



Count Your Blessings

In thirty-four years of ministry, I have learned some important lessons about gratitude. Some people just don't seem to appreciate what they have. There's the father who takes his family for granted, who can't find time to attend a child's game. There's the teenager who feels entitled to an expensive iPhone or car. On the other hand, there are people who appreciate even the smallest good fortune. Almost by definition appreciative people and people who practice gratitude seem to be more satisfied with their lives.

Paul Walsh is a general assignment reporter at the Star Tribune. Paul's story about Orlando Thomas is a story that is hard to put down. It will compel you to count your blessings. I am aware that November and December are around the corner, but it's a season to express gratitude and appreciation for the amazing people in our lives. So, I want to ask you: are you counting your blessings!

Orlando Thomas, who played safety for seven seasons with the Minnesota Vikings, was a second-round draft choice for the Vikings from the small town of Crowley, Louisiana. Crowley is a city and parish seat of Acadia Parish, Louisiana with a population of over 12,000.

Orlando died in 2014 after a ten-year battle with ALS. He was only 42 years old. "This was a devastating way for it to happen," said agent Mark Bertelstein, referring to the amyotrophic lateral sclerosis—often referred to as Lou Gehrig's disease. But it was inevitable."

Bertelstein said Thomas showed incredible courage while bedridden for the previous few years. "To watch what he went through since he came down with ALS," Bertelstein said, "never showing an ounce of self-pity. He never wanted to talk about his plight."

Orlando was set to join the Arizona Cardinals' coaching staff of former Vikings Coach Dennis Green in 2004 as an intern when he started to experience symptoms of Lou Gehrig's disease. He helped coach the team's defensive backs through training camp but became weaker and was diagnosed by doctors in September of that year. Orlando was unable to return to the Cardinals in 2005.

ALS began to destroy his body. In a press conference, Orlando told the world he had ALS. After the ALS started to challenge him, Orlando would say to family and friends, "EVERY DAY IS A HOLIDAY!"

In the last stages of ALS, the only muscle he could move was his eyelids, so he would blink a letter of the alphabet to talk to his wife and children. Perhaps Orlando remembered the hymn *Count Your Blessings*!

Count Your Blessings was written by Johnson Oatman, Jr., an ordained Methodist Episcopal minister. He also wrote the lyrics for 5,000 gospel songs. One of Oatman's most famous songs was *Count Your Blessings*:

*When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed,
when you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
count your blessings, name them one by one,
and it will surprise you what the Lord has done.
Count your blessings, name them one by one;
Count your blessings, see what God hath done.
Count your blessings, name them one by one.
Count your blessings, see what God has done.*

The Bible also has something to say about counting blessings:

Don't be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7)

*In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.
(1 Thessalonians 5:18)*

Perhaps November is a good time to begin counting your blessings!

Remember . . . Every Day Is A Holiday!

Peace,
Pastor Brady





Drive-Up Prayer

Due to the strong response that we received from the community in September, we have decided to extend the schedule for one more month. On Saturday, October 27th, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm we will again be offering to pray with and for anyone who drives up to the church.

In September we had cars lined up at 1:00 with people who wanted prayers. Due to this strong response, this month we have decided to extend the prayer time an extra hour, until 2:00 pm.

We encourage you to participate in this exciting ministry by signing up to be part of the prayer team for this event.

If you are not able to participate, we ask that you tell others about this opportunity for prayer. This is a wonderful way to "Reach Out In Love" to our community. It is a way of being a blessing and receiving blessings by serving the Lord and others. If anyone has any questions regarding *Drive-Up Prayer*, please see Pastor Brady or Gary Todd.

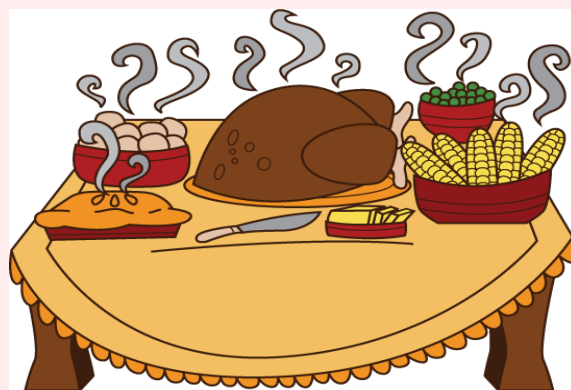
LAY LEADER LUNCHEON

November 4th, 12:00 pm

November should be called Fellowship Month.

It is a time when families come together for Thanksgiving. It is a time when cooler weather makes us long for comfort food. Join us as we enjoy old and new favorites for lunch after 2nd service.

The early church made a point of sharing meals. For me, it is an honor to continue that tradition. If you have a favorite dish or you would just like to make a suggestion, contact Theresa Johnson at FUMCLayLeader@gmail.com or



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On Sunday, November 11th we will bring our supplies and goodies so we can fill shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. The shoeboxes will then be shipped all over the world to the "least of these." There are strict guidelines as to what we can place in the box for many reasons. If you would like to support this mission you can donate money for supplies to put in the boxes or to help ship. Each shoebox will cost \$9.00 to ship. See Kris Loughley.

Looking Ahead: In December we will be making cookies and treats on Sunday, December 9th. These will be passed out as we go Christmas Caroling, a tradition of youth group at least 42 years! We will go caroling on Sunday, December 16th. Monday, December 31st, is our annual New Year's Eve Overnighter, another tradition of at least 42 years!

Like card games? Catching up with your friends? Snacks? Friends are ALWAYS welcome! The more the merrier! So, if you have a friend or two you'd like to bring along to a meeting or fun activity, go ahead!

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." 1 TIMOTHY 4:12

MYF Mission Statement

TO EQUIP TEENS TO LIVE AS CHRISTIANS
IN THE REAL WORLD

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

Contact Dave and Kris Loughley
at 330-571-2850 or
dloughley@aol.com, kloughley@aol.com.

November Schedule

Sunday, November 4: Regular Meeting

Sunday, November 11: Operation Christ Child Shoebox Packing

Sunday, November 18: Youth Group Does Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 25: NO Meeting



Communion Stewards for Second Service

On the first Sunday of every month we celebrate Communion as part of our Worship Service. This is not only a time to remember what Christ did for us, but a time to be in communion with Him and the Body of Christ. The contemporary service at 11:00 a.m. not only gives you the opportunity to receive Communion but also the opportunity to be a Communion Steward and assist with serving Communion. If you are interested in serving as a Communion Steward and have not previously signed up, please contact Gary Todd.

Following is a list of the Communion Stewards for the next ten months.

<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>NAMES</u>
11/04/18	Andrea & Rebecca Peters
12/02/18	Sara Schmitt, Debi Sweat
01/06/19	Tom Prorok, Deb Todd
02/03/19	Delaney Rush, Sarah Straw
03/03/19	Myrtle Hawks, Trisha Zona
04/07/19	Bob & Lynn Denges
05/05/19	Matthew & Annie Zellner
06/02/19	Ken & Patty Kempf
07/07/19	Greg & Lenora Matthews
08/04/19	Mike & Tracy Shaub

Please advise Gary Todd if you are not available on the week scheduled.

Friday Night Movie Schedule

Once each month on a Friday night we present a movie shown in Fellowship Hall. Each of these movies have a message that, to an open heart, could be life changing. The movies start at 7:00 pm. Below are the movies that we will be showing for the next few months.

11/09/18	The Case for Christ
12/07/18	The Star
01/11/19	Priceless
02/08/19	TBD

More movies and dates for the 2019 schedule will appear in the December Newsletter.

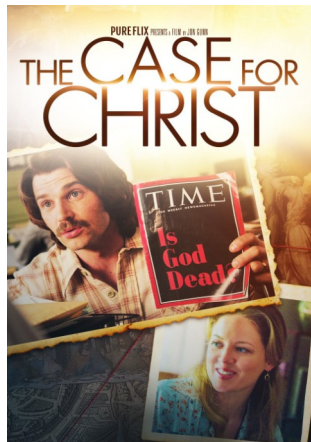
We encourage you to come and to invite others to see these wonderful films of faith and encouragement. The movies are free and pizza, snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Please contact Gary and Deb Todd if you have any questions about this event.
Hope to see you at the movies.



Friday Night at the Movies Presents *The Case for Christ* on November 9th at 7:00pm

An investigative journalist takes it upon himself to get to the bottom of one of history's biggest mysteries in *The Case for Christ*. Based on Lee Strobel's best-selling book, this religious-themed drama earns points for proselytizing in more compelling form than usual. Set in 1980, the story revolves around Lee, an award-winning reporter for the *Chicago Tribune* and an avowed atheist, along with his wife Leslie. His life suddenly changes when his young daughter nearly chokes to death at a restaurant. The little girl is rescued by fellow diner Alfie, a nurse. When the grateful parents remark how lucky it was that she was there, Alfie solemnly intones, "It's not luck. It's Jesus."



The fateful experience causes Leslie to seek Alfie out and attend church with her. Much to Lee's consternation, it isn't long before his wife becomes born again. During a heated argument about her newfound faith, he bitterly comments that he's "going to file a missing person report." Desperate to convince his wife that her beliefs are mistaken, Lee decides to investigate Christianity for the purpose of debunking it. One of his colleagues suggests he prove that Jesus didn't actually rise from the dead, pointing out that such a revelation would cause the religion to fall apart "like a house of cards." And so Lee doggedly pursues his story, lining his basement with notes and photographic evidence as if he were tracking down a serial killer.

That Lee is an atheist is made manifest by his constantly acting like a jerk, including drinking heavily, accidentally terrifying his little girl, and whining to Leslie, "You're cheating on me with Jesus!" She, on the other hand, displays infinite love and patience with her husband, proving that — as was also shown in the faith-based film *War Room* — Jesus makes an ideal marriage counselor. It isn't hard to guess the film's conclusion, in which Lee learns the errors of his ways and finally embraces faith.

Abraham Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation, 1863

Background: *Though previous presidents (George Washington, John Adams, and James Madison) had made thanksgiving proclamations, the holiday was essentially a regional observance until 1863. In this year, Sarah J. Hale, editor of Godey's Lady's Book, wrote an inspiring 1863 editorial appealing for a national holiday. President Lincoln responded that year by setting aside the last Thursday of November as a day of thanksgiving. Lincoln's proclamation has special significance when considered in its context. America was in the midst of a Civil War. Though the tide of war had begun to change, there had been a tremendous loss of life on both sides. And it would be two more long years before the Civil War would end.*

During this difficult time in American history, President Lincoln sought to begin the healing process for a divided nation with a call to unite in giving thanks to God. Historian David Barton notes that this "remarkable Thanksgiving Proclamation came at a pivotal point in Lincoln's spiritual life. Three months earlier, the Battle of Gettysburg had occurred, resulting in the loss of some 60,000 American lives. It had been while Lincoln was walking among the thousands of graves there at Gettysburg that he first committed his life to Christ."

Lincoln wrote in a letter to a clergyman: "When I left Springfield [Illinois, to assume the Presidency], I asked the people to pray for me. I was not a Christian. When I buried my son, the severest trial of my life, I was not a Christian. But when I went to Gettysburg and saw the graves of thousands of our soldiers, I then and there consecrated myself to Christ." (Abraham Lincoln, The Lincoln Memorial: Album-Immortelles, G.W. Carleton and Company, 1882, p. 366). For the next 75 years, American presidents faithfully followed Lincoln's precedent and annually declared a national Thanksgiving Day. However, dates varied, so in 1941 Congress permanently established the fourth Thursday of November as the national Thanksgiving holiday.

Text: *The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added which are of so extraordinary a nature that they can not fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God.*

In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign states to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere, except in the theater of military conflict, while that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship; the ax has

enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege, and the battlefield, and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. 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 has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore if, as soon as may be consistent with the divine purpose, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this 3d day of October A.D. 1863, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-eighth.

Abraham Lincoln



What is UMCOR?

The **United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)** brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by war, conflict or **natural disaster**. UMCOR provides humanitarian relief and disaster response to people in more than 80 countries, including the United States. After flood waters have receded, wounds have been tended, basic needs met, and the world's attention has faded, The United Methodist Church continues to be present by providing ongoing assistance.

UMCOR provides survivors not only temporary relief, but also long-term education, training, and support. While UMCOR cooperates with other aid organizations, the most important partners in the work of recovery are those being served.

UMCOR is currently engaged in relief efforts in Texas (Hurricane Harvey), in Syria (civil war), Sierra Leone (mudslides), and many other places around the world. Learn more by going to . . .



United Methodists
Responding to
Disaster – The
United ...

www.umc.org

Photo by United Methodist Communications. McBride United Methodist Church in South Mills, NC, experienced severe flooding in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew in October, 2016.



Scott Loughley ~ 1
Laura Powaski ~ 4
Briana Spinelli ~ 4
Lori Winston ~ 6
Vincent Alaimo ~ 10
Ralph Desai ~ 12
Matt Hawks ~ 12
Sylvia Gunn ~ 13
Kristen Loughley ~ 13
Gary Todd ~ 13
Jerry Brillhart ~ 14
Matthew Sarver ~ 14
Jake Damcott ~ 20
Jessica Eanallo ~ 20
Lynn Denges ~ 22
Dick Schultz ~ 27
Kristi Rodman ~ 30



Calvin & Joy Schottke Shaw

November Coupons

It is not easy to save money, but every little bit helps. We can help. Take as many as you can use. (You can also give some to your friends.)

Join us **Friday, November 30th** to update our board for December. We will meet from **1pm to 3pm**. If you can't make it and are looking for something special (i.e., Luv's diapers) just let us know. We take requests.



For more information, contact Theresa Johnson at 330.405.1588 or FUMCLayLeader@gmail.com.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

Monthly Birthday Celebration November 18th

Do you have a birthday in November? If you do, tell us quickly at **330-425-2565**. We want your name on our cake. We want to celebrate you.

Birthdays are about family. Come and celebrate your November birthday with your church family. We will celebrate in the middle of the month on **November 18th** after second service.

If you would like to help, please contact Theresa Johnson at FUMCLayLeader@gmail.com or Gary Todd at 330-425-9745.

Join Us.



2018 Christmas Poinsettia Order Form

PLEASE HELP DECORATE OUR CHURCH SANCTUARY FOR CHRISTMAS! Your plant(s) will help beautify our sanctuary for Christmas, and may then be picked up for your own use after the late service on Christmas Eve or on the following Sunday morning. Thank you for sharing with us.

(**Indicate number of each color plant desired!)

4.5" Poinsettia, 1 stem, 2 - 3 blooms \$ 4.75 ea	_____Red	_____White
6.5" Poinsettia, 1 stem, 4 - 5 blooms \$ 8.90 ea	_____Red	_____White
7.5" Poinsettia, 2 stems, 6 - 8 blooms \$13.60 ea	_____Red	_____White
8.5" Poinsettia, 3 stems, 7 - 8 blooms \$17.20 ea	_____Red	_____White
10.0" Poinsettia, 4 stems, 9-10 blooms \$29.35 ea	_____Red	_____White



(Please **PRINT** clearly. Use reverse side if more space is needed.)

From _____

In memory of _____ In honor of _____

Make checks payable to *Faith United Methodist Church*, and place both this order form and your check in the envelope on the narthex table or mail them to the church office **to arrive no later than Wednesday, November 14th.**



HAPPY THANKSGIVING WORD SEARCH

P	C	O	W	X	Y	W	O	C	O	W	X	Y	W	W
U	H	K	E	A	U	L	U	F	K	N	A	H	T	W
M	V	O	I	S	T	U	F	F	I	N	G	F	D	D
P	M	J	L	W	M	C	K	Y	J	T	W	A	C	B
K	T	A	U	I	K	N	J	T	G	U	D	M	N	R
I	N	M	H	C	D	G	M	U	M	Y	E	I	G	E
N	R	V	I	E	O	A	H	R	V	I	E	L	J	A
Q	E	B	O	R	D	Y	K	P	O	R	Y	P	K	D
F	R	I	E	N	D	S	A	E	I	O	P	F	P	D
S	Q	U	L	B	L	L	S	Y	U	L	B	L	L	O
W	A	Y	G	S	E	O	T	A	T	O	P	A	O	O
X	S	A	L	A	D	I	X	S	T	K	G	Q	I	F
D	Y	A	M	A	D	S	D	D	R	M	B	Z	U	Y
F	L	T	H	A	N	K	S	G	I	V	I	N	G	E
G	P	Q	C	H	S	E	L	B	A	T	E	G	E	V

See how many of these words you can find in the puzzle. The words can be forward, backward or diagonal.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| 1. THANKSGIVING | 5. THANKFUL | 9. STUFFING | 13. PUMPKIN |
| 2. HOLIDAY | 6. FOOD | 10. SALAD | 14. PIE |
| 3. FAMILY | 7. TURKEY | 11. BREAD | 15. VEGETABLES |
| 4. FRIENDS | 8. POTATOES | 12. YAM | 16. HAM |



November



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
FH = Fellowship Hall WR = Wesley Room SHR = Sr High Room Sanc = Sanctuary				1 All Saints Day 6:00p Girl Scts/053/FH 7:00p Praise Team	2	3 8:00a Men's Prayer 11a-1p N.O.W. Open House
4 9/11:00a Worship & Communion 6:00p MYF 6:00p Bible Study	5 6:30p Music Practice 7:00p Ad Council	6 6:30p AA/SHR 6:30p Boy Scts/FH 7:00p Pastor's Bible Study/WR	7 6:45p Women's Prayer/WR	8 7:00p Praise Team	9 7:00p Friday Night at the Movies (The Case for Christ)	10 8:00a Men's Prayer <i>Charge Conference/ Aldersgate UMC</i>
11 Veterans Day 9/11:00a Worship 6:00p MYF/Shoebox Packing & Pizza 6:00p Bible Study	12 5:00p Trustees 6:30p Music Practice	13 6:30p AA/SHR 6:30p Boy Scts/FH	14 6:00p Girl Scouts/262/FH 6:30p Boy Scouts/FH 6:45p Women's Prayer/WR	15 1:00p Single Srs 6:00p Girl Scouts/FH 7:00p Praise Team	16	17 8:00a Men's Prayer
18 9/11:00a Worship 2:00p Pvt Event/FH 6:00p MYF/Does Thanksgiving 6:00p Bible Study	19 6:30p Music Practice 7:00p Finance	20 6:30p AA/SHR 6:30p Boy Scts/FH	21 6:45p Women's Prayer/WR	22 Thanksgiving Day 	23	24 8:00a Men's Prayer
25 9/11:00a Worship 6:00p MYF 6:00p Bible Study	26 6:30p Music Practice	27 6:30p AA/SHR 6:30p Boy Scts/FH	28 6:30p Boy Scouts/FH 6:45p Women's Prayer/WR	29 7:00p Praise Team	30 1:00p Coupon Clipping	

**** November 17th – Deadline for submission of articles for the December Newsletter**

Faith United Methodist Church
2560 Post Road
Twinsburg, Ohio 44087



November 2018

Faith United Methodist Church
"Centered in Jesus Christ – Reaching out in Love"

November 4th



Worship Services

Traditional 9:00 am

Contemporary 11:00 am

Christian Education

(September thru May) 10:10 am & 11:10 am

Staffed Nursery: 8:45 am–12:00 pm