



NEWS

UP FRONT

What do you think of when you hear the words “give thanks”? You may be reminded of lyrics to a song, or a verse in the Bible. You may think of the Thanksgiving Holiday in all the ways it is celebrated in your life. It is all good. The simple act of giving thanks has the power to transform our attitudes and actions in sometimes subtle and sometimes powerful ways. It is simple really, the act of giving thanks directs our thoughts away from ourselves, our desires, our circumstances and points us to the goodness of God in our lives.

It seems easier to give thanks when things are going well. But it can be especially important and helpful in challenging circumstances. A few years ago, I read something that helped me understand the power giving thanks has when you are angry, especially if it is with someone you love. The suggestion was simple. Instead of listing all the reasons the person has made you angry, instead begin to list things you are thankful for about that person. Admittedly, it can be difficult at first, but once the first couple of reasons are listed, others follow more easily, and balance is restored to the relationship.

Whether in good times or challenging times, in our prayer time, if we spend the entire time on giving thanks to God, it would be enough and I expect we would move forward in our day in a much healthier frame of mind than when we began. Giving thanks helps us focus on what we have instead of what we don't have and reminds us of the power of God to provide for everything we need and more.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. Psalm 136:1

With a thankful heart,

Mary Ellen

COMING UP

- 11/2 & 16 Men's Breakfast
- 11/3 Daylight Savings Time
- 11/3 Youth Fundraiser
- 11/6 & 20 Wednesday Night Dinner
- 11/9 Fresh Expressions
- Vision Day-CBC Springfield
- 11/10 Second Sunday Church Fellowship groups off-site
- 11/11 Veteran's Day - CBC/CH Offices closed
- 11/12 Leadership Coordination Meeting
- 11/24 Christmas Decorating & Potluck
- 11/28 Feast of Plenty
- 11/28-11/29 CBC/CH Offices closed for Thanksgiving

WHAT'S HAPPENING

KUMLER & LOAMI FOOD PANTRIES

It's November and the holidays are right around the corner and the needs of the local food pantries increase. For the month of November we are asking you to pick up some extra peanut butter and/or cereal when you shop and bring your donation to the Serve the World Center for the two food pantries that we support. ALL nonperishable food is always welcome. This is one way in which we can serve the Lord and give generously to those in need.

Fellowship Opportunity at the Springfield Campus

The Member Care committee would like to invite those interested to meet in the Welcome Center following worship on the **SECOND Sunday** of each month and have lunch at designated restaurants in groups of 6-8. Everyone will pay for their own meal; but it is a chance to develop relationships over food. The past couple of months' lunches have been a resounding success! (Please note that we are moving this to the Second Sunday of each month due to scheduling conflicts on the first Sunday). Please join us!

The World Mission Offering

During the month of October, we received the World Mission Offering. We received a total of \$1,790 so far. Thank you for your generous donations.

11/2 & 16 - Men's Breakfast takes place in Merriam Hall at the Springfield campus from 8 to 9:30 a.m.

11/3 - Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour for Daylight Savings Time.

11/3 - Phil Maxwell Retirement recognition during worship.

11/3 & 17 - Downtown Youth meet following worship.

11/6 & 20 - Wednesday Night Dinners take place at 4:45-5:45 pm in Merriam Hall, Springfield campus.

11/9 - Fresh Expressions Vision Day is hosted by Springfield CBC from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Go to <http://bit.ly/FreshExpression> for more information.

11/10 & 24 - New Berlin Youth meet from 5 to 7 p.m.

11/10- Meet in the Welcome Center following worship and go out for a meal at various restaurants. All are welcome!

11/11 - The CBC office and Children's House are closed for Veteran's Day.

11/12 - The Leadership Coordination Team meets at 6:30 p.m. in Weber Lounge.

11/15 & 16 - CBC volunteers will be at Hy-Vee to help raise money for Washington Street Mission.

11/24 - Decorating the church for Christmas at the Springfield Campus, followed by a potluck.

11/28 - The Feast of Plenty takes place in Merriam Hall, Springfield campus. Come join us for Thanksgiving Dinner! Free to everyone. Many volunteers are needed to bring this ministry to the community. Call the church office to volunteer at 523-3639 or sign up at the Welcome Center.

11/28 & 29 - CBC office and Children's House are closed for Thanksgiving.

November 2019

BIRTHDAYS

11/1 Betty Thomas

11/2 Lynn Martin

11/3 Evelyn Nagel

11/3 Emily Sharp

11/5 Garvice Saunders

11/6 Fred Stericker

11/8 Betty Darrow

11/12 Nancy Wilkinson

11/14 Marilyn Winn

11/17 Jennie Meyers

11/17 Richard Spiker

11/18 Dick McDaniel

11/21 Darin Harms

11/22 Chloe Allen

11/22 John Gorseck

11/24 Sharon Aherin

11/25 Colette VanDusen

11/29 Wade Ballenger

11/29 Lillian Bernauer

11/30 Carson Lynch

11/30 Matt Allen

ANNIVERSARIES

11/5 Erika & Phil Palsen

11/6 Jackie & Ralph Billings

11/8 Rita & John Black

11/12 Emily & Bill Lynch

11/17 Sheila & Brad Zeiger

11/25 Paula & Greg Seifert

11/28 Betty & Scott Darrow

11/29 Mary Lue & John
Gorseck

OUR CONDOLENCES

Our hearts go out to the following families who lost loved ones during the month of October: Bill Smith on the loss of his brother-in-law, Dale Chism.

Thank You

We really don't pay much attention to things like Pastor Appreciation month. But it is obvious many of you do! Wow! We are so humbled and so grateful to you all for the many expressions of appreciation you extended to us this month. Cards and goodies and gifts and meals. But your words of thanks and appreciation were especially humbling and touched our hearts. We are grateful God called us to serve at Central Baptist Church and serving Christ along side all of you has encouraged our hearts and strengthened our faith. We are deeply grateful. ~Josh and Mary Ellen

Feast of Plenty

FOP planning is underway and we are looking for donations of hats, scarves, new socks, and gloves. Volunteer sign-up will have also begun! There are many, many places we could use your help to bring this wonderful ministry to the community. If you can help, please sign up on the sheet in the Welcome Centers.

Phil Maxwell's Retirement

Phil Maxwell has been our choir director for 15 years and he is retiring this fall. We are grateful for the passion and joy he has brought to directing choral music. We want to celebrate the goodness of God and Phil's ministry with us on Sunday Nov 3 during the 10:45 worship service at our Springfield location. Our worship will include choir anthems, hymns and special music. We hope you will join us to worship God and say thank you to Phil for leading us in worship these past 15 years.

The New Berlin Youth Fundraiser

The NB Fundraiser is Sunday, November 3 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Sangamon County Fairgrounds. A meal will be served from 11-2. The silent auction takes place also from 11-2 and Vendors from 11-2:30. There will also be exciting raffle items. All tickets are \$10. Children 4 and under are free. Join us to raise money for students to have life-changing experiences at youth camps!

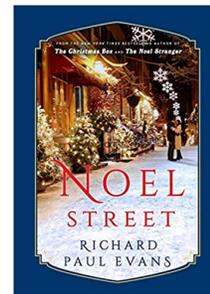
Fresh Expressions Vision Day

On Saturday, November 9, Central Baptist, Springfield is hosting Vision Day, a one-day (9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) training event that teaches churches how to reach all kinds of people in all kinds of places. For over 20 years, the Fresh Expressions movement has helped established congregations form new church communities precisely for people who may never come on a Sunday. The movement began and continues to thrive in the "post-Christian" UK and has taken root across the world. Vision Day is not just a seminar! It is a participative, creative gathering of practitioners and pioneers. [Go here](https://FreshExpressionsUS.org/event/VisionDaySpringfield) to register for \$10 or you can sign up with your email on the sheet at the Welcome Centers. Put this link into your browser to sign up.:FreshExpressionsUS.org/event/VisionDaySpringfield. The promo code "central" will allow you to register for \$10.

Noel Street by Richard Paul Evans

In this new offering, #1 bestselling author Richard Paul Evans shares a story of heart, loyalty, and hope as he explores the deeper meaning of the holiday season and asks what it truly means to love and forgive.

The year is 1975. Elle Sheen—a single mother who is supporting herself and her six-year-old, African-American son, Dylan, as a waitress at the Noel Street Diner—isn't sure what to make of William Smith when his appearance creates a stir in the small town of Mistletoe, Utah. As their lives unexpectedly entwine, Elle learns that William, a recently returned Vietnam POW, is not only fighting demons from his past, but may also have the answer to her own secret pain—a revelation that culminates in a remarkable act of love and forgiveness.



This is the third novel in the Noel series. Previous books in the Noel collection are ***The Noel Diary*** (2017) and ***The Noel Stranger*** (2018). All three books are available in the Baum Library.

This book may be found on the New Book Rack in the Library. (304 pages, 2019). An Amazon rating has not been established since the publication date is November 5, 2019.

Jim Filler, On behalf of the Volunteer Library Team

A NOTE FROM CONNECTED PAIRS

Couples Article

Happy Thanksgiving!

The power of gratitude cannot be overstated. When we count our blessings, it is important to include our marriage. Ashley Simpson, writing for Family Life, asks, “Do You Practice Intentional Gratitude for Your Spouse?” Cultivate a culture of appreciation by making time daily to express appreciation for all your spouse does and is so your spouse will know how much he or she means to you.

For additional details, and to read the entire article, click [here](#).

Blessings,

Stephani Cave, LCPC

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For monthly couples, individual, and family tips, please sign up for our e-newsletter. For daily relationship tips, follow us on facebook. For more information about any ConnectEdPAIRS service, please visit our website at www.connectedpairs.com, stop by, call, or email me in the counseling office. I look forward to talking with you soon.

Often when giving directions to our building, it is identified by the "one with the big twirly slide". Many who travel the downtown area, often map their way by our well-known playground that has stood so tall for over 35 years. In 2008, the Children's House director knew the playground was in need of an update. Much of the playground was out of code and it did not meet the needs of all the families served at Children's House. She had a vision of a playground that would foster and promote an engaging outside learning classroom. A team was formed and research began to move forward in creating a new space for play. This included a blueprint and a plan for funding. In 2010 fundraising began to take shape with three major fundraising events over the next four years. In 2018 the goal was met and in 2019 the plan for the playground became an active vision in motion. Last month volunteers gathered to remove the structures that we have loved for so long. Soon the equipment arrived and together we anxiously watched our new playground take shape (the classrooms really enjoyed watching the "big" trucks). It was truly a bittersweet moment for staff, present and past families, and the children. Everyone so excited to see the new playground take shape but sad to see a playground with so many memories leave. Many children have passed through those gates, building life lasting memories and gross motor skills. Past students always recall the fun memories they carry from their time outside. Each one seeming to have a story of their own that they remember so clearly. Now the time as come to welcome our new playground with new memories to be created. We look forward to the opportunity for more growth and development that the new design will support.



Children's House would like to thank and recognize Central Baptist church, Children House families, local businesses, and staff who have been so dedicated to this project and turned a vision into a reality. Without the very much appreciated support over the years, the playground would not have happened. A big thank you to every person who was involved with the team, funding, planning, building, and demo. The new playground will not only meet the standards and codes but will provide a place for exploring, fun and adventure for all ages and abilities.

Judy Vlach,
Director Children's House