



# The Newsline

## Our family reaching out to your family

November 2021

Dear church family,

November has arrived, and along with it a day that we set aside to be thankful every year. Sometimes due to the circumstances of life, it seems like there is nothing to be thankful for. Here are a few things I'm thankful for every day.

I'm thankful that God made our eyes the way he did. Not only can we see, but we see in color. We could survive just fine seeing in B&W. Color is simply a gift to allow us to enjoy life better. Another amazing thing about your eyes are something most don't even realize. We can follow moving objects with no blur, no lag time. Our eyes instantly change focus from an inch or two to miles away in time to fast to measure. This is more noticeable to me as a photographer because the best cameras in the world can't do that.

I'm thankful that chocolate and pizza taste different. They don't have to. We could survive eating grass and tree bark. Many animals do. Taste buds that distinguish between sweet and sour and spicy and bland are a gift from God simply to allow us to enjoy life more.

I'm thankful for white blood cells. Every time a virus attacks, or an outside object pierces our skin releasing deadly bacteria, an army of thousands of white blood cells rush to the offenders and fight them off. That's why colds go away and scratches heal.

I'm thankful that a girl from Pittsburgh said yes to spending the rest of her life with a fool like me.

I'm thankful that God said, "Go to China." I'm thankful

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that He created our daughter just for us. But more than that. I'm thankful that she said, "Yes," to Jesus.

I'm thankful that our ears can distinguish in an instant the piano, guitar, violin, drums, and voices that make up the nuances of music. Our ears are amazing in other ways. We can determine immediately how far away a train is or from what direction a sound is coming from.

I'm thankful for the scent of fall leaves and ocean spray. Both are the smells of death. But they are the beginning of understanding why sacrificial death is a pleasing aroma to the Lord.

I'm thankful that our heart beats around 115,000 times a day, moving around 2000 gallons of blood throughout our bodies, without us having to give it a seconds thought. I'm thankful that our lungs breathe in and out 20,000 times a day with no effort on our part.

I'm thankful that my beagle follows me around like a shadow every second of the day - even during the times when she annoys me.

I'm thankful for heat in the winter and ac in the summer and for clean water and that I don't have to dig through a mountain of garbage every day looking for something to eat.

I'm thankful that I was born in America despite her problems.

I'm thankful for cars that run and legs that do too.

I'm thankful that at 11:00 at night I have a light to read by.

I'm thankful for every one of you guys. You are kind, generous, fun, supportive, and amazing. I'm thankful that you love Jesus and allow me to preach the truth each week, not a watered down feel good sermon that most churches demand.

I'm thankful most of all that God in His infinite mercy and Grace sent Jesus to die on the cross for my sins, which are many. I'm thankful that no matter how it happened the Holy Spirit impressed upon me my need for a Savior. I'm thankful that I believed, God responded, and for everyone who takes this journey with me.

I love you guys.....Pastor Brian

**YOUR  
VOTE  
COUNTS**

**Vote November 2nd**



**Adult BELL CHOIR** will be starting back up in **November**. If you are interested in joining us this year Penny would like to know by **November 4<sup>th</sup>**. Please let Penny know by then if you are planning on playing this year.  
Penny 740-817-1092



**Daylight Saving Time ENDS on November 7th.**

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed Saturday night!



November 11, 2021



## Christmas Card Express

**Christmas Express Mailboxes** will be set up in the Fellowship Hall this December for all who want to participate. This is where you can save on postage and give Christmas cards out to your church family. A copy of the list will be available in the Fellowship Hall SOON if you would like to participate.



## Christmas Giving Project

Our mini-mission for November and December is the Johnstown-Northridge Adopt-a-Child Christmas Program. This giving opportunity is an annual tradition for our congregation that is a blessing for both the givers and the recipients. This program is organized through the Faith Fellowship Congregation and we are thrilled to be able to join them in blessing families with some needs and treats to share the love of Jesus at Christmas. We also provide a Bible for each family, and if we have cash donations we provide a grocery gift card for their holiday meal. Please watch for announcements and our special giving tree with ornaments detailing the children's names, sizes and description of the items they've asked for. **ORNAMENTS WILL BE DISPLAYED ON THE CHRISTMAS TREE AS SOON AS THE NAMES ARE MADE AVAILABLE.** Gifts need to be new and unwrapped. Please attach the ornament tag to your items and return them to the church by the first week of December. As an added blessing, please bring some gift wrap or gift bags for your purchases so the parents can have the joy of wrapping the gifts later. If you would like to make a cash donation, please put that in the offering plate clearly designated for this mission. We will use cash donations to purchase any unfilled gifts first, and then the remainder will be used to purchase Kroger gift cards. Please consider giving generously this year as the need is greater because of the impact of the pandemic. Questions can be directed to Howard Bumgarner



\*\* It is time to think about ordering Poinsettia's to decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season. Orders need to be placed by December 5th. Envelopes will be in vestibule early in November. Questions: contact Helen.