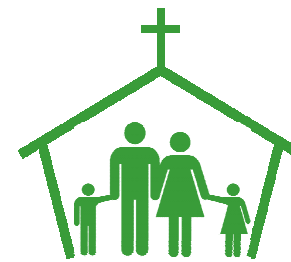


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**Our Church Can Be Your Home**

Rev. Bill Hines, Senior Pastor • Ben Kuhn, Youth Pastor • Ashley Kuhn, Children’s Pastor • Rev. Harold Eaton, Visitation Pastor

November 2011

Volume 7 Issue 6

SEASONAL

FAMILY

### Gestures of gratitude

In 2005, a female hump-back whale became entangled in a web of crab traps and lines just east of the Farallon Islands, off the San Francisco coast. Hundreds of yards of line rope were wrapped around her body, tail, torso and mouth, weighing her down so much that she struggled to stay afloat.



A fisherman spotted the whale and radioed for help. When rescuers arrived, they determined that the only way to save the creature was to dive in and untangle her. This was a dangerous proposition, as one slap of the tail could be deadly.

Rescuers worked for hours with curved knives and eventually freed the whale. What she did next surprised the divers: She swam in what seemed like joyous circles, coming back to each person, one at a time, nudging them gently, in what rescuers assumed was a beautiful gesture of thanks.

May you and those you love be surrounded by people who help you get untangled from whatever is binding you and may you always know the joy of giving and receiving gratitude.

### Two sides of gratitude

Today, the Hebrew word for “giving thanks,” also means “admitting, confessing, acknowledging.” That might seem odd, but when we thank someone, we’re acknowledging we needed what they gave us. Rabbi Daniel Lapin explains we’re even confessing we were incomplete, or experiencing a shortcoming, beforehand.

Gratitude is so important for the Jewish life that the Hebrew root words for “giving thanks/confessing” and for “Jew” are closely related. A Jewish person, then, is “one who both confesses and gives thanks” — actions crucial to the well-being of the receiver, even more than for the giver.

Christians, too, treat confession and thanksgiving as significant aspects of faith, prayer and worship. While we confess that we wholly depend on God for our life and salvation, we offer daily gratitude to God for his countless blessings.



Children’s Ministries are made for:

- A**DVENTURE (each child is unique)
- D**ISCOVERY (of new and old truths)
- U**NDERSTANDING (their needs)
- L**OVE (to be given and received)
- T**EACHING (open hearts and open minds)
- S**ERVING (as Jesus did)

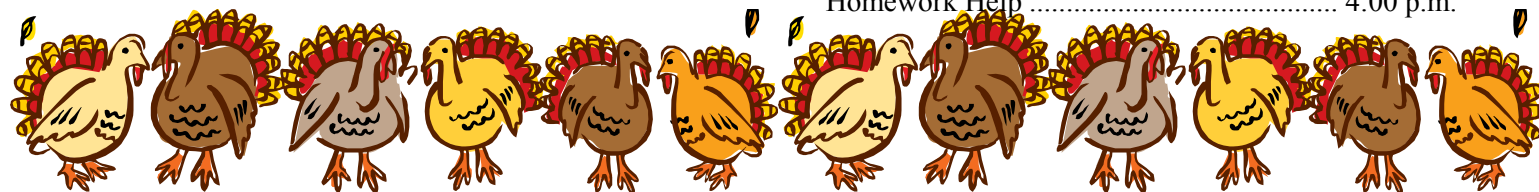
*Bear fruit that will last!*  
Are you aware that 85% of all born again conversions occur between the ages of 4 and 14? We have a harvest field before us! If you are interested in being a part of Children’s Ministries, please sign up in the pew register, check the bulletin board or talk to Pastor Ashley Kuhn.

#### COMING UP IN NOVEMBER

#### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

- Nov. 3—Sunday School Board Meeting 7 p.m.
- 4-5—Youth and Missions Retreat
- 6—Daylight Savings Time ends 2 a.m.
- 6—Caravan Induction
- 7—Self Defense II Class begins 6:30 p.m.
- 9—Special Needs Meeting
- 10—Church Board Meeting 7 p.m.
- 11—TGIF 8 p.m.
- 13—Stage Crew Training 12 p.m.
- 13—All Church Thanksgiving Dinner 6 p.m.
- 15—50 Plus trip to Victorian Village
- 17—Parents Night Out 5:30 p.m.
- 21—December Newsletter articles due
- 24—Thanksgiving—Church office closed
- 25—Church office closed
- 26—Football Party at Leon & Sherry Walker’s
- 27—Baby Shower for Dianne Hess 3:30 p.m.
- 30—NMI Council 6:30 p.m.
- 30—NMI and Service 7 p.m.

<b>Sunday</b>	Sunday School.....	9:30 a.m.
	Morning Worship.....	10:30 a.m.
	Evening Worship.....	6:00 p.m.
	Choir Rehearsal.....	7:00 p.m.
<b>Monday</b>	Homework Help.....	4:00 p.m.
	20-Somethings.....	7:00 p.m.
<b>Tuesday</b>	Homework Help.....	4:00 p.m.
<b>Wednesday</b>	Homework Help.....	4:00 p.m.
	Wednesday Supper.....	6:00 p.m.
	Children and Youth Activities.....	6:45 p.m.
	Bible Study.....	7:00 p.m.
<b>Thursday</b>	Homework Help.....	4:00 p.m.
<b>Friday</b>	Men’s Prayer Breakfast.....	7:30 a.m.
	Homework Help.....	4:00 p.m.



## Special Needs Ministry

There will be a meeting to share information regarding our new special needs ministry on Wednesday, Nov. 9th at 6 p.m. in the Activity Hall. This meeting is intended for all teachers who have students with special needs as well as the buddies who will be working one on one with the students.



## Nursery renovation

There is renovation taking place in our nursery department. Recently a room for mom's with infants has been furnished and organized. It is designed to give mom's with itty bitty babies a safe, sanitary and quiet place to take them to feed, change and soothe. It is the room between the nursery and Kid's Church. There is one entrance from the nursery and one from the hallway.



## Homework Help

Homework Help has expanded and is now offered every day public school is in session. Volunteers are ready and waiting in the Children's Center from 4-6 p.m. For more information or to volunteer please see Shirley Anderson.



## SEASONAL

### Five kernels

The Plymouth Pilgrims celebrated the first Thanksgiving Day in fall 1621, but by the next May, their food supply was depleted. The harvest of 1622 was a failure, and the Pilgrims often lived for days on just a few kernels of corn.



Amid a drought in 1623, the people sought divine intervention. After praying for nine hours on a hot July day, they were blessed with a two-week rainfall. Edward Winslow wrote, "It was hard to say whether our withered corn or drooping affections were most quickened and revived." The Pilgrims never went hungry again.

Start a Thanksgiving tradition by placing five kernels of corn at each place setting. Point out a blessing that each kernel represents. For example:

1. God loves us.
2. God provides for all our needs.
3. God gives us friends, just as the Indians befriended the Pilgrims.
4. God hears and answers our prayers.
5. God is preparing a place for us in heaven.

Then have family members share five things for which they're grateful.

## SMALL GROUPS

### Parents' Night Out

Parent's Night Out is scheduled for November 17th at 5:30 p.m. in the Activity Hall. Parents Night Out is two hours that you can fellowship with other adults or take care of some things you need to get done. It is for families with children who are 5th grade and younger. See Shirley Anderson for more info.



### Men's Prayer Meeting

All men are welcome each Friday morning at 7:30 for prayer in the sanctuary. Breakfast follows at an area restaurant.

### Dickens Victorian Village

The 50 Plus group will be going to see the Dickens Victorian Village Downtown Cambridge decorated for Christmas. We will be leaving the church at 1 p.m. on Tuesday November 15th. We will enjoy an early dinner at Theo's Restaurant. This will be a lovely buffet. The tickets are \$22 which includes the touring of the Dickens Victorian Village plus the dinner. It is very important that you sign up on the Senior Board. It should be a beautiful trip.



### Ladies Self Defense Class

A second round of self defense classes is beginning Monday, November 7th in the Activity Hall. Beginners are welcome. The class will be 6:30-8 p.m. and continue every Monday through December 19th. Cost is \$3 per person per week. There will be a time of Bible Study first, then class. Middle School girls and older are welcome. For more information contact Cindy Hess at 304-482-1188.

### Couponing Class

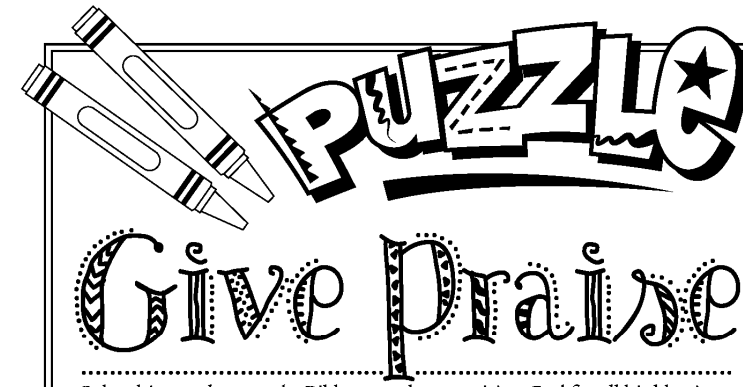
There will be a couponing class in the Activity Hall on November 15th at 6 p.m. It will begin with a time of devotions. Our guest expert will be Jill Carden. Bring a snack or finger food to share if you would like.

### Baby Shower

There will be a baby shower for Dianne Hess on Sunday, November 27th at 3:30 p.m. in the Activity Hall. BJ and Dianne are having a boy whom they have named Oliver. They are registered at Baby's R Us. Bill and Cindy Hess are the "expectant" grandparents.



## CHILDREN



Solve this puzzle to read a Bible verse about praising God for all his blessings.

**Directions:** In each group, underline the word that doesn't belong. Then write the underlined words on the lines below.

- |                           |                             |                                       |                                |                        |                            |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Give<br>Take<br>Grab   | 2. peanut<br>praise<br>pear | 3. temple<br>house<br>Lord            | 4. proclaim<br>past<br>present | 5. name<br>boy<br>lad  | 6. ruin<br>destroy<br>make |
| 7. pine<br>acorn<br>known | 8. train<br>nations<br>bus  | 9. done<br>donut<br>muffin            | 10. Sing<br>Sleep<br>Yawn      | 11. she<br>him<br>girl | 12. sun<br>praise<br>moon  |
| 13. tell<br>fast<br>slow  | 14. red<br>all<br>blue      | 15. horrible<br>dreadful<br>wonderful | 16. acts<br>sisters<br>aunts   |                        |                            |

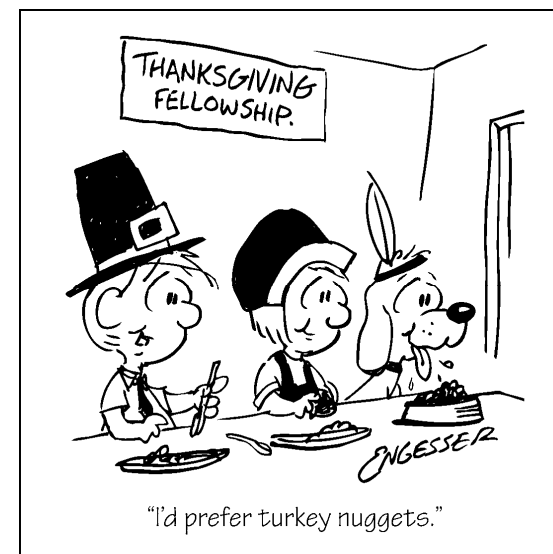
"\_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_ ;  
 \_\_\_\_\_ among the \_\_\_\_\_ what he has \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, sing \_\_\_\_\_ to him; \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ his  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ." PSALM 105:1-2, NIV

Answers: 1. Give, 2. praise, 3. Lord, 4. proclaim, 5. name, 6. make, 7. known, 8. nations, 9. done, 10. Sing, 11. him, 12. praise, 13. tell, 14. all, 15. wonderful, 16. acts  
 Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name, sing praise to him, tell of all his nations what he has done, sing praise to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. (Psalm 105:1-2, NIV)

## LIGHTER SIDE

The preacher was wired for sound with a long cord, and as he preached, he moved briskly about the platform, jerking the mike cord as he went.

Then he moved to one side, getting wound up in the cord and nearly tripping before jerking it again. After several circles and jerks, a little girl in the third pew leaned toward her mother and whispered, "If he gets loose, will he hurt us?"



## Shine for Jesus



Create this festive sign, which will serve as a yearlong reminder to be grateful.

- What you need:**
- Hole punch
  - Large piece of cardboard or cardstock
  - Twine
  - Twigs
  - Glue
  - Acorns, leaves (real or silk) and raffia

- What you do:**
1. Punch two holes in the top of the cardboard.
  2. Thread twine through the holes and tie it in a knot (for hanging).
  3. Using twigs, spell out "Be Thankful," "Thank God" or a similar phrase about gratitude. Glue the twigs onto the cardboard.
  4. Decorate the sign by gluing on acorns, leaves and raffia.
  5. Hang up your sign. Whenever you see it, think of something for which you're grateful to God.

