November Update 2025

A Message of Thankgiving

With the beginning of November, we enter that season of family and celebration. The first celebration of Thanksgiving is the story of the Pilgrims, we may remember from school. The Pilgrims landed here in 1620 after an arduous 66-day voyage from the Netherlands and England seeking the freedom to worship God as they felt God had called them. They landed in November in New England in the winter.

During that trying first winter they lost 46 of their 102 members who arrived on the Mayflower. Despite their difficulties, and losses, in 1621 they held a 3-day celebration with the native Americans who taught them how to survive in this New World. Our first president George Washington proclaimed a day of Thanksgiving in celebration of the founding of our country and the new Constitution in 1789. He declared in the proclamation:

"Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be."

President Abraham Lincoln declared the first national holiday while still in the depths of the Civil war in 1863. In one paragraph of his official declaration he says,

"No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy."

It is perhaps during times of trial that the act of giving thanks for God's provision and care is most important to help orient our circumstances in light of God's goodness. Difficult times remind us how much we need Him. But if we acknowledge God's sovereignty over all things as stated in Isaiah 14:24—

"The Lord of hosts has sworn, saying, 'Surely, as I have thought, so it shall come to pass, And as I have purposed, so it shall stand."

If we believe in His promises as the one of many given us in Romans 8: 28—"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."—we can lift our voices in faith with praise and thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving falls at the end of November and leads us into the season of Advent, the four weeks leading up to the remembrance of His greatest provision for us. With the gift of His Son in human form, He offered us the perfect picture of Himself and presented His gift of Salvation through His own provision.



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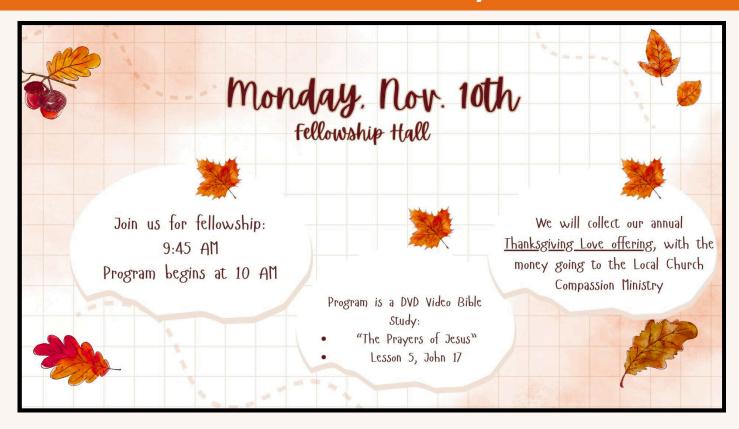
Thanksgiving, Praise, & Prayer

Upcoming Events:

- Daylight Saving Time Change on November 2nd: fall back in time!
- All Saints Day recognized, Nov 2nd
- Veterans Day, Nov 11th
- OCC Collection Week, Nov 17-24th
- OCC Shoebox Dedication, Nov 23rd
- **Church office closed**, Nov 27th

"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."
Philippians 4:19

Women in Ministry



November Birthdays

Nov 1 Ken Smith Len Dykstra Nov 1 Angela Gilliam Nov 3 **Andrew Morris** Robert Wallace Carolyn George Nov 8 James Gordon Sally Hursey Nov 10 Louis Haynes Nov 11 Joyce Weber

Pat Garland Nov 12
Sonja Martin "
Dave Stewart "
Jauhnell Durham Nov 13
John Van Wagoner "
Fred Lindsay Nov 16
Gayle Stepp "
Dave Hawthorne Nov 17
Sharon Lemelmans Nov 20
Larry Mobley Nov 24

Betty Muller Nov 24
Elfriede Smith Nov 26
Bob Thrower "
Ross Behuniak Nov 27
Carol Shaffer Nov 29
Nancy Lindsay Nov 30





"Notebooks and pencils were some of the items that immediately caught Fernanda's attention when she peered inside of her shoebox gift. She'd be going back to school in a few months and had no supplies to take with her—everything she owned had burned during a fire a few weeks earlier.

The inferno had attacked the community in southern Chile, turning nearly every home into ashes and rubble. In just a few hours, the house where 12-year-old Fernanda lived with her parents and younger brother was gone.

Fernanda's grief was still raw when she attended the <u>Operation Christmas Child</u> outreach event at a local church. She was in shock, trying to make sense of how quickly and significantly her life had changed.

The event offered the hurting young girl moments of joy during a season of sadness. Her shoebox gift was the first present she had received since losing all of her belongings in the fire.

Through Operation Christmas Child, Samaritan's Purse is sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with millions of boys and girls in more than 100 countries each year. Many of these children have never before received a present or heard the true meaning of Christmas—until they open a gift-filled shoebox from a person like you."



Dona Mennela 334 Thompson St, Apt 116 Hendersonville, NC 28792

Pat & Bill Neuenschwander 48 Lake Pointe Cir. Hendersonville, NC 28792 Next Pennies for Shoeboxes

November 23

Pack-A-Box party –

Nov 8 (2-4 yr olds)

Nov 15 (5-14 yr olds)

Dedication Sunday –

November 23th

Collection week –

Nov. 17th thru Nov. 24th

Local Outreach

Cru-Lifelines

HPC is supporting an organization called Cru-Lifelines on the UNC-Asheville campus. Cru is the new name for the former Campus Crusade for Christ. The leader of this organization on the campus is a remarkable young lady named Kathryn Kollensberger.

Kathryn has been ministering at UNC-Asheville for about a year and a half and has made significant inroads in reaching the students for Christ. There are regular Bible studies, mentoring, and discussing faith issues with the students, many of whom are hungry for some meaning in their lives, but don't know what that is.

Besides Bible studies, a large part of Kathryn's ministry is to organize various outdoor activities for the students, such as hiking, camping, rock climbing, and white water rafting. These activities give Kathryn the opportunity to spend more time with the students over an extended period. Her ministry is bearing fruit.

Kathryn does not receive a salary from Cru, so she has to raise her own support. The Local Missions Committee is pleased to provide some support for Kathryn.



Creative Beginnings Christian Preschool

October was full of fun and wiggles. We had a blast at our preschool dance. This allowed us to connect with parents after school and believe it or not, was an event that prepares children for kindergarten.

October also brought us our first Community program in the Sanctuary. The children shared their harvest songs, and we had a wonderful community brunch of over 100 attendees.

This month in celebration of World Kindness Day on Nov 13th, we are collecting sweaters and cardigans for IAM. You can find the donation box next to the preschool and my office. Join us in spreading some warm fuzzy feelings of love with a cozy sweater for someone in need as we help these little ones understand how a community takes care of each other with God's love.

Be on the lookout in December for our Christmas shop in the Fellowship Hall. We use this fundraiser to encourage decision-making, independence, and math concepts by allowing the children to shop for their families. You can shop too and help support the school with some wonderful handmade items. Thank you for all of your support and prayers. Our teachers and families are having a joyful time.







for His unfailing love & His wonderful deeds for mankind.

Psalm 107:21



Create in me a clean heart, () God; and renew a right spirit within me.



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