

Thanks

By Cindy Shaw

***Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
His love endures forever.***

Psalm 107:1 (NIV)

I remember learning the hymn, *Come Ye Thankful People Come*, when I was in elementary school and still think of this song at this time each year. It's made me consider whether most American Christians are truly thankful people. Speaking for myself, I am sorry to say that I often forget to appreciate God's blessings. As I get ready for work on a Monday morning, I catch myself grumbling—and then remind myself to be thankful that I have a job.

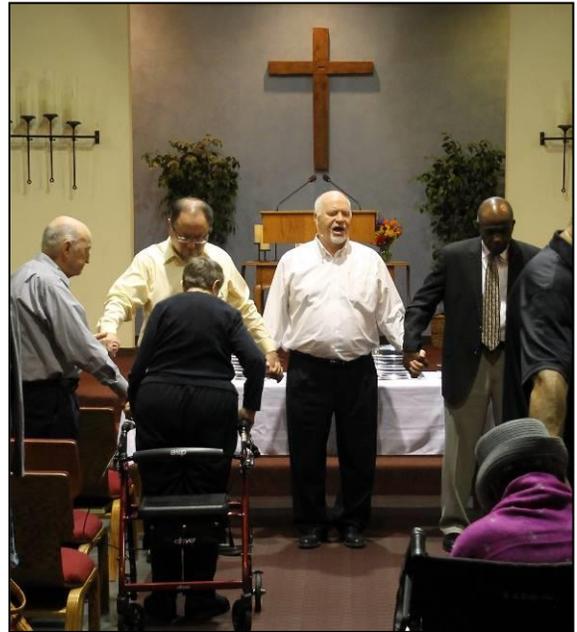
Thanksgiving is a much-anticipated holiday. It's a time for gathering with family and friends, eating a delicious dinner and perhaps watching football. For many, this holiday requires a lot of preparation, which may include travel arrangements; welcoming guests; shopping for and preparing the meal; and then cleaning up afterward.

From a spiritual perspective, we can start our preparations now for this national holiday when we are reminded to give thanks to God for His provision and protection. Let's start with giving thanks for the greatest gift of all—our salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 1: 13-14—*“And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.”*

Continued on page 2...

Combined Worship Service: Windsor Chapel, ICCP and Harris Ministry



“Thanks,” continued...

Next, we can give thanks for Windsor Chapel. *“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”* Ephesians 2:10 (NIV) We are thankful for Pastor Andy and Janice; for the elders, teachers and leaders; for the worship team; and all those who serve faithfully on Sundays—including ushers, money counters, coffee makers, and those who assist with sound and graphics, prepare communion, provide beautiful flowers, and tend to babies in the nursery. We are thankful for the opportunities to give to missions and to the Harris ministry. We are thankful for the prayer chain; the bulletins; the Facebook verses, praises, and reminders; the Good News Club; our missionaries; and those who keep our building safe and beautify our grounds. We are also thankful for Susan’s monthly devotion to producing the *Chapel Challenge*. We are thankful for each other as we share the love of Christ in our church home and in the community through outreach.

In the last few months, there have been several natural disasters in which people across the globe have suffered. Recently, our neighbors in Mexico, the Caribbean, California, and the southern United States have lost lives, livelihoods, homes, and in some cases, whole towns. In the midst of these tragedies, in addition to praying for these people, we also can pray—and be thankful for—first responders, the military, leaders, volunteers, and ministries that reach out to meet physical, spiritual, and emotional needs. We can also give thanks for our homes and neighbors and many of us can be grateful that God has given us the privilege to donate to those in need.

“This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!”
2 Corinthians 9:12-15 (NIV)

May you all enjoy a blessed Thanksgiving!

Share the Bounty of God’s Blessings!



Help us partner with the Harris Ministry in Trenton in providing **75 Thanksgiving meals** this year. Here’s how...

- Shop for the items listed below
- Bring the items to feed each family in double paper grocery bags, handles would be nice (no glass please) by:

**Sunday, November 12th or
Sunday, November 19**

Canned Goods—corn, peas, string beans, yams, pie filling (2), applesauce, cranberry sauce

Boxed Goods—biscuit or cornbread mix, pie crust mix (2), stuffing, rice, extras like tea, coffee or juice, candy.

(Please keep in mind that many families are larger than six people.)

Windsor Chapel is purchasing the turkeys and potatoes for each family. If you are unable to help with the grocery bags, would you consider a donation to Windsor Chapel for these items? If you have any questions, just give Scott Bruno a call at (609) 213-9545.

Work Day



Join us on Saturday, November 11, from 9:00 am to noon, for some healthy exercise as we spruce up our facilities in preparation for the holidays. We’ll be weeding, trimming and raking outside. Bring wheelbarrows,  gloves and gardening tools if you can. Coffee and donuts will be provided!

Wise Up

By Kevin Simme

A college education is one of the most valuable tools a person can obtain in their lives. Studies have shown that an American adult with a college degree can expect to earn nearly one million more dollars in their lifetime as opposed to those without a degree – not counting those who have a specific learned trade such as carpenters, plumbers or electricians. As such, entry into the better schools in the country is remarkably competitive, and aspiring young academics can benefit from private programs to assist them with entrance exam preparation, the application process, and more. Unfortunately, many of these programs are prohibitively expensive for many young men and women with family and financial limitations.

As an example, let us try to understand the sad experience of a student trying to get started in a local community college. In this moment, all of the required financial aid paperwork has been submitted as of May. Still, the student's personalized web portal shows missing documentation as of August 25. Classes start on Monday, August 28. The student stops by the financial aid office and is told by the college staff that "It takes four to six weeks to process the paperwork. Since classes start on Monday, you should cancel your classes and just start in January."

Unfortunately, many at-risk youth do not have someone such as a parent to assist in the situation described above. In most cases, the student would leave the financial aid office with their heads down and once again feel defeated by a system that is less than helpful to those who need the help most.

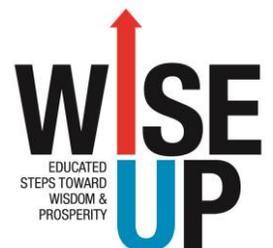
Enter College Admissions and Financial Aid Assistance, Inc. (better known as Wise Up).

The new 501c3 non-profit charitable organization will provide educational programs to help students (particularly those students who cannot afford other college preparatory programs) prepare for college admissions, financial aid, and the rigors of a university education.

Wise Up will focus on assisting future college students with extreme financial need and/or extreme family situations through the often overwhelming process of college admissions and financial aid. The organization will help the student select which colleges are right for them, and will help them with the application process including college essays. In addition, Wise Up will help these students identify possible scholarships and assist them with the specific application requirements.

Once admitted to college, Wise Up staff will help students with selecting the courses they will take for their first semester, and will also provide academic counseling and guidance throughout their college career. As college freshmen and sophomores, program participants will be able to receive advice for how to manage the course load and other responsibilities. In later years, Wise Up will continue to support the needs of the student, and should a student continue on to graduate school, Wise Up will continue to support them in their post-graduate work. There will be no charge for the organization's programs.

On November 11, there will be a dinner party at Windsor Chapel from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Come on out to hear how Wise Up got its start, and how you can help at risk youth get a hand up in their life journey.



For reservations, please email kevinsimme@gmail.com

Elder's Corner

By Ken Bills

When I read the generally favorable report of the blood tests my doctor had ordered, one number stood out... "63." I didn't like it. Not one bit. But there it was in black and white, and undeniable: "Age: 63." If people had a "Sell by" date, I was clearly past it. If there were a "Best if used by" date on people, I could be pretty sure mine was already gone. Nope. No way. This was disturbing.

Now, as I think about it a few weeks later, I am no happier, but I can hear God gently calling me to remember that this world is not my home. A phrase from an old Rich Mullins' song has been running through my head:

*"Nobody tells you
when you get born here
how much you're going to love it
and how you'll never belong here."*

Driving back from upstate New York recently on a sunny day, the sky was impossibly blue and leaves blazed with fall colors. It is easy to fall in love with the beauty, and hard not to see God's glory reflected there. We were coming home from visiting our son's family, and hours on the floor playing with our eight month-old grandson. Tremendous fun! The quiet pleasure of a long drive there and back with Cindy... another blessing from God. Every visit to the ocean... an amazing reflection of God's eternal nature, boundless power, and ceaseless energy. This is a world filled with glories and God's blessings, from the sweet joys of communion with God and one another in worship and song to the simple everyday pleasures of laughter, affection and friendship. If our eyes and hearts are open, we can rejoice that, as the psalmist hoped, we have looked upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living (Psalm 27:13). It's no wonder we love this life.

And yet... we also know that something is profoundly wrong. All joys in this world inevitably come to an end. With every new hurricane, wildfire or earthquake, it becomes undeniable that this world is in bondage to corruption (Romans 8:21). Work is often tedious, filled with "thorns and

thistles" (Genesis 3:18). Greed and envy, pride and selfishness take their toll on relationships and distort our governments and society. We can't live up to our own standards. Our bodies break down. Loved ones suffer. Legitimate longings for love, meaning, and significance too often go unfulfilled. Sometimes our feeling that something is wrong, that something is missing, lurks quietly beneath the surface of our conscious thoughts. Sometimes it is front and center as our undeniable reality. We were created for, at a deep level we long for, a better place.

In this world, we are strangers and aliens (Hebrews 11:13), far from our home. Christians have often been accused of being so heavenly minded that they are no earthly good. But the opposite should be true. It is precisely because we know that there is a better place, that we can be ambassadors with a message of reconciliation from the Creator (2 Corinthians 5:20), suffering along with and as part of the world, but able to offer hope for something better. While we are here, we are called to resist evil, to do justice, love mercy and walk in humility before our God (Micah 6:8), to be learning to love God and our neighbors as we grow as disciples of Jesus. We can be fully engaged in this life, while all the time remembering that this is not our home. When feeling perplexed and tired, we can remember that our life here is only a moment in comparison with the eternity that awaits, that its greatest pleasures, loves, and joys are only a pale and fleeting foretaste of the glories that are to come. Since we know that Jesus has gone to prepare a place for us (John 14:2), and that a heavenly country awaits us (Hebrews 11:13), we can joyfully agree with the apostle Paul:

"So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal."

(2 Corinthians 4:16-18 ESV)

Further Up and Further In

*Inviting dialogue to encourage growth in
and among us*



By Cindy Bills

'Tis the Season

Once upon a time, the Christmas season began just after Thanksgiving. And then, it began just after Halloween. These days, we are reminded that Christmas is coming as soon as students return to school.

Many Christians (and many non-believers) bemoan the commercialization of Christmas and the increasingly early marketing blitz that accompanies it. I, too would love for the spiritual significance of Christmas to return to its place of prominence. But I don't mind the early reminders that it will be time to celebrate this important holiday soon.

Now that November has come upon us, Thanksgiving is in our sights. This is the season of counting our blessings and giving thanks. And while it is totally appropriate to genuinely and heartily thank the Lord for our families and friends, our homes and our jobs, our gifts and abilities and the opportunities to exercise them, I would suggest that it is even more appropriate to put the Lord's coming to live among us and to die on our behalf front and center in our review of our blessings and reasons to give thanks.

And so we return to bringing Christmas forward in time, so to speak. May we indeed be reminded—early and often—of the God-made-man, come to pay the price of our redemption. I can't think of a better way to begin the season of Thanksgiving than by contemplating Immanuel, God with us: for a time in the flesh, now by the Holy Spirit, and again for all eternity.

Please feel free to contact Cindy (609-275-8557 orclbills@verizon.net) to continue the dialogue....

Good News about the Good News Club!

The Good News Club is starting up again at the Dutch Neck Elementary School! The club will meet on Tuesday afternoons from 3:30 – 4:30 until the end of April. If you would like to help in this rewarding ministry on a rotating basis, please contact Pastor Andy at 484-354-8813 or andrew.straubel@gmail.com. Listen for announcements on Sundays and watch the bulletin for additional information.

Fellowship Dinner

Members, visitors, and charming children are invited for fellowship and a Chinese dinner on Sunday, November 12, at 1:00 pm, at the Hunan House (609-443-9404) on Route 130 South, in East Windsor. Get to know others who attend the Chapel.

Call Charlie Muldrow at (609) 448-8910 for details.

Financial Update

(Through September 2017)

"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want..."

| | Actual | Budget |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Income | \$205,069 | \$231,750 |
| Expense | \$231,461 | \$276,953 |

Windsor Chapel has sent \$43,183 to our missionary partners this year. That's 21% of your giving!

Getting at the Source

By Janet Berrill

My kitchen has a sliding glass door that opens to a patio connected to the yard. We use this door much more frequently than our front door when going in and outside. One evening my sons had some friends over and they were enjoying a fire in our fire pit on the patio. Throughout the evening, people were coming in and out through the sliding door into the kitchen. I, of course, had cleaned up before having people over, yet at one point early in the evening, I walked through the kitchen and noticed dirt on the floor by the door. I quickly swept it up and thought that was that. However, the next time I went in the kitchen, there was more dirt on the floor. Unhappy to see that, I swept it up right away. I realized that the people coming in and out were tracking the dirt in and if I did not do something different, I would be sweeping up dirt in the kitchen all evening long. I obviously did not want to do this, so I decided to attack this problem at the source. I took my broom outside and swept the area on the other side of the door. Once I did that, the dirt ceased to appear in my kitchen.

Problems can be attacked by treating the symptoms, but doing that will not make the problem go away. If you want to remove the problem, you've got to remove the source. The same is true for sin. The best way to get rid of sin is to get rid of the thing that is causing the sin. Jesus says in Mark 9:43-47: *"If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell."*

For example, God has given us bodies to take care of. I was finding that I was not taking care of my body very well when I was hungry – rather than eating something healthy, I would grab junk food that tasted good and was readily available. Having an occasional snack of chips I think is okay, but when they become a substitute for a meal, that's

not good. I realized I had to do something. Having the junk food readily available was not good for me, so I made the decision not to buy it anymore. That way, when I am hungry, it is not available as an option for me to eat.

I know of a man who had trouble with spending too much time playing computer video games. He would lose track of time and play for hours. He would stay up too late and not get enough sleep, and it began to affect his life and his work performance. Limiting himself timewise did not work, so he made the decision to delete the game from his computer and not play it at all.

Overspending is another area where many people get themselves into trouble. Credit cards make buying things so easy at the time, but when the bill comes and the interest charges pile up, you can find yourself in a hole that is hard to dig yourself out of. Get rid of your credit cards! Force yourself to only spend money that you have. Do not buy anything on credit.

If you are married and you find that someone (other than your spouse) is attracted to you or you might be attracted to someone else, as much as possible, avoid the person. Do not socialize together, do not be friends on social media, to not exchange cell phone numbers, do not text, etc. If it is someone you work with who you will see on a daily basis, never be alone with the person. Share the situation with a trusted friend or family member, and ask them to keep you accountable.

Sometimes identifying the source of a sin might not be as easy as others, or it might not be easy to get rid of the source. Fortunately we have One who is on our side and wants to help us get rid of sin. Pray! In all cases, pray and ask God to help set you free. It will be work on your part, but with God working on your side you have a recipe for success!

If you have any items or information you would like to share in the newsletter please e-mail:

Susan Seiboth at

susan@quiltingsquare.com

Dorothy Soi at

dsoi@windsorchapel.org

Chapel Office (609) 799-2559

Contributing Photographer: Joseph Acquah.