



November 17, 2017

Greetings friends,

An attitude of gratitude – that is something we focus on in this season of Thanksgiving. It could certainly be argued that we should embrace that way of thinking throughout the year, especially in this land of plenty that we live in.

Two of the first terms we teach our children are “please” and “thank you”. For children who first learn to communicate with sign language, “please” and “thank you” often become a part of their vocabulary before they even become one-year-olds. And, as is often the case, they understand the terms before they sign them. Clearly, these words are important and help foster good relationships with our neighbors.

I find it curious then, that I’m hearing less and less of those two terms out in the world. It is shameful. It’s also a little embarrassing (and perhaps risky) to have to chide some kids, teenagers and even a few adults to remember to say “please” if they want something from me. My gentle, respectful reminder is often met with an embarrassed expression and apology. But sometimes I’ll get an eye roll along with a slightly sarcastic please, and occasionally and most sadly, I’ll receive a blank stare. Yikes! What is happening to our culture when such simple courtesy is abandoned? Notice I didn’t say “common courtesy” because, it seems like it is becoming less common all the time.

The only thing I can think to do is to keep modeling the kind of behavior I want to see in others myself. What we do and how we treat one another is noticed. It is important to choose to be polite and kind and to remember the earliest lessons learned as children. Being caring and courteous to our neighbors and loved ones is always in vogue and a precious something we should never abandon or outgrow.

*To sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kind-hearted and humble in spirit.* 1 Peter 3:8

**This Week at Grace** – *This Sunday we will celebrate Thanksgiving. Pastor Fred’s message this week, Job: Suffering and a New Vision of God is inspired by Job 1:1. The Chancel Choir will sing “Thanks for Giving”. Cathy Hermanson is our liturgist this week with Mark & Joan Barrett and Dan & Marilyn Webster serving as greeters. Claudia Pauk, Kate Feil, and Mike & Patsy Jensen will be acting as ushers. As always, worship begins at 9:15. You’re invited to Fellowship Hall after worship for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Brunch. Egg Bake is on the menu with all free-will offering proceeds to benefit the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry. Sunday school begins at 10:30. Please join us!*

*Please remember to bring your 2018 pledge card and place in the offering plate this Sunday! We will have a special Commitment Blessing as a part of our service on Sunday.*

**The Missions Committee meets this Sunday at 8:15 a.m.**

**Angel Tree Gift slips will be available** in the Narthex THIS Sunday morning. Please plan to pick up a slip or two to help make a local child’s Christmas a little brighter this year.

**At 4 pm on November 19<sup>th</sup> (THIS Sunday afternoon), Bishop Laurie and Gary** will be at the Huxley Trinity UMC and Cambridge UMC. This gathering will be hosted at [Huxley Trinity](#) and is open to any and all UMC pastors and lay persons in the area and across the district. This gathering will include a conversation with Bishop Laurie in which everyone present is encouraged to participate. The church is located at 102 Lynwood Drive in Huxley.

**Meals on Wheels – Meals on Wheels – Nov. 20** Henricks **Nov. 21** Sampson **Nov 22** Bohner Thank you all for your service!

**With only four teams, G.R.A.C.E. Teams share the month of December** to give us balance the rest of the year. During the month of December each of our four G.R.A.C.E. Teams will be responsible for one Sunday. Team E will provide ushers and greeters on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Team A will take Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> and Team G will cover Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. Team C will provide greeters and ushers for both the 24<sup>th</sup> and the 31<sup>st</sup>. If you are not a Team C member, but would be available to help with either of the worship services on Christmas Eve please call the church office (733-4712).

**Newsletter articles and reports are due in the office by Monday, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>, please!**

The Story Theater is proud to present the inspiring, faith-themed ***Same Kind of Different As Me*** THIS Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Nov. 17, 18, 19, with showings at 7 p.m. each evening, plus matinees on Saturday and Sunday at 4:30 p.m. Admission is only \$4 and it's rated PG-13. For more information call [515/733-4551](tel:5157334551) (to leave a message) or [515/733-4319](tel:5157334319) (during theater hours).

**Immanuel Lutheran Church is hosting a Christmas Luncheon and Bake Sale** on Saturday, December 2 from 11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. Menu includes: variety of soups, bread, rice pudding, Scandinavian treats and a Hot Chocolate Bar. The price is \$10 for full meal or \$5 for dessert/drink only. **BAKE SALE WILL FEATURE SCANDINAVIAN BAKED GOODS.**

**As you pray this week, please remember these friends and hold each up in special prayer:**

Natalie Tryon; Denny Michel; Julie Jacobson; Ray Hults; Lois Johnson; Norman Patti; Pam Hillis; Jeanne Hohneke; Al Rau;; Cooper Leeman; Taylor family in Africa mission

### **News You Can Use**

#### **Sunday, November 19 – Our Thanksgiving Service**

8:15 AM Missions

9:15 AM Worship – choir sings; Commitment of Pledge Cards

10:15 AM 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Brunch – egg bake/Loaves & Fishes

10:30 AM Sunday school and Confirmation

#### **Wednesday, November 22**

7:00 PM NO Choir

8:00 PM NO Bells

#### **Thursday, November 23 and Friday November 24**

OFFICE CLOSED – *Happy Thanksgiving!*

#### **Sunday, November 26 – Christ the King Sunday**

9:15 AM Worship – *Jarod Hart has special music for us*

10:15 AM Coffee Fellowship

10:30 AM Sunday school, but no Christmas program practice

**Faithfully,  
Cathy**