



The MESSENGER

Newsletter of the Oakes and Cogswell United Methodist Churches
And First Presbyterian Church of Oakes
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We are here to worship God and grow together in our faith. We will endeavor to bring people into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ so they may become disciples of Christ. Our goal is to equip one another to serve Christ in our church, community, state, nation, and world.

November

November is the month of celebrating Thanksgiving. The practice of living out and sharing our gratitude is so important. I challenge you to take part in "30 days of Gratitude", where you take time to write down at least one thing you are thankful for each day this month. We are all thankful for family and friend and a good meal. Yet how are we thankful in unexpected moments that catch us off guard, or take your breath away? For example: why might you be grateful for screaming children, or cold weather, or being stuck in traffic? What gifts await you when your plans fall through, your life is too busy or your house is a mess? Is there a reason to be grateful when you have to wait for something? Or when you accidentally burn dinner? Or forget to do something??

There is a silver lining in every circumstance, and often, those linings are blessings waiting to be recognized. I hope you will celebrate Thanksgiving all month – all year long. As we do so, may our gratitude shape and refine us, reminding us to give thanks to God, who gives us all things.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE AT EPISCOPAL CHURCH, NOVEMBER 26TH AT 7 PM

Mark your Calendars on SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23 the Morning worship service is at 8:30 am and Charge Conference at 2 pm



3 – Marilyn Folkestad
4 – Janice Raatz
10 – Vera Nelson
14 – Dawn Adam
16 – Megan Cunningham
22 – Wayne Nielsen
23 – Estella Wentworth
25 – Randa Gemar, Alexis Meyer, Brittany Patterson
28 – Walt Albus, Jacob Bredeson
29 – Jim VanMiddlesworth



13 – Howard and Joan Anderson
18 – Jason and Jessica Quandt
25 – Pat and Versella nelson
28 – John and Beth Wentworth

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary please let the office know. We want to be sure our records are correct.

CHAMPIONS HOUSE REPORT #201

October 30, 2014 at 10:59am

Submitted by Tim Rancour

Samuel has been resolving all the issues that arose at home while he was visiting the United States. We both knew that it would be difficult for him on his return and difficult it has been. He is being relentlessly harassed by the upper caste and so have I by an onslaught of phony emails. God is slowly working it all out. In India there is no set law. Money buys the court system in India so there is no justice for the poor either and especially "untouchable" Christians. I am very disheartened over the way higher caste "so called" Christians have been treating him out of jealousy, all because he visited us.

Nevertheless, Samuel perseveres for the ministry and we are just about ready to begin drilling new safe drinking water wells in 10 very remote tribal jungle villages. The well contractor complained and said that it is much further travel to these locations than the government would ever consider. That makes this project all the more appealing as far as we are concerned. We intend to reach the unreached. He wanted more money but Samuel told him "no." Photos of the villages are posted on FaceBook. Many of the village elders requested electric pumps but Samuel is going to provide a traditional hand pump system in each village instead. I asked him about that and he responded that they do not have the resources or the electricity required to install a power system, so he is installing a traditional hand pump.

I also had an idea about a new project last week. There are lots of widows that cannot feed their children or feed themselves and providing them with a basic sewing machine would give them a source of income even if they used sewing as barter for food. It would be a small investment that could change a family's life. I'm not certain where this thought came from. But now I know why.



We delivered a wheelchair to the "tiny girl" that we had found a few weeks back. She is so small that I told Samuel to purchase a traditional chair with a vinyl seat. She is actually 6 years old and stands less than 3' tall. She is very weak from malnutrition and is afflicted with polio on top of all her problems. She probably won't live a very long life. Samuel said that her parents were truly kind and loving Christians and were very grateful for this gift. They treated him with great honor. Noticing their pitiful home he asked them how they were possibly surviving. You can see it in the background of the photo. It is basically a 10 foot dirt floor hut.

Her father works long days of hard labor in the fields working for a wealthy landowner. All planting, weeding, cultivating and harvesting is done by hand in that region of the world. Her mother cannot work as she is needed at home to care for her child.

They have very few belongings. They are all three literally starving to death he told me. They survive on pure faith in God never knowing if they will eat the following day. I wonder how most of us would hold up in that situation?

My very first thought was probably the same one you are having right now. That wheelchair is way too large for her tiny body. I did not realize that she was that small. When I heard their story I immediately told Samuel to bring them a large supply of food ASAP. And add a blanket with 2 pillows so the child would sit comfortably in that chair. Linda thinks maybe a baby stroller would be more appropriate so I will check if they make them in India. I can't say I have ever seen one there.

I had just begun to tell him to purchase a sewing machine for the mother so she could also help provide an income for her family when before I could utter the words Samuel interrupted and said that she also mentioned that she had training on a sewing machine. Then it all fell together as if it were meant to be. I knew then why I had that thought about sewing machines a few days earlier. There is so much joy serving a hopeless Christian family like this. Your gifts have changed the lives of this family.

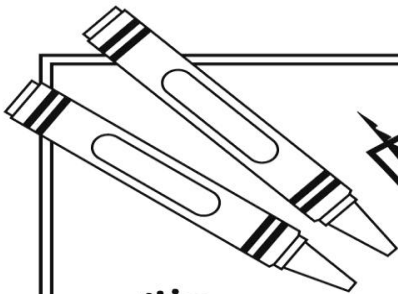


Samuel and I are back in sync. Typically his thoughts are my thoughts and everything seems to flow like this project did. I will post the photos when he delivers those new items. He is also presenting a paralyzed 9 year old little girl with a new wheelchair. Her story is a variation from the norm and very sad too. She does not have polio or a birth defect. She had a tumor when she was 2 years old and she has been paralyzed ever since the hospital removed it. .

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Please visit our website to see the difference you are making in the lives of so many people! www.championshouse.org Champions House Foundation, 24269 SD Hwy 50, Chamberlain, SD 57325. trancour@midstatesd.net.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 11:00 a Morning Worship Communion 6:30p NO Youth	3	4 2 p OGSC 7 p Worship	5 6:30 p Bible Study	6 7 a Men serve Breakfast at OGSC	7	8
9 11:00 a Morning Worship 6:30 p CIA Youth	10	11	12 6:30 p Bible Study	13 6:30 pm UM Men	14	15
16 9:30 a Sunday School 11:00 a Morning Worship 6:30 p CIA	17 6:30 Ad Council	18	19 6:30 p Bible Study	20 2:00 p UMW	21	22
23 8:30 a Morning Worship 9:30 a Sunday School 2 p Charge Conference 6:30 p CIA	24	25	26 Community Thanksgiving Service at Episcopal Church	27 Happy Thanksgiving	28	29



PUZZLE

Give Praise

Solve this puzzle to read a Bible verse about praising God for all his blessings.

Directions: In each group, underline the word that doesn't belong. Then write the underlined words on the lines below.

1. Give Take Grab	2. peanut praise pear	3. temple house LORD	4. proclaim past present	5. name boy lad	6. ruin destroy make
7. pine acorn known	8. train nations bus	9. done donut muffin	10. Sing Sleep Yawn	11. she him girl	12. sun praise moon
13. tell fast slow	14. red all blue	15. horrible dreadful wonderful	16. acts sisters aunts		

“ _____ to the _____ , _____ his _____ ;
_____ among the _____ what he has _____ .
_____ to _____ , sing _____ to him; _____ of _____ his
_____ .” PSALM 105:1-2, NIV

Answers: 1. Give, 2. praise, 3. LORD, 4. proclaim, 5. name, 6. make, 7. known, 8. nations, 9. done, 10. Sing, 11. him, 12. praise, 13. tell, 14. all, 15. wonderful, 16. acts

Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. (Psalm 105:1-2, NIV)