



**SMITHVILLE
BRETHREN CHURCH**

"Introducing people to Christ - together becoming completely committed Christians."



Forward Look

Issue 11

www.smithvillebrethren.org

November 2022



The Countdown has Begun!



Do you have your shoebox packed yet? If not, it is not too late. **Final Collection Sunday is November 13.**

Stop by the OCC display and pick up one or more boxes, and bring them back by Collection Sunday. If you have already packed one, why not pick up another box and pack it this week? Then bring all of the boxes with you on, or before November 13. Remember, that every box is an opportunity to present the Gospel to a child that has never heard about Jesus.

Did you know you can fill a shoebox online? Go to: www.samaritanaspurse.org/occ, and find the link to Build a Shoe Box Online. There is a \$25 fee for each box.

We are also in need of volunteers to help at the *Drop-Off Center* here at our church *November 14-21*. Other churches, or individuals, will drop off boxes here to be packed in shipping cartons to start their trip to one of over 100 countries around the world. If you are willing to sign up for one or more of the two-hour slots, the sign-up sheet is on the Information table. Hours are Nov. 14-18 - 6:00-8:00 pm; also Nov. 15 & 17 - 10:00 am-12:00 noon; Nov. 19 - 10:00-2:00 pm; Nov. 20 - 2:00-4:00 pm; Nov. 21 - 8:00-10:00 am.

If you have any questions, contact Rex or Bobbi McConahay at church or call 234-429-0044. Thanks for helping!

"And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name, welcomes me." Matt. 18:5



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Love Packages are on the move! Thank you to all who donated materials to Love Packages. There were so many nice Bibles, books on Christian living, and devotionals as well as some children's materials, that

it nearly filled a minivan.

As always, the people at Smithville Brethren came through with amazing generosity. One load has been delivered to the collection point in Delaware, Ohio, and we are off to a good start on a second load.

Now the collection boxes at church will be put away until after spring cleaning when they will again make a brief appearance. Thanks again to all who donated!
Norm Ream

Thank you for helping Riverside Christian School! We appreciate it!

Dear Youth Group - THANK YOU! We loved the caramel apples! What a treat! What a creative and seasonal idea. Thanks for thinking of us. You are a blessing!
Smithville High School Staff

Dear Church Family, We just wanted to again thank everyone for their prayers, cards of encouragement, texts, phone calls, emails and the wonderful meals. They have meant so much to us.

We wanted to update everyone on Larry's condition. There are days that have been extremely painful and difficult, but he has been bouncing back. There have been numerous times that we thought things were coming to an end. It's been like a roller coaster. He has far exceeded the time limit that the oncologist gave him. The Hospice Nurse feels like Larry's positive attitude has kept him alive this long. We are very thankful for the bouncing back.

We have been so blessed by the compassion and love that everyone has shown us. Thank you again.

Love in Jesus,
Larry and Nely Harris

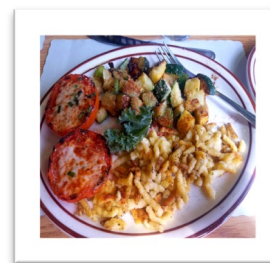


Our next Prime Time lunch will be Monday, November 7, at 12 noon, here at SBC in the upper fellowship hall.

Please go to:
smithvillebrethren.org
"More"
"Sign-Ups"
"Prime Time Lunch."

If you need help signing up, call the church office and we will be happy to sign you up.

Deadline for signing up is November 1.

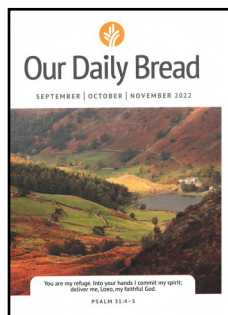


OUR DAILY BREAD

The regular print and large print issues are available at all three doors.

You may call or stop by the office and pick one up or have one mailed to you.

The devotionals are also available at odb.org if you want to read them online.

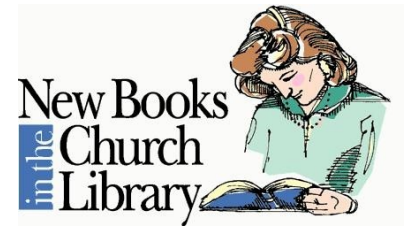


Christmas Carol Celebration!
Sunday, December 4, 2:00 pm
Punch and cookie reception to follow

A Note from Your Librarian

There are SO many new books coming in weekly, so be sure to check out the library when you get a chance.

I would like to highlight a couple of books that you may enjoy:



1. *Wild at Heart* by John Eldredge. “Every Man was once a boy. And every little boy has dreams; dreams of being the hero, of beating the bad guys; of doing daring feats and rescuing the damsel in distress. Every girl has dreams, too: of being rescued by her prince and swept up into a great adventure, knowing that she is the *beauty*. In ***Wild at Heart***, John Eldredge invites men to recover their masculine heart, defined in the image of a *passionate* God. And he invites women to discover the secret of a man’s soul and to delight in the strength and wildness men were created to offer.”

2. *You’ll Think of Me* by Robin Lee Hatcher. In a small town in Idaho’s wine country, where the past looms large, can two people realize their individual dreams for the future...TOGETHER?

3. *When the Meadow Blooms* by Ann H Gabhart. If any place on God’s earth was designed to help one heal, it is Meadowland. At Meadowland, past troubles become rich soil in which faith can grow. (“Her Best Historical, Inspirational book yet.”)

4. *HEARTS OF HONOR SERIES*- by Sharlene MacLaren. Three books so far in this series:

1. *Her Rebel Heart* - June 1863 - Ripley, West Virginia
2. *Her Steadfast Heart* - June 1864 - Lebanon, Ohio
3. *Her Guarded Heart* - June 1865- Lebanon, Ohio.

Look for all the new books on the Library back wall or on the table.

Keep Reading!

Your Librarian,
Rachel Krabill

Quote: “Nothing is impossible. The word itself says: I’M POSSIBLE !!
Audrey Hepburn

2022 Christmas Kettle Campaign - "Love Beyond" Bell Ringing

Volunteers are needed for this outreach - we have chosen Saturday, December 3, 2022, at the grocery side of Walmart. Times available are from 9:00 am - 9:00 pm in one hour time slots. Sign up sheet is available at the information table.

Any questions please feel free to reach out to Michelle Lucci 330-465-9948.



November 10

Erik & Jessie Dravenstott
10th anniversary

November 14

Matt & Kristi Kovacs
30th anniversary

November 26

Donald & Bethany Hart
17th anniversary



Friends' Club

(age 5-5th grade)

Join us Sunday, November 6th, from 2:00-4:00 pm

as we focus on thankfulness and helping others. We will be collecting toys for **Toys for Tots**.



We will also have a special performance from H.I.S. Puppets.

Please sign up at the information table. Contact Jessica Dravenstott at 330-936-0141, with any questions.

Come join Friend's Club!

Future dates:

December 18th 5:00 pm Christmas Caroling - Meet in LFH, please sign up at the information table (after 11/6)



"Here we come a-caroling!"

January 22nd 2:00-4:00 pm Roller Skating at Acres of Fun



(6th-12th grade)

Nov. 13 - 6:00-7:30 pm Thankfulness Service Project

We will be putting together thankfulness bags to hand out in services on November 20th.



Thanksgiving

Nov. 20 - Hand out thankfulness bags in all three services.

Dec. 4 - 6:00-7:30 pm Christmas Party

Pizza, ornaments, and Snoops

Please RSVP with Pastor Scott (937-206-6986) for pizza and ornament. Bring one White Elephant Gift (\$10 and under) if you want to participate in Snoops.



Please join us for these events!

Dec. 18 - 5:00 pm-? Christmas Caroling with Friends' Club

Dress warmly as we will be outside caroling. Pizza at church following caroling. Please RSVP with Pastor Scott (937-206-6986) for pizza.



CAROLING

Any questions regarding current activities, please contact Chet Underwood at 330-464-1400 or Pastor Scott.



Reminder - Turn clocks back one hour on November 6

From the Associate Pastor...



Three million Africans forcibly transported via the British slave trade. Millions murdered in the Holocaust. Two million children trafficked this year in the global sex trade. A million-and-a-half children dead of diarrhea yearly. The ravages of heart disease, cancer, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and birth defects. Incidents of COVID-19 and global terrorism, besides sectarian violence and generational poverty. Richard Dawkins looks at all this and declares that our universe "has precisely the properties we should expect if there is, at bottom, no design, no purpose, no evil, no good, nothing but pitiless indifference." (A River out of Eden: A Darwinian View of Life, p. 133)

Thanksgiving Day is a yearly opportunity to gather family around a dinner of gratitude. The hope is our giving of thanks is more abundant than the calories we consume. No guarantees on how successful we will all be, but at least it should give us pause in a world of daily suffering. Whatever else we see the rest of the year, Thanksgiving should train us to see what we have been given rather than had to endure.

Why God allows suffering is perhaps the most difficult question any thinking Christian can answer, and beyond the scope of a short newsletter article. But allow me to make one observation and one recommendation.

An observation

Richard Dawkins is only half right. He is right that suffering should bother us. But we must never see our Creator as the source of only suffering. He is also most generous with us. I may have prematurely lost a wife, but I have also been given two healthy children. I may have lost a biological father, but I was raised in a Christian home. If God permits the former, He grants the latter.

A recommendation

We see what we choose to see. And what we choose to see becomes a habit that is meant to be sharpened for Christ. We first develop that habit with our eyes (or mind). Philippians 4:8 says,

Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. (NLT)

Then we use our mouths. Ephesians 5:20 tells us,

... give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (NLT)

As you sit around the Thanksgiving table, take a moment to FOCUS on some good things in your life. Then take a moment to SAY THANK YOU for them.

Until next month ...

Pastor Scott



November 4
Tate Riggenschach

November 5
Jacob Cline
Judy Reinking

November 6
Carol Hochstetler

November 8
Rochelle Shane

November 9
Julie Hostettler

November 10
Jobeth Carpenter

November 11
Nathan Creekmore
Jeremy Cortimilia
Dawn Cortimilia

November 12
Anita Roller
April Pearce
Beth Pearce

November 13
Bill Weeman

November 15
Dana Sillman
Dennis Schnipke

November 16
Marti Schwartzfigure

November 17
Heidi Rennecker
Renee McConahay

November 18
Elizabeth Frantz

November 19
Elliott King

November 20
Ben McConahay

November 21
Gene McConahay
Ryan Smith

November 22
Karen Troyer
Nichole Baab
Matthew Roe
John Clabaugh

November 23
Josh Rennecker

November 25
Sandy Stutzman
Bruce Wilson

November 26
Austin Burns
Stephen Harris

November 27
Bill Snyder
Mary Weeman
Mark Bachman

November 28
Lou Kiba
Lloyd Horst

November 29
Tessa Underwood

November 30
Clark Grimm



November 2022

		1 6:30-8:30 Ladies' Bible Study LFH	2 6:30 Time of Prayer 7:30 Choir practice	3 6:30-8:30 Ladies' Bible Study Disciplers UFH	4	5 9:00 am Bell Choir practice
6 9:00 T Worship Service 10:15 T Worship Service/SS 11:30 C Worship Service 2:00-4:00 Friends' Club	7 12:00 Prime Time Lunch 6:30 CE Board	8 Board of Elections UFH all day	9 6:30 Time of Prayer 7:30 Choir practice	10 6:30-8:30 Ladies' Bible Study Disciplers UFH	11	12 9:00 am Bell Choir practice 12:00-8:30 UFH/K in use
13 9:00 T Worship Service 10:15 T Worship Service/SS 11:30 C Worship Service 6:00 Annual Business Mtg 6:00-7:30 Element 4:12	14	15 Operation Christmas Child Drop-Off Center	16 6:30 Time of Prayer 7:30 Choir practice	17 Nov. 14-21 6:00-8:00 Ruritans LFH 6:30-8:30 Ladies' Bible Study Disciplers classroom	18 see hours	19 9:00 am Bell Choir practice
20 9:00 T Worship Service 10:15 T Worship Service/SS 11:30 C Worship Service OCC Drop-Off Center	21 Food Distribution 6:30 Official Board OCC Drop-Off Center	22	23 6:30 Time of Prayer 7:30 Choir practice	24 Giving Thanks	25 Office Closed	26 9:00 am Bell Choir practice
27 9:00 T Worship Service 10:15 T Worship Service/SS 11:30 C Worship Service	28	29	30			



Nursery/Jr Church Schedule

	Nov. 6	Nov. 13	Nov. 20	Nov. 27
9:00 Nursery	Chin-Chin Frantz Erica Shaffer	April/Beth Pearce Wendy Fetter	Kelly White Jenna Buss	Jennifer Carr Bev Kail
10:15 Nursery (Sunday School/ Worship Hour)	Sylvia King Bobbi McConahay Patti Steiner	Sylvia King Sue McConahay Patti Steiner	Sylvia King Patti Steiner Bobbi McConahay	Lisa Zemancik Jessie Dravenstott
11:30 Nursery	Rochelle Shane Cassandra Gasser	Sara Beichler Sylvia King	Julie Hostettler Gwen Zimmerly	Sarah Bozsik Ashley Burns
9:00 Jr. Church	Kim Chittenden Erik/Jessie Dravenstott	Emily Chenevey Chin-Chin Frantz	Susan Dilyard Deb Cline	Jane Still Bridgett Collins
11:30 Jr. Church	Scott Fetter Sabrina Brandenburg	Chet Underwood Sarah Bozsik	Russ King Ashley Burns	Scott Fetter Cindy Cline

Ministry Statistics: Attendance & Giving

Date	Attendance				Weekly Giving
	Sunday School	9:00	10:15	11:30	
10/2	145	181	43	60	\$19,245.00
10/9	148	168	51	61	\$16,587.68
10/16	156	185	37	62	\$14,042.30
10/23	125	144	33	?	\$4,937.00

Ministry Statistics: Designated Giving

Blanket Ministry	\$825.00	Prime Time Lunch	\$45.00
Camp Bethany Capital Project	\$1,829.83	Riverside Christian School	\$540.00
Copies	\$24.00	Salt & Light Ministry	\$162.00
Flowers	\$70.00	Samaritans Purse - OCC	\$200.00
Improvement Fund	\$500.00		

Puzzle!

Although the Bible doesn't mention turkey feasts, the gospels do describe a miracle dinner that made thousands of hungry people thankful (see Matthew 14:13-21). Fill in the words to complete a poem about that meal.

Hint: Each pair of line endings should rhyme.

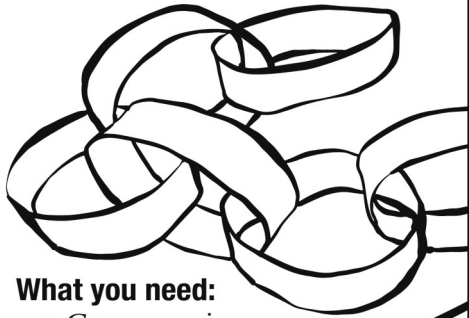
Word Box	ate	faces	quest	then
	began	late	ran	ton
	bunch	lunch	rest	true
	done	men	spaces	you

Jesus was tired and went to find _____.
 So away from the crowd he started his _____.
 It came to an end before it _____.
 The crowd followed Jesus; they walked and they _____.
 His boat pulled ashore, and he looked at their _____.
 Five thousand men, plus families, filled all open _____.
 And so Jesus spoke, and he taught until _____.
 The disciples told him it was time they all _____.
 Jesus said, "Yes, that is certainly _____."
 And feeding this crowd is now up to _____."
 Feeding five thousand! It could not be _____.
 What would they do? They'd need a whole _____.
 But then a young boy came and offered his _____.
 Five loaves and two fish to feed this big _____?
 Jesus gave thanks and blessed it and _____ ...
 it fed all the women, the children and _____.

Answer: rest, quest, began, ran, faces, spaces, late, ate, true, you, done, ton, lunch, bunch, then, men

Links of GRATITUDE

Make this meaningful decoration for your Thanksgiving table.



What you need:

- Construction paper (in fall colors)
- Scissors
- Pen
- Jar
- Stapler
- Adult help



What you do:

1. Cut the paper into strips about 2 inches wide.
2. Place the strips and pen in the jar. Then set it in a prominent place in your home.
3. Throughout November, have family discussions about what you're thankful to God for. Write or draw each item on a paper strip.
4. Make a paper chain by linking and carefully stapling the strips.
5. Keep adding to your decoration and display it during your Thanksgiving meal.

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