

Announcements and Happenings

**November 1 All Saints Day
1 Fall Back Time Change
1 Ad Council 9AM**

November 8 Honoring our Veterans

November 18- Trailer of Hope- Look for sign up in the Narthex

November 22 Hanging of the Greens and Carry In

November 26- Happy Thanksgiving!

November 29- First Sunday in Advent

UPCOMING SERMON TITLES

November 1 — Gifts of Grace
November 8 – A Perfect Fast
November 15 – Work with Sincerity
November 22 — God Provides
November 29 – Hope in Eternal Life

Visit us at mtpleasantmethodist.org

Livestreaming each service

CHURCH FINANCES

Please continue to support our church. You may continue to send your financial support to Mt. Pleasant UMC, c/o Jim Rosenbury, 4099 CR 59, Butler, IN 46721



Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church
4099 CR 59, Butler, IN 46721

The Pleasant News

Sunday Worship 10:00am
Bible Study 9:00am

Pastor Christine Fodrea

Church 260-868-5747
Cell Phone 260-437-9976

November 2026

Pastoral Ponderings

What are you grateful for? I can hear the usual answers. But there is always something, deep down we are grateful for more than above everything else. I am grateful for a life full of adventure and wonderful people. I am grateful for peace and joy. This season as we give thanks, think about what you are grateful for, then just whisper a prayer of thanks.

We are all given gifts of grace each day. Grace in the love of our family or loved ones, grace from a boss when we messed something up, and redeeming grace from our heavenly Father- because we can never deserve it. He loves us just the same, calls us to himself, makes it right when we call on Him, forgives us when we mess it up, and helps us grow in His love each day.

Spiritual practices like scripture reading, meditation, fasting and devotional time help us to grow in God's love. We all think there is a perfect way to fast, but the only perfect fast is to give up control of our lives to God. It is hard and we like to ask for our control back. God asks us to be obedient and trust Him with the process.

In the meantime, while we are grateful for peace, joy and the good lives, He has given us, God also gives us the occupation to take care of each other and this world he has placed us in. God asks us to work with sincerity in caring for, loving and giving grace to each other.

All of this sounds good, but I have to work for a living and I work with some frustrating people. God provides. He provides for us in ways we cannot imagine with abundance. He gives us good things to do, good people to work with even if we have to look for the good through the frustration, and good times with our loved ones.

All of this gives us hope. Hope in the future, hope tomorrow will be better, and hope in eternal life.

As Thanksgiving and gratefulness give way to the Christmas rush, I pray you will be able to find hope, peace, joy, and love in this precious season.

What do the scriptures say about gratefulness?

Most of the passages found in the Bible about gratefulness come from the Old Testament and are related to grateful praise. The psalms tell us to express our grateful praise by shouting for joy, worshipping the Lord with joyful songs, coming into God's presence with praise. These passages also tell us of God's magnificent care for us as His children, as His creation, reminds us we are His and He is ours. The reasons given for our grateful praise are listed as God's goodness, indescribable, never-ending love, and unrelenting faithfulness.

Some passages describe how good it is to sing the praises of the Lord and how pleasant and right it is to show God our gratefulness through praise. These passages remind us God heals the brokenhearted and bandages our wounds. God numbers us like the stars in the sky and calls us by name. He lifts up the humble and casts down the arrogant. He supplies the earth with rain and makes the crops grow. He gives us the law. He grants us peace.

Jonah is an especially pertinent passage. Jonah is stuck in the whale- he is in distress- and darkness and probably a lot of slimy half-digested fish PEUWWW! But even though his circumstances are dire, Jonah STILL calls on God to rescue him. He is grateful for the rescue that is to come- even though God had banished him to the belly of the fish! Jonah cried out to God and God rescued him despite all of his faults. Jonah cries out in his gratefulness.

Romans gives us another good example of gratefulness for family and friends. When Paul writes this letter, he lists all of the people he is grateful for and their contributions to the Lord's church or causes of the poor and disenfranchised. Paul is especially grateful for all the risks they have taken on behalf of the Gentiles.

Take a look and see! You may find yourself surprised at what the Bible says about gratefulness.



Bring completed picture to Pastor for a special prize!