



East Columbus United Methodist Church

A Church for Everyone!

NOVEMBER 2026

P H I L I P P I A N S 4 : 1 3 , N I V

I can do all
this through him who
gives me strength.





Blessed to Be a Blessing

May the peace of God always be with you.

November is already upon us. One by one, the trees are letting go of their leaves, and the fields are preparing for winter as the year's harvest comes to an end. In this season of Thanksgiving, we pause for a moment to look back on the journey we have traveled. What blessings and grace has God given us throughout this year?

As we look back, we find so many reasons to be thankful. At times, our prayers were answered, and at other times, we experienced unexpected acts of kindness and helping hands. Of course, not everything went according to our plans. There were moments of joy, but there were also times of tears and pain. Yet, through it all, we can give thanks because God has been with us every step of the way. But this Thanksgiving, I would like us to reflect on one more question: How are we living out the grace that God has so generously given us?

In 2 Corinthians 9:8, the Apostle Paul reminds us that God is able to bless us abundantly with His grace so that we may abound in every good work. The blessings God has given us are not meant for ourselves alone. God desires that the grace we have received be shared with others.

I often think of God's grace as flowing water. As water flows, it brings life, refreshes dry ground, and allows new life to grow. In the same way, when the love and grace we have received from God do not remain within us but flow into the lives of others, they can bring new hope and comfort to someone in need.

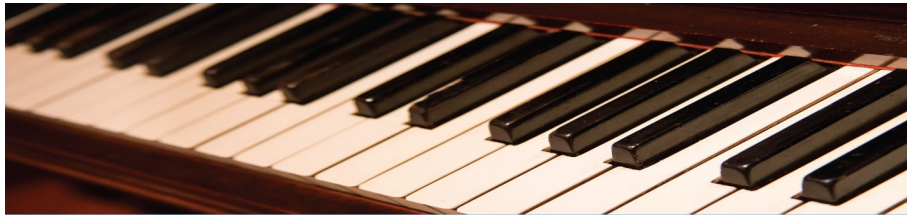
Sharing God's love does not have to be something grand or extraordinary. A warm greeting to a lonely neighbor, a small act of kindness toward someone going through a difficult time, a prayer for someone who is sick, or simply taking the time to listen to someone's story, through these simple acts, we can share God's love. Sometimes, a small kindness that seems insignificant to us can give someone the strength they need to make it through the day.

Dear brothers and sisters, gratitude is not merely something we express with our lips. It is a fruit of faith that is revealed through the way we live. When we remember the grace we have received from God, we also discover the joy of sharing that grace with others. And as we love and serve one another, the world will come to experience God's love more closely through us.

This Thanksgiving, as we gratefully remember the blessings God has given us, I invite you to also consider with whom we might share those blessings. Our small acts of love and service may become a channel through which someone else experiences God's grace.

May the grace we have received never remain with us alone, but continue to flow through us into the lives of others. I love you all and pray God's blessings upon you.

In the grace of Christ,
Pastor Jongmin



I have mentioned before some of the spam messages (scam messages may be a better term) we get. People impersonating one of us and asking for a digital version of the pictorial directory (which doesn't even exist here), and so forth. Some act like our email boxes on the server are full, we need to verify our email, we have been billed hundreds of dollars for an antivirus program, etc.

I was warned decades ago about such things and recognize them really quickly, even if there are no misspellings or things like asking for digital gift cards and the like. I thought, though, how good are we at recognizing the devil and his devices?

A line in "Greater Is He" says it well: "satan's like a roaring lion, roaming to and fro. Seeking whom he may devour, the Bible tells me so." That is taken right out of 1 Peter 5:8: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."

I know a gospel singer who doesn't want to acknowledge the devil at all. He feels that Christians give him too much credit and attention. While I can appreciate that in one way, he has a point that sometimes we talk about what the devil is doing and maybe not as much about what the Lord is doing or has done. Or maybe we aren't even seeing what God has done or is doing. By the same token, I think ignoring the realities of his work is not wise.

Now, I don't know if this singer puts his proverbial fingers in his ears, singing "la la la la la" to ignore him, or if he simply doesn't want to give him any recognition while being aware of his existence and behavior. I am leaning toward the second, but I am not one hundred percent sure.

Someone once said something to the effect that the devil doesn't really mind if we doubt his existence or don't pay him any mind at all, as long as he can get us to deny God's and use that to do his work unchecked.

But I think there is spiritual warfare going on, and it is to our detriment to ignore him entirely. I am all for seeing beyond the devil and his work and realizing that God is more powerful, but there is room for both.

I also once heard it said that the devil doesn't show up in a red suit with a pitchfork, but can show up in much more subtle ways. It can be in the form of something we want, temptation, and so forth. I love the line from "Til the Storm Passes By" that says, "many times satan whispered, 'there is no need to try.'" That demonstrates two things. First, satan often whispers. He isn't coming in with a lot of fanfare.

The other thing is discouragement, hopelessness, feeling "what's the use," and so forth. That song goes on to say, "for there's no end of sorrow there's no hope by and by." But the writer, Mosie Lister, doesn't stop there (which maybe some do). It goes on to say, "But, I know Thou art with me, and tomorrow I will rise, where the storms never darkens the sky."

Probably the only thing I would add is the in-between, but maybe even that is covered in the "Thou art with me." Nonetheless, while we are in battle and the devil gets his licks in, we have God to protect us and help us.

Once, some months back, when I believe God worked mightily in a choir rehearsal with a song I felt led to have us work on after years of wanting to, I was at home late at night watching some TV and trying to wind down for bed. I also believe the devil tried mightily to tempt me. Thankfully, I didn't give in to any of that, but I am not sure I realized until a little later that it was more than coincidence, but him trying to interfere with what had happened just hours prior.

Sometimes I think we might be shocked if we could see the battles going on behind the scenes. I love how author Frank Peretti shows that in his books "This Present Darkness" and "Piercing the Darkness." It has been over 30 years, likely, since I read them (and I should reread them), but as I recall, one chapter will show the things happening in people's lives and the visible things that happen as a result, and the next will show the spiritual battles happening behind the scenes, with angels and demons fighting.

I am typing this as Gini is completing what will now be last month's newsletter.. I normally wouldn't be doing this for another couple of weeks, but I was inspired after getting a spam message trying to get me to click a link that was fake.

It also occurred to me that perhaps this is timely, in just finishing up October when you read this, when so often the focus is on scary things and evil things. In my view, we should not ignore the existence of evil or danger, but not stop there, as the song we have sung before says: "God is bigger than the boogeyman."

HOOSIER TRAILS COUNCIL

Troop 549



November 6-7th

We are having our annual trip to Ray's Mountain bike park in Cleveland, Ohio. Last year it snowed while we were there. Hopefully we will have good traveling weather this year. We always have a great time.



November 14th

This is merit badge day. We will be taking some fun merit badges and hopefully some eagle required one also.

If you know any girls or boys that are interested in scouting the door is always open for their visit on our scout nights. Please feel free to pass my contact information to anyone interested in visiting or joining our troop. Ages need to be 5 years old for Cub Scouts and 11 years old to join and less than 18. Meeting time Thursday is at 6:30 – 8:00 at the Youth Center.

Bruce McIntosh, Scoutmaster
812-374-9009
brucemcintoshbsa@yahoo.com



Join Our Troop



Happy Thanksgiving!!

A man was talking with his friend over a game of checkers.

“I just bought a new pair of shoes to help me with my memory”, he told his friend.

“Really?? How are new shoes going to help you with your memory?”, his friend asked.

“They have memory foam insoles ... so when I wear them, I’ll remember why I came into the kitchen!”

“May you be given more and more of God’s kindness, peace and love.” Jude 1:2

Eat lots of turkey and pie but don't forget to thank God for all His blessings!

May God fill you belly and your life Timothy



o v e r m b e r

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Daylight Savings Time ENDS Regular Worship	2	3 10am - Prayer Hr	4 6pm- Choir	5 5:30pm, Trustee Meeting 6:30pm-Scouts	6	7
8 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday Sch. 5pm - Grace's Table	9	10 10am - Prayer Hr	11 6pm- Choir 	12 6:30pm-Scouts	13	14
15 Christmas Shoe Boxes due 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday Sch.	16	17 10am - Prayer Hr	18 6pm-Choir	19 6:30pm-Scouts	20	21
22 Hanging of the Greens & Luncheon 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday Sch.	23	24 10am - Prayer Hr	25 6pm-Choir BCSC no school	26 	27 BCSC no school Office closed	28
29 1st Sunday of Advent 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday Sch.	30					



Nov. 1...Devon Reese

“ 1...Angie Sherfick

“ 6...Lilli Sanford

“ 13...Rosalie Pfister

“ 18...Larry Skinner

“ 21...Carol McIntosh

Bertha Winn

News



From the Mail Box...



Daylight Saving Time ends Oct. 31. Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday.

Thank you for all the cards, calls and prayers for the healing of my leg. -Helen Conley



Veterans
Thank You for Your Service!

On Veterans Day, we honor men and women who've served and sacrificed in one of America's armed services.

One November 11, 1918, America and her allies signed a truce with German leaders, ending World War 1. In 1919, President Wilson decided the United States should remember with gratitude the end of that war and honor military members by marking Armistice Day, or "truce" day. In 1954, Congress changed the name to Veterans Day, honoring veterans of every era.

Veterans Day highlights our country's quest for peace, justice and freedom throughout the world. Followers of Jesus, the Prince of peace, pray for unity among all nations and for the day when "nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore" (Isaiah 2:4, NIV).

Here's what's
happening!

Grace's Table Free Meal Sunday, Oct. 11, at 5pm in the Youth Center. All are welcome.

Weekly Prayer Hour, every Tuesday a prayer time is held from 10am to 11am in the sanctuary. Come and pray for a few minutes or the entire hour. Please enter through the Elevator Door



ECUMC is participating again this year packing shoe boxes for children around the world. Shoe boxes will be collected on Sunday, November 15.

Hanging of the Greens



November 22, 2026

Lunch will be provided immediately after Sunday School. Then we will decorate the church

 **Love Chapel**

ECUMC gave \$550 for the Love Chapel Christmas Feast Baskets. Thanks to everyone for giving.

Office will be closed November 27 on observance of Thanksgiving.



East Columbus United Methodist Church
2439 Indiana Avenue, Columbus IN 47201

Return Service Requested

Jongmin Lee, Senior Minister
Terry Snyder, Music Director
Angie Sherfick, Adm. Assistant

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Pastor Email: jongmin.lee@inumc.org
Worship Director Email: music@eastcolumbusumc.org
Church Website: www.eastcolumbusumc.org

9:00 am - Worship Service
10:10am - Sunday School

OUR CHURCH MISSION
Growing the Family of God by Making
Loving Disciples of Jesus Christ.