



Count your blessings...1, 2, ...

Make a list and write down what you are thankful for today!

Not sure where to start?

Here's one way:

- Begin with 5 blessings
- How are those blessings connected to other blessings? Think "big" and "small."
- What do you have that others in the world may not?
- Look outside or around where you live. Look at nature. Any blessings that you notice?

Name these blessings and see the Lord's abundance around us and for us! Make it a habit to do this. I know of an older adult who thanks the Lord every day before she gets out of bed in the morning. Giving thanks is not just for Thanksgiving anymore! Let us give thanks to the Lord!

"From His abundance we have all received one gracious blessing after another." John 1:16

Turkey Blessing 2020 This Weekend

Concordia's Men's Ministry will be moving forward with the 6th Annual Turkey Blessing! The need is great this year and we plan to distribute 1,200 Thanksgiving dinners. This year's Blessing will take place on November 21st and 22nd at Meramec Community College. Thank you church for supporting your husbands and boys in this Be Faithful/Be One ministry. Thank you for opening your hearts to our community.

Evening Communion

A brief evening communion service will be offered on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 4pm in the Sanctuary for those who

wish to participate in communion outside of worship.

Our Older Adult Christmas Party is Still On!

We CAN and will have an Older Adult Christmas Party. With new COVID-19 regulations and considerations, our party will have to be totally virtual but your Ageless Generation Team will adapt and adjust. There will be fun, Christmas music and focus. There will hopefully be food involved if we can make it work!

Dec. 8 is the date. Watch for more information and our ZOOM link coming soon!

"Christmas Angel" for Mission Gate for 2020

Mission Gate is requesting Christmas gifts for their "Christmas Angel" outreach for children with incarcerated parents.

One option is to purchase gift(s) online and mail items directly to Mission Gate, or deliver gifts yourself to Mission Gate, 804 Berquist Dr., Ballwin, Mo., 63011.

Another option is purchasing gift cards for Walmart, Target, etc. These can be sent to Mission Gate Ministry at PO Box 6644, Chesterfield, MO 63006.

Gifts can be for newborn to 16 year-old boy or girl. Need ideas? Call Janel Burch at (314) 705-4747.

Days and hours for drop off at Mission Gate: Monday-Friday 9am-3pm. Items can be placed on the front porch

If you have questions about drop off, call Reyna Colson (636) 391-8560 at the office.

Deadline for receiving gifts is December 11th



Prayers of the Church

Week of November 15

Prayer of Thanksgiving: For those members who will graciously distribute food to those in need with Concordia's "Turkey Blessing" this weekend...

Births: William Rush Miller (11/11) son born to Lauren and Jeff, grandparents Bill and Irene Clasen

Baptism: Deacon James Czerniewski (11/14)

Youth celebrating their Baptismal Birthdays this week: Andy Aschinger, Evan Brigham, Jason Hongphu, Taylor Cully, Cathryn Fast, Lillian Peterson, Zachary Taylor, Drue Gaal, Catherine Menkhus, Grace Neiger, Brett Fischer, Caden Wheeler, Andrew Cistulli, Evan Hill, Mason Kelsch, Owen Shocklee, Katherine Wedel

Adults celebrating their Birthdays this week: Debbie Zisser, Paul Hanske, Guy Hood, Brett Rousseau, Randy Hahn, Emily Rousseau, Sam Doveikis, Ken Daves, Andre Guignon, Ken Petter, Seth Wells, Kevin Hays, Carrie Intagliata, Ashley Roedemeier, Carol Hrach, Ron Horstmann, Peter McCormick, Barb Laudel, Susan Keightley, Mike Russ, Tom Neely, Paul Mellring, Chris Lints, Katie Killian, Mary Hawryszko, PJ Lowry, Robert Hawkens, Roberta Pollard, Ben Eckrich, Bill Mattson, Rachel Henze, Anna LaForest, Jeff Dunn, Suzanne McComb, Ted Vollmar

We pray for:

John Hartmann

Regina Massie

William Smith

Members and friends of Concordia with medical concerns...

Alice Bywater's friend, Jim Leonard

Tim Ema

Greg Filley

Max Filley

Anita Geisler

Bev Gould

Norma Hollmann

Anita Kreienkamp's sister, Marjorie Rosenkotter

Ruth Kirchhoff's sister, Johanna Cormier
Gloria Koesting
Hilde McAllister
Julie McCormick
Marjorie Moore
Pegi and Norm Nardoni
Cindy Nichols' son, Eric
Nelle Rolf
Sharon Rose
Alice Trebus
Lori Voges
Barbara Warneke's sister, Shari
Christi Wells
Ann Yemm

We also pray:

For all our first responders, doctors, nurses and all of those who work in nursing homes and hospitals who are working on the frontline of the pandemic...

For all of those who are affected by the Coronavirus and those caring for them throughout the world...

Sympathy:

For Rev. Karl Koeppen and family upon the death of his father (11/16)

For family and friends upon the death of Brooks Anderson (11/15)

For Dave Hoffman and family upon the death of his mother, Gladys

For Nancy Hill and family upon the death of her son, Brett (3/21)

For Michelle Hayek and family upon the death of her grandmother, Maxine Anderson

For all those who serve in the military in the combat zone, and their families... Lindsay Barnes, Cynthia Camp, Erik Carlson, Pete Carlson, Andrew Detmers, Elizabeth Hays, Owen Ray, Julie Ritz, Michael Smith

For all who serve in the military not in the combat zone, first responders, and their families... Brendan Kunderas, Tom Saeger, Tom Watson



Weekly Devotion

Do you have a nickname?

Maybe growing up someone gave you a nickname? I had a few. And I am sure you did too. But these names change over the years. Parents call their kids sweet names. Friends give each other names because of something they did or didn't do. Spouses call each other terms of endearment. These are nicknames that people give to each other. They are important because they tell a deeper story about the relationships that we have with one another.

But they are not all the same. My nicknames are not the same as yours. And that is because our relationships are different. My parents, friends, and spouse have names for me and yours do for you. This is good. We are unique and have been given different people, friends, and places who love and call us different names.

But in this world, there are some who call us not names of love and endearment but names of destruction and death. While at times it might come from those same people who love us, there is something or someone lurking deeper in the background. Names of destruction ultimately come from a mysterious evil led by the evil one called Satan. The Scriptures remind us of this in the book of Ephesians 6:12, "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." These unseen evil forces cause us pain and destruction label us for despair. These unseen evil forces name us for destruction. These unseen evil forces cause war and rebellion in the world.

But thanks be to God that this is never the final world. When God names, He creates. In the beginning, when God speaks, He created everything into existence. By saying orangutang, Niagara Falls, and light He created something by giving it a name. This is how God has worked from the very beginning. And it's how He works today as well. The devil, the world, and our sinful self may label things for disruption and destruction, but God always has the final word.

In John 18, when Jesus is standing before Pilate, he doesn't know what to label Jesus. Some people call Him the messiah, others a prophet, and others a madman trying to stir up a rebellion. At the end of their conversation Jesus would be labeled a criminal and sentenced to death. At this moment, the evil forces of the world rejoiced. They thought they had won. But God always gets the final word. By Jesus' death, God named His people holy. By Jesus' death, God named His people forgiven. By Jesus' death, God named His people redeemed. Here at the cross where Jesus was nicknamed a criminal, God named you holy and redeemed. So this week, stay in this name. No matter the good names or the bad names you are called. We always have one name that transcends them all. It is established in the cross and placed upon you in your baptism. Stay in this love. Stay in this mercy. Stay in this peace both now and forever more. Amen.

Blessings,
Pastor Jacob Schultz

