

THE UPDATE



Time to Celebrate

Sunday, Nov. 20, 9:00 & 10:35 a.m.

As we prepare for the coming holidays, we are reminded this is a season to give thanks. We know that, truly, we are to give thanks in every season - of the year and of our lives. Gratitude is transformative. So, in this season when we are reminded to be grateful, we as a church are going to dedicate a Sunday to just that.

On Celebration Sunday, we will celebrate all God has done and continues to do in our lives and our church body, as all we have to be thankful for has come from Him. This year, God has made new lives; we will celebrate with child dedications. God has made lives new; we will celebrate with baptisms. God has brought new people into our church body; we will celebrate by accepting new members. God has made us new with the gift of Jesus; we will celebrate with communion.

In both the main lobby and the children's lobby, there are pumpkins on display. We would ask you to stop by and write something you are thankful for on the pumpkins with the markers provided. These will then be displayed on Celebration Sunday.

If you are interested in dedicating your child or in celebrating your faith with water baptism, please contact the church office. Children and teens who are interested in being baptized can contact Pastor Allie or Pastor Bryce.

We hope you will join us on November 20 to celebrate together and thank God for all He has done in your life and the life of our church!

Discipleship Ministries

Women's Gathering: We Are Blessed

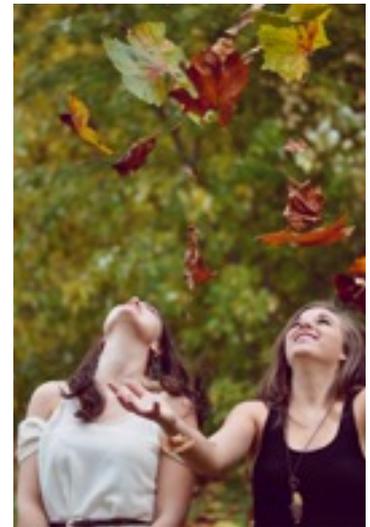
Saturday, Nov. 19, 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the FLC (gym)

Anam Cara
(meaning of Soul Friends)

Please join us for a morning of finding soul friends through conversation, laughter, devotion, prayer, and pumpkin spice everything.

This is for all women 18 and above.

Please put on your connection card if you can join us and if you will need childcare.



Primetimers

Tuesday, Nov. 8, at noon in Rm. 24/25

Twenty-one Primetimers know more about each other than they did prior to our potluck luncheon on October 11. As usual, the food was delicious and plentiful. Before the meal, we were assigned places to set. After the meal, we were given a choice of topics from which to choose, all requiring us to provide information about ourselves. We were then given a minute or two to share the information with the others at the table. It was very informative. Thanks to Nancy Ezell and Sharon Sabraw for an excellent program.

On November 8, we will be doing something different. Instead of a potluck luncheon we will be having a pizza and a movie. (This was the program the Primetimers booklet said would be in April, but Tom Sack is unable to present his program due to his commitment to the Election Board on that day. We are attempting to schedule his November program at a later date.) The pizza will be purchased by Primetimers, but if you wish to help with the cost, a suggested amount will be made available for you to put in the red cups on the tables. Soft drinks and water will be available. The movie, provided by Judy Rahn, will be a 28-minute video featuring Billy Graham. It is an excellent production.

Those 50-and-better are invited to join us on Election Day to enjoy a pizza and a movie. If you have questions, you may contact Ernie Dyer at (785) 393-3846 or epdyer@att.net.

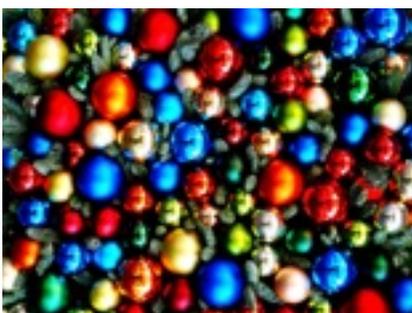


Student Ministries

Christmas Party Lock-in

Friday-Saturday, Dec. 16-17, 6:00 p.m.-9:30 a.m. in the Teen Center

The Christmas Party Lock-in will take place Dec. 16-17 from 6:00 p.m.-9:30 a.m. Students should bring \$3 for pizza, a cheap-white-elephant gift (wrapped), a sleeping bag, and any snacks they would like to share with everyone.



Children's Ministries

Operation Christmas Child 2016

Operation Christmas Child collects shoeboxes—filled with school supplies, hygiene items, fun toys and notes of encouragement—and delivers them to children in need around the world to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way.

In 2015 collection, more than 11.2 million children around the world received shoeboxes. In 2016, Operation Christmas Child hopes to collect enough shoebox gifts to reach another 12 million children. For many of these children, the gift-filled shoebox is the first gift they have ever received.

Last year, our shoeboxes went to Mexico. It is likely that the majority of our shoeboxes will be going to Mexico again as OCC has strategic, long-range plans of reaching every child in Mexico.

An OCC regional director recently went on a mission trip to Mexico with her church. The trip was not connected to OCC in any way so it was a pleasant surprise to end up in a place that distributed shoeboxes last year. The pastor in Mexico that helped to distribute last year's shoeboxes explained their impact. He said that the shoebox distribution has helped plant new churches and gave the people real hope in an area with a strong presence of drug cartel and crime.

That's what God did with your shoebox gifts last year. What will he do this year?

Filled shoeboxes may be dropped off in the lobby. The deadline for filled shoeboxes is Sunday, Nov. 20.



Jr. Camp 2017

June 12-16, 2017

Put it on your calendar! Jr. Camp 2017 dates have been set: June 12-16.

Jr. Camp is a week-long summer camp for children finishing 3rd-5th grade. Located at Rock Springs 4-H Center near Junction City, KS, Jr. Camp is a wonderful, safe, and fun environment for kids to begin to explore new hobbies,

make new friends, gain more independence, and connect with God on a deeper level. Jr. Camp is not just for kids from the Lawrence area; kids connected with Free Methodist churches in Kansas and Nebraska come, too!

For more information, contact Pastor Allie or Bethany Engel (the Jr. Camp Director) in the church office. Registration forms will be available in early 2017. The cost is expected to be similar to recent years, a little over \$200, with \$100 deposit due at the time of registration.

Note: The gift card fundraising program is a great way to save money for camp without spending any extra. Ask Bethany, Allie, or the person at the gift card kiosk in the lobby Sundays for more information.

November in DU

Honor is a response to the character of God.

Chances are if you have kids in sports or competitions of any kind, you have a growing collection of ribbons and medals, sashes and badges, certificates, trophies, or plaques. Some might hang on your walls or sit propped up on shelves somewhere. But if we're honest, others get stuffed into a drawer and eventually thrown out. These were so important when they first came into our homes, but at some point they just lost their value. All those awards and medals can only mean so much, because honor has a deeper meaning.

People should not just be honored because of what they do; they should primarily be honored because of who they are. Stuff will lose value over time, but not people. At its core, honor is seeing people the way God sees people. We're naturally wired to put ourselves first, but honor is the opposite of self-centeredness. It is something that flows from your relationship with God. In a sense, one of the best ways we can HONOR God, is by honoring those who reflect the image of God.

Throughout Scripture we see how much God loves us:

He created us in His image.

He knows the number of hairs on our heads.

We are fearfully and wonderfully made.

He pursued a relationship with us even when we wanted nothing to do with Him.

He sent His only Son to pay for our sins to make an eternal relationship with Him possible.

And He did all of this for us without us even asking.

Jesus was the ultimate example of someone who showed others their value.

When Jesus came here, He showed us how to love and show honor to those around us. He taught us to love our enemies, care for the "least

of these;" and become the servants of all who puts others' needs before our own.

That's why it's important for us to help our kids and families discovery more about honor—letting someone know you see how valuable they really are.



Our Memory Verse for November comes from Romans 12. Throughout the chapter, Paul casts a vision for the church and how they can live as people transformed by God's Holy Spirit.

In Romans 12:10, we read, "Love one another

deeply. Honor others more than yourselves." (NIRV) As kids memorize this verse, we hope they understand that honor includes seeing others how God sees them. When kids start doing that, they will be more willing to show God's love to others and put their needs ahead of their own.

One place you can go as a leader or parent to help kids understand the concept of honor is the life of David. There are some powerful lessons about honor that show up all throughout David's story. Here is a quick overview of what we'll be covering throughout November.



WEEK 1

In 1 Samuel 16:1-13, God was ready for a new king and sent the prophet Samuel to Jesse's house to anoint one of his sons as the next king of Israel. Samuel was surprised when God didn't choose the oldest and strongest of Jesse's sons. Instead, God had something different in mind. He wanted a king who was a man after His own heart. God chose David, the youngest of Jesse's sons, to lead his people.

Bottom Line: Honor others by giving them a chance. Often we have people in our lives that we tend to overlook. This story reminds us that God has a different way for us to look at the people around us. We can give people a chance because that's what God does for us.



WEEK 2

We continue our look at Honor in 1 Samuel 18:1-9, 19:1-17, and 20:1-42. Jonathan was the prince of Israel. He was set to follow in his father's footsteps. He could have ignored God's plan for David and done his own thing to ensure his own place on the throne. Yet, Jonathan saw God was doing something different and showed kindness to David in spite of what Saul thought.

Bottom Line: Honor others by putting them first. When we see people as God sees them, we start to realize that how we treat them matters. One of the easiest ways we can show people honor is by putting their needs before our own. This is exactly what God did for us when He sent Jesus to be our Savior.

WEEK 3

On November 20, the children will attend the worship service with their parents. It's Celebration Sunday! There will be child dedications, baptisms, and communion as we thank God for his blessings and HONOR Him by giving Him credit. This will be a great introduction to our final week learning about honor.



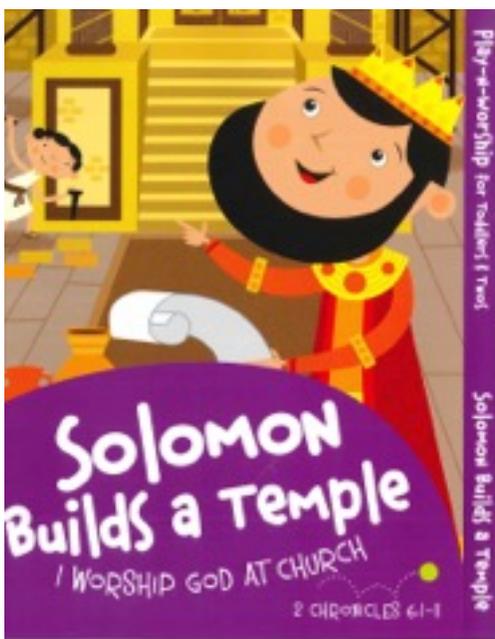
WEEK 4

We finish up the month in 2 Samuel 6:12-22a. David is so excited that they are bringing the Ark of the Covenant back to Jerusalem that he starts a party in the middle of the streets. He dances to God in front of all the people in Jerusalem. When his wife is upset with him, he defends his action as a way to honor God. David doesn't care what people think, he wants to worship God.

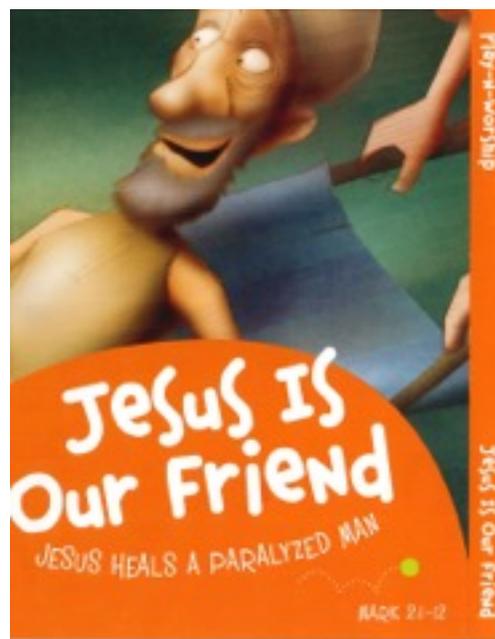
Bottom Line: Honor God by giving Him credit. The secret to showing honor to others is to understand that it begins with honoring God and giving Him the credit for everything we have. We can make it a point to honor God with every aspect of our lives.



November in Twos...



and in Threes and Fours



Missions

Potluck with Kids Alive Staff

Sunday, Nov. 6, at noon in Rm. 24/25

On Sunday, November 6, we will have a rare opportunity to meet with Robenson Gedeus, Director of Kids Alive Haiti, and Rich Anderson, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Kids Alive International. Robenson and Rich will be with us for both worship services on Sunday morning, and Robenson will share briefly in each service about the ongoing work with the Kids Alive children's village in Cap Haitien.

Immediately following the 10:35 a.m. worship service, there will be a potluck luncheon in Room 24/25 to allow Robenson and Rich to share in more detail about the work in Haiti. All are invited, and we hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to meet these men and learn more. Various soups and bread provided. Please bring a salad or dessert. No RSVP is necessary; however, if you already know you plan to attend, communicating your plans to the church office would be appreciated.



Lorenz Family Update

"We are excited to announce that through your generosity and prayers, we have been approved to move to Costa Rica [in January]! We have been accepted to a language school, and will visit Costa Rica in late October to attend meetings and to sort out logistics for our move.

Next up: some stateside government paperwork (visas) that involves multiple countries and agencies working

together and a December deadline.

Thank you for your support. Love and prayers, The Lorenzes"

L.I.N.K.

Thursday, Nov. 3, LFMC is scheduled to provide and serve an early afternoon meal at L.I.N.K. (Lawrence Interdenominational Nutrition Kitchen). If you are able to provide food or help serve that day, know that it is needed and appreciated. You will be blessed as you are a blessing. Sign up in the church lobby or at <http://tinyurl.com/z4pphek>.



Family Promise

LFMC is scheduled to serve at Family Promise Nov 14, 15, and 17. We need volunteers to provide food for meals, as well volunteers to "host" the evening meals by sharing the meals with Family Promise participants at First Southern Baptist Church. Please sign up in the church lobby on Nov. 6 and 13. For information regarding food, contact Nancy Ezell (nancyezell34@yahoo.com).

For information about Family Promise, contact Dan Flynn (dflynn@deciphera.com).



Family Promise Wish List

Along with the quarterly service, there are other ways to help Family Promise. One of those ways is donating supplies from their wish list below. If you would like to donate goods from their Wish List, you may place them in the red Family Promise tub in the breezeway (between the lobby and the main doors) here at LFMC.

Immediate Need: Similac Alimentum -- Hypoallergenic Infant Formula with Iron

Constant Needs:

Diapers— especially sizes 4-6

Diaper Wipes

Paper Towels

Toilet Paper

Antibacterial Wipes

Dish and Laundry Soap

Dryer Sheets

Body Wash

Shampoo and Conditioner

Feminine Hygiene Products

Hand Sanitizer

All Purpose Cleaner Toothbrushes (all sizes)

Toothpaste

Dental Floss

Paper (for printers)

Ink Cartridges— HP 950 & 951, HP 74 & 75

10 Ct. Bus Passes

Kleenex

Misc.

Practical help for “the stranger among us”

On October 2 I preached a message titled “WWJL: The Stranger Among Us” (“WWJL” stands for “Who Would Jesus Love?”), and the emphasis was on the horrendous global refugee crisis that is underway today--the worst problem of its kind since World War II. (If you weren't there that day, see <http://www.lfmchurch.org/content/wwjl-stranger-among-us> for sermon audio and notes.)

The heart of that message was simply this: Scripture makes it clear that God wants His people to care for the “sojourner” (or “stranger” or “alien” or “foreigner”) in our midst.

I concluded that there are three things that we can do: pray, give, and go. Each of us can pray for those who have been forcibly driven out of their homes by violence, war, terrorism, or natural or man-made disasters, but it helps to be informed, so that we can pray specifically. There are two excellent web sites (certainly there are others, but these are the ones I've used) that provide information, prayer guides, and even printable prayer cards:

Joshua Project
<https://joshuaproject.net/>

Operation World
<http://www.operationworld.org/>

Many Christian (and secular) organizations are attempting to help provide resources, and you can easily search online for ways to help by giving money. One Christian organization that is laser-focused on refugee issues is World Relief (<http://www.worldrelief.org/>), but others, such as World Vision (<https://www.worldvision.org/>) are also working specifically to assist refugees.

Another way to aid refugees is through microfinance loans. One of the most reputable organizations (perhaps THE most reputable) in the world of microfinance lending is Kiva (<https://www.kiva.org/>) where you can search for borrowers world-wide according to a variety of criteria (including refugee status) and help out with as little as a \$25 loan. The borrowers repay the loans over time, and the money is available to be lent again.

If you discover there is a refugee family living near you, why not take them a plate of cookies, or a loaf of home-baked bread? (Gifts of food can traverse any language barrier!) You'll have the opportunity to introduce yourself to them, and they will get a chance to meet a friendly person in this country who cares enough to say “hello.” Who knows what the Lord might do with that first small step? —*Doug Heacock, Director of Media & Contemporary Worship*

Sunday Services & Programs

9:00 a.m.

Blended Worship

Care for infants through preschoolers

10:35 a.m.

Contemporary Worship

Care for infants through 2-year-olds

Programs for preschoolers through 12th graders

Church Office Information

Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-5 p.m.

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