



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS NOVEMBER ~ 2019

All events are at the church building unless otherwise noted.

\* Indicates an article is elsewhere in this newsletter

- Nov 3 – Daylight Savings Time ends
- Nov 3 – International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church\*
- Nov 3 – African Harvest/Fanny & Martha Nyamutora\*
- Nov 10 – Monthly Building Offering
- Nov 12 – Dorcas Fellowship at 1:30pm
- Nov 12 – Church Board meeting at 7:30pm
- Nov 14-17 – International Conference on Missions at Kansas City [www.theicom.org](http://www.theicom.org)
- Nov 17 – Watch the MN Vikings on the Big Screens\*
- Nov 18-23 – OCC Drop-Off Location at church\*
- Nov 24 – Special collection to be taken for OCC Shoebox shipping costs. Potluck Lunch and OCC packing party.\*
- Nov 28 – Thanksgiving Day\*

### WATCH ON THE BIG SCREENS

at the Cleveland Church of Christ  
Minnesota Vikings vs. Denver Broncos



Sunday, November 17 – Game starts at noon.



### LONG RANGE PLANNING

- Dec 8 – Monthly Building Offering
- Dec 10 – Dorcas Fellowship at 1:30pm
- Dec 10 – Church Board meeting at 7:30pm
- Dec 15 – Benson Family Singers
- Dec 19 – January newsletter articles due
- Dec 22 – Children's Christmas Program
- Dec 24 – Christmas Eve
- Dec 25 – Christmas Day
- Dec 31 – New Year's Eve

### MORTGAGE BURNING



Praise God, we had a mortgage burning on Sunday, October 27. We have paid off the loan for our church building which was constructed in 2004/2005. Doing the burning honors were Anna Dickie and Marshall Heldberg.

Anna was the youngest member when the building was built and dedicated. Marshall is the youngest member of our congregation today.

### TEXAS MISSION TRIP



Judy Lloyd from our Cleveland church family joined others on a mission trip to Vidor, Texas, October 18-27. They were helping with hurricane & flooding recovery efforts.

### LADIES BIBLE STUDY



These ladies completed their Bible study of the Bible book of Hebrews on October 23. Thank you to Jo Rupe for leading us so ably!

### ZIMBABWE MISSIONARIES



Fanny & Martha Nyamutora of African Harvest-Zimbabwe Missions will be with us on Sunday, November 3 for our Sunday class hour and worship service. We will have a Potluck Fellowship meal after the worship service in their honor. Plan on coming for their presentation at 9:00am.



## THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Sunday, November 3rd marks the annual International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. Remember our Brothers and Sisters who suffer because they follow & serve Jesus.



## Thanksgiving Dinner



Our Cleveland church family is hosting a Thanksgiving Meal at the church building on Thanksgiving Day, November 28 at noon. The Graydon Dickie Family is heading up this event again this year. Check with Graydon if you are interested in helping them. This meal is open to anyone from our church and the community. We will be asking those who are able to do so to sign up that they are coming for the meal so as to plan for food amounts.

**Operation Christmas Child** is a ministry of Samaritan's Purse. Since 1993 they have distributed 168,000,000 shoe boxes in over 150 countries with the help of people like us.



To learn more, visit [www.SamaritansPurse.org](http://www.SamaritansPurse.org).

This is the Cleveland church's 20th year of participation in this ministry to children around the world. See our foyer display at church for information about packing a box and for pre-printed shoeboxes. There you can see several ways you can be involved in this mission.

### CLEVELAND CHURCH PACKING PARTY

Our Potluck Bread & Soups Meal and OCC Packing Party on Sunday, Nov 24. This event is for all ages!

Give money to the Cleveland church to help ship the shoeboxes we pack at our Packing Party. On the 24th, we will receive a special offering for that purpose, but donations can be made before that date; make checks to the Cleveland Church of Christ with 'OCC shipping' on the memo line.

### CLEVELAND DROP-OFF LOCATION

This will be our 10th year as an official OCC Drop-Off Location. Community members and nearby churches can bring their filled shoeboxes to us and we will see they get to the next stop. We need volunteers to run our Drop-Off Location at specified times. See our OCC display at church for our Drop-Off Location hours and our sign-up list to help.



On October 13th, ten brothers and sisters in Christ placed their membership with us here in Cleveland. They are Steve Anderson, Jim & Bev Anderson, Gary & Sharon Hewitt, Myla Salfer, Cherie Hill, Terri Nelson and David & Darcy Gibson.

On October 27th, we welcomed Jeff and Charlotte Nordrum into our Cleveland church family.



God bless each one of you. We look forward to working together as one body serving Jesus.

## *the christmas experience*

Back by popular demand: From the Sundays Nov 17 – Dec 22, our adult Sunday Bible class using DVD lessons will revisit "The Christmas Experience" by pastor & author Kyle Idleman. These lessons will unfold the events surrounding the birth of Jesus. This class meets in the church library starting each Sunday at 9:00am. All are welcome to join this Christmas study!



CHURCH OF CHRIST  
900 State Highway 99  
PO Box 307  
Cleveland, MN 56017

**OUR HEAD:** Jesus Christ  
**OUR LEADERS:** Our Church Elders  
**CHURCH SECRETARY:** Lisa Koppelman

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

9:00 a.m. – Bible Classes  
10:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time  
10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

**CHURCH WEBSITE:** [www.clevelandchurch.net](http://www.clevelandchurch.net)  
**FACEBOOK:** Church of Christ, Cleveland, MN, USA  
**OFFICE PHONE:** 507-931-5924  
**OFFICE EMAIL:** [clchurch@live.com](mailto:clchurch@live.com)  
**SECRETARY EMAIL:** [clchurchlisa@live.com](mailto:clchurchlisa@live.com)  
**PRAYER CHAIN:** [clchurchprayer@live.com](mailto:clchurchprayer@live.com)



**BIRTHDAYS:** November 4- Nancy Weber; 11- Oliver Reid; 14- Brian Phillips; 18- Marilee Burch, Mary Lou Guentzel; 20- Jan Harmon; 22- Betty Lloyd, Jeff Osborne; 23- Tim Possin, Cole Wobbrock; 25- Graydon Dickie, Matthew Theis; 26- Deb Guentzel; 27- Lisa Koppelman

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

November 17- Frank & Rachel Heldberg; 24- John & Lisa Sprague





## **Give Thanks to the Lord for He Is Good**

*By Sherm Rupe – Elder*

When I was a kid, I always looked forward to Thanksgiving Day. Actually, it was more of a season because my mother prepped and planned many days before. We always bought the biggest turkey we could find. My brothers and I helped to cut veggies and make the stuffing. I remember the pie making the night before and arguing with my brothers as to who got to lick the pumpkin bowl. My mom got up very early on Thanksgiving Day and put the turkey into the oven. It didn't take long for the smell of roast turkey to permeate throughout the house.

As it is with most families, we had our traditions. In addition to the feast, which was the star of the day, we spent some important moments telling each other what made us thankful. Jo and I and our family have kept this tradition alive.

The idea of a day of thanks dates back to Biblical times. The Jews celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles, giving thanks for getting out of Egypt and into the promised land. The American tradition is that the Pilgrims had the first thanksgiving here. In any event, we have set aside the fourth Thursday of November as the "official" Thanksgiving Day. It's a holiday; no mail; no school; lots of football games and of course lots to eat.

As Christians, the act of being thankful should be ingrained in us. Every time we pray, we should express our thanks; thanks for God's blessings on our lives and more importantly, thanks for his profound love in sending his son, Jesus. Giving thanks honors God. Giving thanks is commanded in scripture.

We all know people who may be going through a bad patch. There could be loss of loved ones, loss of jobs or marriage issues. There may be times when it seems God has abandoned us. In those times, it may be difficult to feel thankful. But being thankless is a dangerous place to be. It can lead to depression, pettiness or occupation with self, all tools of the devil. Giving thanks helps to keep us focused on God.

In the New Testament, Paul writes that it is important to give thanks at all times and in all situations. At the Last Supper, Jesus took bread and gave thanks; he then took the cup and gave thanks. In Psalms, we read that we should enter His gates with thanksgiving.

As for me, I am thankful for Jesus. I am thankful for Jo, the love of my life. I am thankful for my family and friends. I am thankful for my Pastor John and his family. I am forever grateful to God who constantly reminds me to whom I am thankful.

I wish everyone a blessed Thanksgiving. Enjoy the feast, enjoy the fellowship and remember to give thanks to the Creator of the Universe.