



**November 23, 2018 Issue**

**Come Experience the Power of Grace**

## Thanksgiving: The Power of a Thankful Heart

*"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."*  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

It is not always easy to give thanks, but this is the very thing we must do in order to see God's will accomplished in our lives.

Thanksgiving has great power to bring joy and break the power of the enemy. Whenever you give thanks to God, despite the most difficult circumstances, the enemy loses a big battle in your life. When you give thanks in the midst of difficulty, you bring pleasure to God's heart. He is looking for Christians who live in a realm of praise and thanksgiving where the enemy no longer has an ability to hold or manipulate that person. Satan is defeated when we have a thankful heart because thankfulness during difficulty is a sacrifice pleasing to God.

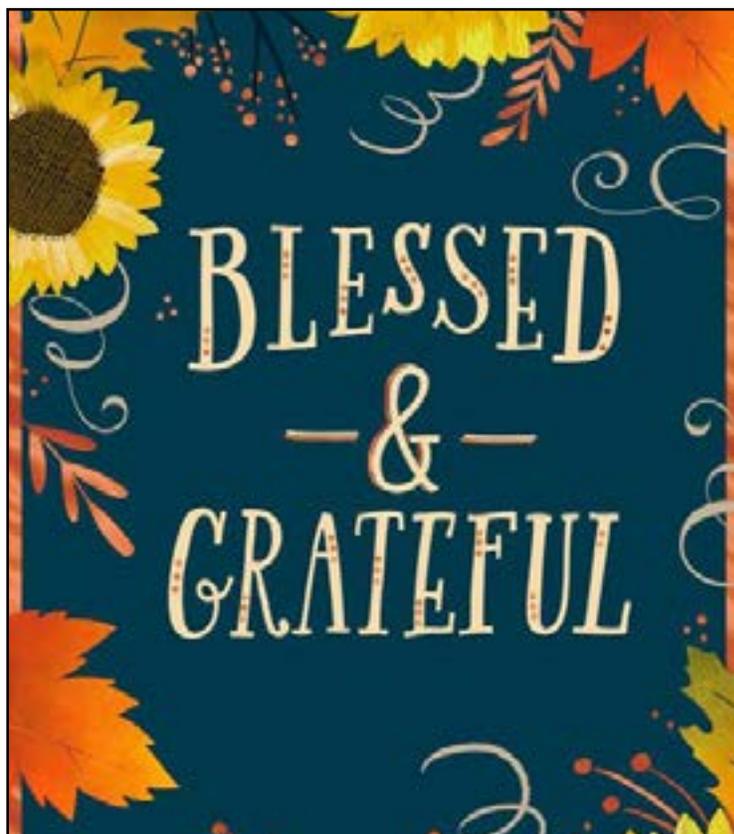
Are you thankful? Are you thankful for your present circumstances? Are you thankful for your salvation, your friendships, and your job? Thankfulness is a key to your life. It is the key that turns your situation around because it changes you, your outlook, and your attitude. There is power in a thankful heart.

### **Thanksgiving Brings Contentment**

Begin to thank God for all the blessings he has given you instead of dwelling on the negative. Discontent dries up the soul.

### **Offer God a Sacrifice of Praise and Thanksgiving**

The Duke of Wellington was the great British military leader who regretted that he had not learned the secret of praise during his lifetime. He had many great accomplishments and even defeated Napoleon at Waterloo. He was a brilliant and demanding man and when he was older, he realized that there were areas in his life that needed to change. In his old age a woman asked him this question, "What would you do differently if you had your life to live over again?" He thought carefully and said, "I would give more praise." This is a lesson for all of us; if we would learn to be people of praise and thanksgiving all the days of our lives it would be a great accomplishment.



*(continued on page 2)*



## We Care and Pray for One Another

### HEALTH CONCERNS:

Irene Ahl; Sharon Algar; Bill Amspaugh; Richard Ashbaugh; Curt Beaman; Carroll Boettcher; Maun Boettcher; Joel Bott; Heidi Buchholz; Arthur Buehler; John & Joan Burns; Ralph Chambers; Linda Cirelli; Moose Creighton; Richard Dahl; Dianne Ewald; Rev. Bob & Elaine Feller; Harriet Feree; Cita Figueroa; Jerry Frisbie; Walt Goedecke; Richard Greene; Bonnie Guiffre; Carol Hahn; Cameron Hall; Gizelle Hayes; Katie Hayes; Jane Heine; Evelyn Horst; Annette Idso; Christopher Idso; Donna Koelling; Doreen Leikel; Philip Lenharth; Alice Masherella; Donna McCullough; Bobbie Metcalf; Tom Mortson; Chris Murphy; Merrill Nelson; Tanner Nelson; Ben Petersen; Anne Pingo; John Pingo; Betty Plachy; Megan Postilli; Virginia Potter; Martin Radloff; Shirley Radloff; Antonia Rafter; Esther Riesen; Darleen Sanders; Ila Schellpfeffer; Austin Soliben; Julie Stewart; Joyce Sutton; Bud Umphryes; Annie Walsh; Joe Wells; Eleanor Wood; Marie Wood; Pat Zanta

### MILITARY:

Isaac Jackson; Tim Mace

### ANNIVERSARY:

We give God praise as we celebrate the 19th wedding anniversary of Tony & Kim Damiano on November 26.

### CALLED HOME:

We give prayers of sympathy and compassion to the family and friends of Betty Barnes and Jimmy Cone who have both entered the church triumphant.

**Thanksgiving Prayer**

Dear Lord,  
 Today we give thanks  
 For our many blessings,  
 As we pray for those in need,  
 We give thanks  
 For our family and friends  
 As we pray for those who are lonely.  
 We give thanks for our freedoms  
 As we pray for those who are oppressed.  
 We give thanks for our good health  
 As we pray for those who are ill.  
 We give thanks for our comfort and prosperity  
 As we share our blessings with others.  
 On this day of Thanksgiving,  
 May the love of God enfold us,  
 The peace of God dwell within us  
 And the joy of God uplift us.  
 Amen



*(Thanksgiving: The Power of a Thankful Heart continued from front page)*

Here are 3 ways to practice an attitude of thankfulness in everyday life:

- Thank and praise God for everything in your life. Thank Him for even the difficulties. It is a sacrifice to do this. But He can turn troubles to triumph.
- Don't allow yourself to complain about anything. During the difficult times, be very careful to watch your tongue. Instead of complaining, think of ways you can verbally offer God the sacrifice of thanksgiving.
- Don't compare yourself with others. Don't wish that your life was different. God knows what is best. The Bible says having a thankful heart is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. When we begin to thank God for what we have rather than comparing ourselves with others, it opens the door for God's blessings.



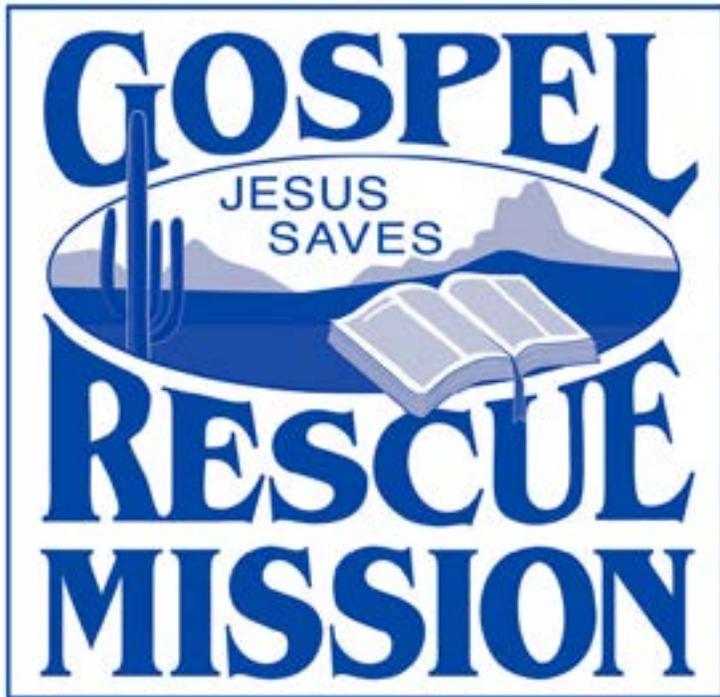
*"God smiles when we praise and thank Him continually. Few things feel better than receiving heartfelt praise and appreciation from someone else. God loves it, too. ... An amazing thing happens when we offer praise and thanksgiving to God. When we give God enjoyment, our own hearts are filled with joy." Rick Warren*



**Beautiful Feet**  
**Ascension's Lutherans for Life Chapter**  
 Wednesday, November 28, 6:30pm  
 | Grace Hall  
 Join us as we plan for January's *Walk for Life* and other sanctity of life discussions. Questions, please contact Warren Braun 544-0339.

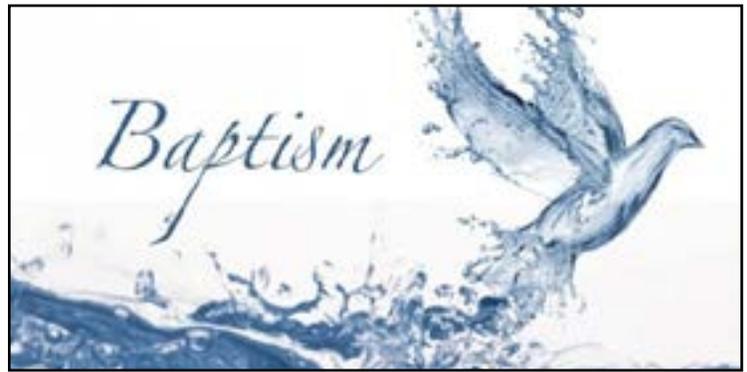


900 billion nerve cells\* gathered last week as ChristCare members celebrated God's amazing creation and walked in the fight against Alzheimers! (\*Did you know? The brain has 100 billion nerve cells (neurons.) <https://www.alz.org/alzheimers-dementia/what-is-alzheimers>



## \$22,348 raised!

Gospel Rescue Mission Sponsors have funded almost five rooms, and will continue with painting and laying wooden flooring on Saturday, January 5, 2019. Maybe this could be the first of your New Year's Resolutions! Questions? 742-2882.



## THE JOY OF BAPTISM

On Sunday, December 2 at the 10:31 service, we will be celebrating with 4 students from Ascension Lutheran School and one parent as they receive the gift of baptism. We would love to have you join in. Please contact the office if you would like to be baptized during this special baptism service as well. Also, join us after the service for a celebration lunch in Grace Hall.

Please note:  
The program is the service.  
Dinner to follow.  
Please join us!

*Life Touch* Connecting You through Family Photography

**UPDATE ASCENSION PHOTO DIRECTORY**  
Sign ups start this weekend!

On the weekends sign up at the Information Desk.

During the week signup online at [www.ascensiontucson.org](http://www.ascensiontucson.org).

Web link will be available Monday through Friday only!

**Volunteer needed** to make Coffee and pick up donuts for Sunday morning Fellowship between services in Grace Hall. Coffee and donuts will need to be ready to serve at 9:45. You will serve three times a year, on the first Sunday in February, June, and October or the second Sunday in April, August, December. There are 16 people you can call to trade days with, if you are unable to serve on your day. Please call Ruthann Stults 219-1527 or email [stultsruthann56@gmail.com](mailto:stultsruthann56@gmail.com)

# Gift Ideas

## Finish your gift trek by November 28

Ascension Gift Cards makes certain you're not late!  
 Scrip gifts sales from over 700 retailers benefit  
 Ascension Lutheran School's Scholarship Fund  
 Order November 14 – November 28 and finish your  
 Christmas shopping early! Assistance available November  
 24-25. For more information, call 742-6229 or 742-2882.

### CHRISTIAN CHRISTMAS CARDS

For sale Wednesdays  
 during Blanket Circle meetings in GRACE HALL  
 November 28, 9-12:00 | (NOT on the 21st, Thanksgiving break)  
 Other greeting cards also available.  
 Thank you for supporting Ascension Blanket Circle.

### AVAILABLE NOW!

**2018 Advent Five Faith Promises Calendar**

Pickup a hard copy at  
 the Information Desk  
 or download online [www.ascensiontucson.org](http://www.ascensiontucson.org)

### Candy Cane Lane A Christmas Tradition

Free Event  
 Family Fun  
 Reindeer Games  
 Pictures with Santa  
 Crafts  
 Sweet Shoppe (Goodies 4 Sale)  
 Hot Chocolate/Cider  
 December 7, 8, and 9, 2018 (5-8pm)

Volunteers needed to help with setup, staffing activities, and donations of goodies for the Sweet Shoppe. Contact the church office at 520.297.3095. This is an opportunity to reach out to the community with the message of God's love.

### ROASTED NUTS

1 pound \$15/half pound \$7.50.  
**STILL AVAILABLE!**  
**PROCEEDS GO TO THE KELLER BOREHOLE PROJECT**  
 Contact Terrie Ashbaugh 520.297.3095  
 or [t.ashbaugh@ascensiontucson.org](mailto:t.ashbaugh@ascensiontucson.org)

### Christmas Memories

A Free Christmas Concert By Ascension  
 A nostalgic trip through the ages

Join us as we experience some of our favorite Christmas memories. Clips from our favorite Christmas movies. Our band playing some of the most popular Christmas songs (secular and sacred) throughout history. Tasty holiday treats and drinks provided!

December 14, 7 p.m. | December 16, 3:30 p.m.

*A new, relaxed ministry*

### the gathering

**EVERY SUNDAY AFTERNOON**  
**LOCATION: The ROCK**  
**5pm: FOOD & FELLOWSHIP**  
**5:45pm: WORSHIP**  
 MUSIC  
 INTERACTIVE TEACHING  
 PRAYER

Childcare will be provided

**This week at the Gathering**, we look at the fifth beatitude: "You're blessed when you care. At the moment of being 'care-full,' you find yourselves cared for." (The Message) We start with sharing a meal: **BRING YOUR OWN AND/OR SOME TO SHARE**. Join us and bring a friend.

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