 Jessica Curtiss
- 20 Don Chandler
- 21 Terry Kropf
- 22 Cathy Renkema
- 24 Sharon Applegarth
- 27 Jacob Kolenda
- 28 Brandon Curtiss
- 30 Jen Griswold
- 30 Benjamin Smith
- 30 Matthew Smith



Ushers

Tim Buschert



- 6 Patty Powell
- 13 Jim Wright
- 20 Ken Jeltema
- 27 Hilda Russell



- 6 Pastor Jim
- 13 Rev. Thurlan Meredith
- 20 Barb Jeltema
- 27 _____



Anniversaries

- 2 Mike & Terry Rowe
- 4 Dave & Cathy Renkema
- 6 Chris & Sharon Longstreth
- 7 Jon & Annette Radeck
- 8 Eric & Tammy Erkitz
- 8 Robert & Susan Smith
- 14 Eric & Lisa Peterson

We Need You to be a Worship Leader. Openings are available every week for people to help lead the congregation in worship. The worship leader duties include being the "liturgist" (reading announcements, leading the opening prayer, responsive reading, and scripture reading for the day) and leading the children's sermon. **Two people CAN share these duties in one service.** If you are interested in being a liturgist and/or a children's sermon leader please sign up on the Worship Leader clipboard at Clipboard Central. If you have any further questions, please ask Sharon Longstreth. (974-8995, cslongstreth@yahoo.com)

Workers Needed for our Craft Show

We are excited about the 2011 Grapevine Harvest Craft Show and appreciate everything our Northlawn family does to help, especially your prayers as we prepare for the show.



Our bake sale and cookie walk are very popular booths, so we ask that you BAKE! BAKE! BAKE! Also, we would appreciate any handmade items for our booth..

* Please join us to make this show a great success. Watch for sign up sheets for the following:

DONATION of various food items for Craft Show luncheon

VOLUNTEERS to come on **November 3 at 9:00 a.m.** to help prepare and set up.

VOLUNTEERS to come on Friday night, **November 4 at 6 p.m.** to assist crafters

VOLUNTEERS to come at 3 p.m. on **Saturday, November 5**, to help clean up and prepare church for Sunday

* All proceeds from the Grapevine Harvest Craft Show will be donated to various mission projects. If you have any suggestions, please contact Christine Wright.

* Please return any borrowed 6' or 8' tables to church by October 31.

* Contact Christine Wright, 691-7548 or Lee Grey, 361-8458 if you have any questions.

DATE CHANGE FOR THE NOVEMBER SILVER SENIORS!

Join us on at 12:00 pm on **Wednesday, November 9**. We will be having soup, sloppy joes, chips, and a special dessert! We also will be playing BINGO!! Bring a friend. Call Lee Grey, 361-8458, if you have any questions.

Leadership Development Training Meetings

Saturday mornings from 9:30 am to noon. This is for EVERYONE! Including CORE Ministry Leaders, and all other ministry teams in the church, Trustees, SPRC, Administration Team, Finance AND YOU! We will meet on Saturday morning November 19 for the final session. Sessions One, Two & Three are available on DVD. And session three will soon be available as well.

A Note from Corey

7/27/2011

Dear Northlawn United Methodist Church;

I want to start off by apologizing for waiting so long to write you this letter, but I wanted to wait till my semester grades from the spring were all in. I had one hold out in my grades, and it was posted today. I want to share with all that I continue to do very well and I continue to keep a 3.3 GPA! I am very pleased!

Over the last year, I have learned many things about myself, as well as learning many things about the how and why of how we view God. Even at every turn, God continues to show me that I am on the course that I need to be on. Most last year's academic studies have been a focus on the Early Church and on the understanding of the origins of Christ's Church.

Along these lines I was very lucky to take a 2 week trip to Rome in May to learn about the Early Church (500 CE and earlier). I was excited about taking this trip for almost a year, and even to this day, I still think often about what I learned and understood about the universal history of the Western Church (at the end of this letter I have added a link to a blog I was honored to write for the school about my trip).

In other news, I love the work I was doing with University Christian Ministries (UCM), and I am excited to say that I will be spending another year with the students of Northwestern! I love helping these students, and watching the passion and love they have for Christ grow and develop into a faith all their own. It is very rewarding work, tiring at times, but we have a lot of fun. In the coming year I will be taking on more of a business role at the ministry and learning the finer points of grant writing and asking for money to continue the ministry. But I will continue to interact with students as well.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for your thoughts, prayers, and continued financial support. It means so much to know that there are people who love and care for me, that I am truly humbled. It also means a lot that, no matter the distance, I am still part of your church family. Keep praying for the Church as a whole, and that God continue to amaze and surprise us.

Peace in Christ,

Cory Young

P.S. Here is the link for the blog I wrote:

<http://garrettseminary.blogspot.com/2011/06/my-roman-adventure.html>





Now is the time to clean out your closet!! The church circuit that Joe Beavens was assigned to have a Free Store that supply gently used clothes to those in need. He has asked if we could do a clothing drive here at Northlawn for them. We will be collecting gently used clothing in any size, **especially** infant/children through adult to help with this ministry.

The Northlawn Vision:

Connecting through God’s power, *learning* through *love* and *service* to live like Jesus Christ.

Core Principles:

God 1s... *everything begins with and is in God’s care, including all of us. (Genesis 1:1)*

Walk His way... *live like Jesus Christ, love and serve the world. (Matt. 25:40)*

God³ ... *God creates, Jesus loves, the Spirit guides all of us. (Matt. 28:19)*

NECM COLLECTION FOR NOVEMBER

Boxed potatoes, stuffing, hamburger helper, tuna helper, any beans (canned or dried, rice.

****NECM will be the recipient of our November Clatter Offering****



NECM MONTHLY NEEDS

NECM always needs grocery bags. They may be paper or plastic

- Meat
- Potatoes
- Stuffing
- Pasta
- Pasta sauce
- Cereal
- Vegetables
- Dry milk
- Macaroni & cheese
- Condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo)
- Canned spaghetti (like spaghetti o’s)
- Diapers
- Toothpaste/brushes
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Deodorant

Attention Senior High Youth

The Senior High Sunday School class is going to the Rock and Worship Road Show on **November 4, 2011**. All high school students are invited to attend!! We will meet at the church at 5:00 p.m Questions? Contact Alan or Michelle Claybaugh 887-1706.

Help Needed- talk to Pastor Jim, Sally Wesorick or visit the Connection Corner for more information or to sign up to help!.

- Connection Corner volunteers
- Greeters for 1st & 2nd service
- Greeter & Connection Corner Coordinators
- Blood Drive Donors
- Blood Drive Coordinator
- Hands Across the City Volunteers & Volunteer recruiter for Northlawn
- Parking Lot Coordinator & volunteers needed

WON (Women of Northlawn) News

Will be collecting the following items UNTIL November 6 for the Grand Rapids Veteran Home:

Batteries (AAA, C, D)
Christmas Lights
Underwear (Lg)
Postage stamps

Body Wash
X-sm Clothing
Lighters

Large Print Books and Bibles
2X-6X Clothing
Fixodent

NEW WORSHIP SCHEDULE

In response to both practical and spiritual needs, the Praise & Worship Team, and the CORE Team recommended moving to one, inclusive Sunday worship celebration beginning October 23 at 9:00 a.m. with Sunday school at 10:15 a.m. When the Church gathers, we do so as one living organism. We may come from different backgrounds and experience, but we are one Body. It has become increasingly difficult to provide the high quality of worship leading our God deserves, and we believe we need to take time to unite, and gather our strengths. To come together in unified worship allows us to celebrate a rich variety of blessings, and offer up many gifts. To accurately reflect the nature of the Body of Christ, we believe we must also take into account many tastes and forms of expression. So, this will be worship for all of us, and will require some concessions, relative to our own personal preferences. However, as the Body of Christ, we seek to focus our worship on the One who alone is worthy of our praise. Our goal is to return to a multiple worship format at some time in the near future. Please feel free to contact, in person, or by phone or e-mail, any member of the Praise & Worship team with your input: Sharon Longstreth cslongstreth@yahoo.com, Jan Jager jjager@nvps.net, Sue Spahr sue.spahr@csredhawks.org, Jeanne Hoye jhoye2728@comcast.net, Toni Gould tgould126@gmail.com, Teri Chandler terichan55@gmail.com, Sharon Sumner jssumner@charter.net, or Jerry Lachniet janejerrylach@yahoo.com.

A VITAL CONGREGATION IS:

Growing, Engaging, Generous, Inviting, Missional, Equipped, and Inspired!

(source: A Call to Action Research 2010 by Towers Watson Inc.)

A Call to Action!

Thursday, November 10, 2011

Session One: 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Session Two: 6:00 to 8:00 pm

(Session Two will be simulcast @ Traverse Bay District)

Location:

Cornerstone United Methodist Church

1675, 84th Street SE, Caledonia, MI 49316

(Please preregister before November 1 by contacting your District Office)

The United Methodist Church Vital Congregation Project; the goal, to fulfill the Mission of the United Methodist Church by equipping and empowering congregations to become vital and healthy congregations in their communities and in our world.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Bishop John Schol of the Baltimore-Washington Area, Leader of the Vital Congregations Project. Bishop Schol will introduce Church leaders, both Clergy and Lay, to the opportunity our congregations have to set appropriate goals, in an effort to grow vital congregations, and Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. You will learn about; Setting appropriate goals, Online resources to help your church, Online Dashboard on which to enter your church's progress, Online resource on which you can track your church's history, Online resource to help interpret the 16 Drivers of Vitality, and Articles and blogs to assist your church in becoming vital.

Brought to you by the Grand Rapids District Leadership Development Team, in cooperation with Bishop Jonathan Keaton and the West Michigan Conference, United Methodist Church.

Minutes for Annual Church Conference October 4, 2011
 Northlawn United Methodist Church

The Church Conference was called to order by Rev. Haller @ 7:30 pm

Prayer – Pastor Jim Noggle

Hymns – music by Toni Gould –page 398 vs. 1, 3, 5 and page 561 vs. 1, 2, 3

Opening Prayer– Rev. Laurie Haller

Devotion – Rev. Laurie Haller

Election of Church Conference Secretary: Catherine Renkema - voted on and passed.

Proposed Ministry Structure: Pastor Jim Noggle - moved up from the #9 position

Q- What are the major differences in this structure?

C.O.R.E. Team was in charge of all the areas of ministry...The C.O.R.E. Team (led by the Pastor) will now concentrate on: Mission & Outreach, Praise & Worship, Leadership Development, Education/Discipleship, Growth Groups, and Congregational Care.

The Administrative Team which is made up of representative of: Board of Trustees, SPRC, Finance Committee, Nominations & Personnel, along with 5 members at large from the congregation, and the Lay member to Annual Conference will be responsible for business decisions, budgeting, and policy/procedure changes. It will function as the Administrative Body of Northlawn.

Proposed Ministry structure was voted on and passed.

Lay Leadership Committee Report (Nominating Committee) : Pastor Jim Noggle

The following members were presented by the Nominations Committee and recommended to leadership roles in the life of Northlawn United Methodist Church:

SPRC Co-Chairs (2012)-Thurlan Meredith and Tim Shuck

Board of Trustees (2014)- Art Wright, Sharon Applegarth, and Ritz Jensen

Finance Committee- Chairperson Craig Allen (2014), Dawne Ball (2013), Lynn Herman (2014), Sybil Hole (2014)

Nominations & Leadership Development Team-(2014) Bob Wild, (2014) Linda Allen

Usher Coordinators have been moved to the Praise and Worship Committee

The Scarlet Thread Women's Circle is no longer in existence.

Sue Cleveland is in charge of funeral lunches.

Committee Report went to a vote and passed.

Membership Report: Pastor Jim Noggle

The following members have been listed on the inactive member list for the first year: Ed Salzemnieks, Rob Fisher, Jan Fisher, Tyler Biggins, Ashley Adams, Patrick Fike, Roberta Fike, Marty Truax, Joni Truax, Matt Molter, Jeanne Molter, James Waite, Colleen Waite, Larry Curtiss, Anita Curtiss, Jacob Curtiss, Geoff Griffin, (Elva Pickens may have passed away)

Committee Report went to a vote and passed.

Agenda for Annual Church Conference October 4, 2011
Northlawn United Methodist Church

Staff Parish Relations Committee – Craig Allen

- a. Clergy Salary Support: \$48,000 (remains the same) – voted on and passed
 - b. Furnishing Allowance: \$3,500 (remains the same) – voted on and passed
 - c. Special Recommendations:
 - Lay Speakers: Individual motions are needed for each one to be renewed, Candidates need to be approved every year.
- Jerry Lachniet – voted on and passed
- d. Ministry Share Report: 46% paid through September 30, 2011

6. Audit Report by the Chair of the Finance Committee: Art Wright

An annual audit of the financial statements of the local church and all its organizations and accounts shall be made. (§258.4.c 2008 Book of Discipline)

We passed with flying colors!

7. Pastor's Report: Pastor Jim Noggle

Continuing Ed for 2011:

- GBOD School of Congregational Development (Dallas TX.)
 - Methodist Theological School of Ohio: Hebrew Bible, Theology, New Testament, Worship Arts.
- Work towards the 8 Systems of the Church.

8. Ministry Shares: Sally Wesorick

The CORE Team recommends that the current practice of withholding a portion of the Ministry Shares of Northlawn United Methodist Church, in response to the West Michigan Conference decision to provide domestic partner benefits, be discontinued. While Northlawn UMC continues to disagree with conferences position of providing domestic partner benefits, we feel it is best for the church to follow the Book of Discipline regarding the payment of ministry shares. The CORE Team further recommends that Northlawn petition both General Conference and the West Michigan Conference for a Judicial Council ruling on the West Michigan Conference policy of providing domestic partner benefits.

*Vote was taken by **Written Ballots** and has passed by a vote of 15 yes votes and 5 no votes.*

9. Mortgage Financial Plan Task Force Report: Scott Kanai

Art Wright states – That they are moving forward to raise money for the mortgage. We need to pay off \$200,000 by 2013.

All mortgage monies MUST be kept in a separate fund.

Kathy Thompson will be organizing a cookbook to sell for fund raising.

Closing Prayer –Laurie Haller 8:45 pm

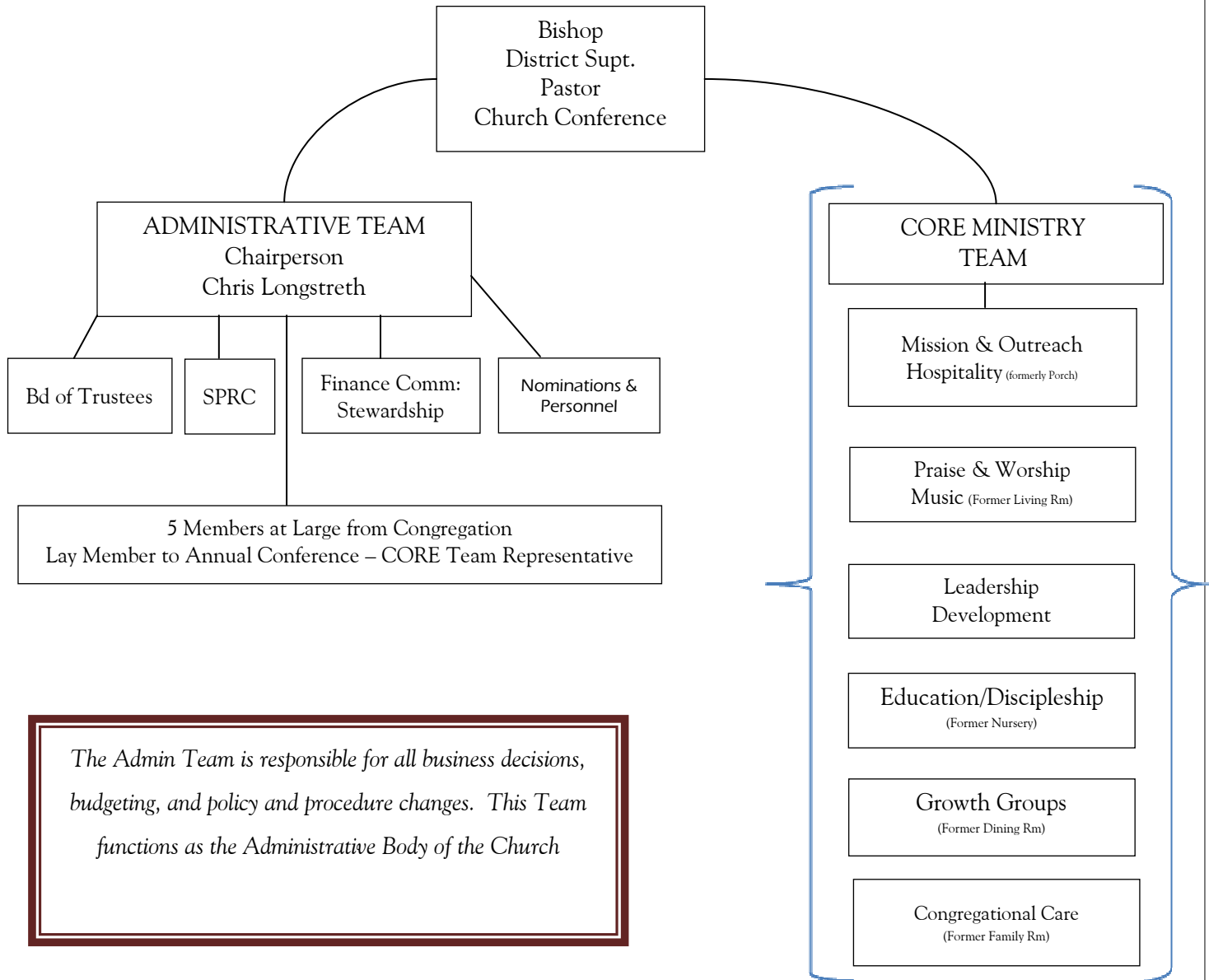
Benediction

District Superintendent: Rev Laurie Haller 10-4-2011

Respectfully Submitted: Catherine Renkema 10-4-2011

Northlawn United Methodist New Administrative Structure

October 4, 2011



The Admin Team is responsible for all business decisions, budgeting, and policy and procedure changes. This Team functions as the Administrative Body of the Church

The CORE Ministry Team is responsible for all areas of ministry, nurture, and outreach.

Grapevine Harvest Craft Show



Saturday, November 5, 2011

9 am to 3 pm

Northlawn United Methodist Church
1157 Northlawn NE, Grand Rapids
(corner of Northlawn & Fuller)



was served at the first Thanksgiving!

Here's a special popcorn recipe to make.

You will need:

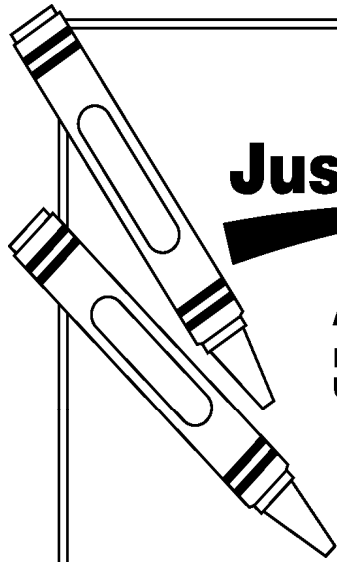
- 2 tablespoons of margarine
- 1/4 teaspoon of cinnamon
- 4 cups of popped popcorn
- 1 tablespoon of sweetened chocolate milk powder
- a large bowl
- a spoon
- a small pan or microwave bowl
- measuring cup and spoons



How to do:



- Melt margarine in pan or microwave. Mix in cinnamon. Heat together.
- Put popcorn in large bowl.
- Pour margarine mixture over it.
- Sprinkle with chocolate powder.
- Mix together and eat!!



Just for KIDS

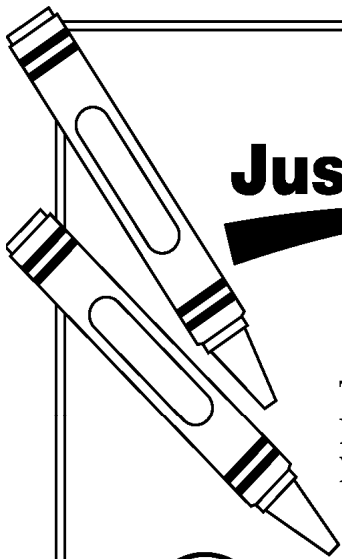
Acts 14:17b

Fill in the blanks to find the words from the Scripture. Use the special code.



“ e s s w i e s s b
 g i v i g i f m e v e
 c p s i e i s e s s ;
 e p v i e s w i p l e
 f f d f i s
 e s w i j . ”

“He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; He provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy.”

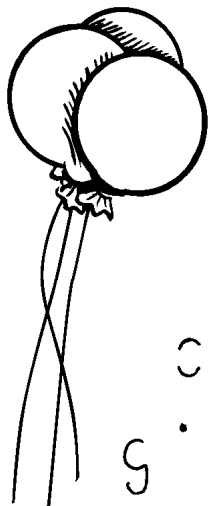


Just for **KIDS**

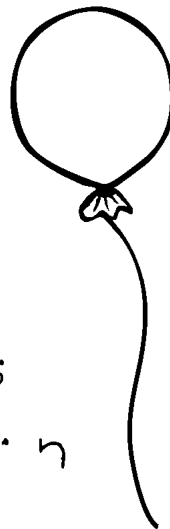
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

The letters of the words in the verse have been started for you. Add a straight line to each to complete the letters.

Read the words.



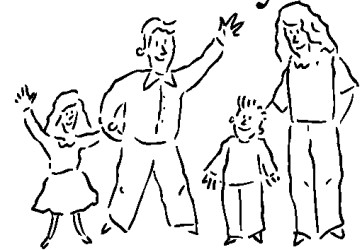
Be joyful
continually;



give thanks in
all circumstances,
for - his is
God's will for you
in Christ - Jesus.

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

A Family



DEVOTION

As your family prepares to observe Thanksgiving—or at any time during the year—think of all the things that you are thankful for.

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 & Psalm 100.

Make a "thankful" chain.



You need strips of paper cut 2" x 8".

Magazines

Crayons or markers

Tape, glue or stapler



Cut pictures of things you are thankful for. Attach them to paper strips.

Cut magazine pictures into 2" x 8" strips.



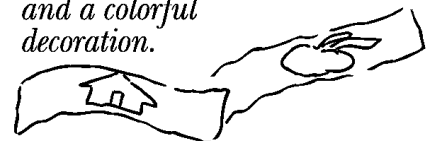
Write names of people or things on the paper strips.

Draw pictures on the strips.

Attach paper strips together.

Hold the chain as your family has prayer... "Thank you, God, for _____."

Hang your chain for a reminder and a colorful decoration.



November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10 am Bible Study	2 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Choir	3 Craft Show Work Day 7 pm Yarn With a Purpose	4 Craft Show Work Day	5 3 pm-9 pm Craft Show
6	7	8 10 am Bible Study 6 pm Finance Meeting	9 12 pm Silver Seniors 6 pm SPRC Meeting 6 pm Bells 7 pm Choir	10 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6 pm Mission & Outreach 7 pm Yarn w/a purpose	11 Wedding Rehearsal	12 2 pm Wedding
13 Mission Moment	14 6:30 pm W.O.N	15 10 am Bible Study	16 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Choir	17 1 pm West MI Confer- ence of Finance	18	19 9:30 am to Noon Leadership Development Training for everyone
20	21 7 pm Administrative Team Meeting 7 pm C.O.R.E Team	22 10 am Bible Study 11 am Assemble Newsletter	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 10 am Bible Study	30	Sunday: 9 am Worship Celebration 10:15 Sunday School Tuesdays: 10 am Bible Study Wednesday 6 pm Bell Choir Practice 7 pm Chancel Choir Practice Thursday : 7 pm Yarn W/Purpose		



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Fax: (616) 361-2878

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www.northlawnumc.org

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PRAYER CORNER

Please remember the following people in your prayers this month:

Rhea Glazier
Elsie Montie
Fran Hunt
Bob Clawson
Dorothy Spaulding
Bishop Keaton
Dylan Gilmore
Cathy Renkema

**Connecting, Learning,
Serving, Loving**

The Northlawn Vision:
Connecting through
God's power, *learning*
through *love* and *service*
to live like Jesus Christ.