

Hebron Happenings

A Note from Jason

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe November is already upon us! Due to our national holiday, November has become the official month of giving thanks. I think in many ways it is good and right that we dedicate special time each year to remind ourselves to be thankful, but have we ever stopped to think about the larger impact being thankful has on our lives. I think we all agree that it is important to be thankful and say 'thank you' when we receive something, but even beyond the etiquette of saying 'thank you,' scripture teaches us there is a depth to thanksgiving that shapes how we live our lives.

One example is found in Ephesians 5 where Paul is exhorting the congregation to live out the new life they have in Jesus and turn away from past sinful ways. He encourages them to "Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise." To live this way, he states some things for them to avoid doing and instead they should be filled with the Spirit, worship through song and **"giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."**

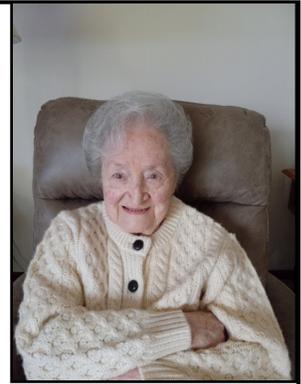
The question I want us to ask is this: How does 'giving thanks' allow us to live as wise people? I think this is a very good question to ask. You see giving thanks isn't just good to do because it is 'proper' – it is good to do because it helps shape the way we live our lives and how we see the world around us. When we live our lives in such a way that we give thanks for everything we recognize that we have received this life and all that we have in it as a gift. When we truly believe this, it is impossible for us to become a self-centered narcissist who thinks we have 'earned' or 'deserve' everything we have. Giving thanks changes our perspective on our life and on the lives of others and allows us to live humbly with our God and generously with others. A big part of true wisdom is knowing all we have, including our time and talents, are gifts of grace. So, this Thanksgiving season might we give thanks to God and allow our thanksgiving to shape us into the wise disciples God has called us to be.

God Bless,
Jason



A Note From the Deacons—Happy 100th Birthday, Anne!

We are happy to feature a centenarian from our congregation, Anne Buchanan, who celebrated her 100th birthday on October 24th. Anne grew up on Anderson Hozak Road with six siblings. Lifelong residents of the Clinton area, Anne married John Buchanan in 1940 and they have six children - Anne Shirley (Winfried), Sylvia (Clifford), John (Cheryl), Constance (Richard), James (Diane), Jeff (Shelley), ten grandchildren, and 19 great grandchildren.



- Throughout her working years, Anne managed Hozak Tree Farms for several decades. During her years of managing the tree farm, she was a contestant on the TV show “To Tell the Truth” in New York City. Later, she was a head waitress at Traveler’s Paradise.
- Anne’s charismatic personality has won her awards with World Book as well as the hearts of everyone who knows her.
- One of Anne’s greatest values has been to be a lifelong acquirer of knowledge as she has enjoyed reading books on archaeology, textiles, geography, history, and nutrition.
- She has enjoyed the cultural arts including the opera, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the ballet, and various theatrical productions.
- Anne could often be found attending a historical society meeting, a library, or Barnes & Noble.
- Anne loves bird watching and has enjoyed identifying bird types that have visited her bird feeders as well as studying their behavior. She has given many bluebird boxes to establish a bluebird trail over the years.
- Anne has made the best homemade pickles and salad dressing that have been treasured by her family.

Passion Potluck

This is the repeat of an event we held a couple years ago, that was very well received. It’s your chance to get to know other Hebron members better and to share your passions. Last time, Alf Butler shared about his passion to fly his American flag in all the states. Doug and I shared our passion for riding the bike paths together. Nan Butler talked about quilting and Phyllis Suehr talked about her passion for sewing.

There will be a potluck luncheon following the church service on November 14, followed by our program. A sign-up for the potluck luncheon and a sign-up for those who are willing to present will be at the back of the church!

Hospitality

There is a sign-up sheet for hospitality in the lobby. This is something we all enjoy—so feel free to take a turn to welcome Hebron members on Sunday mornings.

West Allegheny Show Choir

The West Allegheny Show Choir will perform on Sunday, December 19th at the church at 1:00 PM! A simple luncheon will be held after the 11:00 AM service that day.

Choir

The choir has been working hard and we expect to be able to do some anthems as a part of the church service soon. Are there any hidden talents out there?? None of us has a perfect voice—feel free to give us a try. We practice on **Sunday mornings at 9:00 am.** We are a fun group to be a part of.

Hebron Financial Report through September

The September financial report showed donations of \$6,341 and expenses of \$8,711. The shortfall for this one month was \$2,369. This is an unusual month for us this year. The people of the church have done a pretty good job of supporting the church. We have not moved any money from the Morgan-Stanley account into the checking account--it has not been needed so far this year. Our year-to-date figures are very similar to the monthly report. Income and donations of 71,921 and expenses of \$74,356 for a shortfall of \$2,435. (Note: this does not take the growth in the Morgan-Stanley fund into account).

There are substantial potential bills in the areas of missions. Next year, the pavilion will be adding electrical service. The missions committee will probably disperse a large part of the over \$5,000 allocated by our church for that purpose. Supporting missions is a priority for our Session and you will be hearing more about missions shortly.

Therefore, it seems likely we will need to transfer money from Morgan-Stanley to the checking account before the end of the year. During the month of November, the budget committee should be meeting and we’ll try to project 2021’s results and estimate what size of deficit we expect. Session appreciates your help and support in meeting Hebron’s budget. Thank you all!

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