



VOICE

November 2019

The Newsletter of the WSBC Family

NOVEMBER – A MONTH IN TRANSITION

Reprinted with permission from Jim Graff

For some of us we think of November as having darker mornings, early sunsets and shortened days. Or maybe we anticipate Daylight Saving time; crisp frosty mornings with the sun shining through the colorful leaves on the trees. November is a transition month because it also includes the warm hazy days of Indian summer that commonly fall between the eleventh and twentieth of the month. There is a lot happening in November, but more than anything I think everyone sees November as the month when we celebrate Thanksgiving, that national holiday so rich in traditions.

Thanksgiving really is full of tradition when many of us are preparing to celebrate with family and sometimes friends. I have to admit the Thanksgiving meal, with all the fixings is the center for our family traditions, a time when we gather at the dinner table, just as we always have, to eat, share, and celebrate our time together as a family.

For the Western Springs Baptist Church, our tradition has been to celebrate Thanksgiving with a morning service. Thanksgiving Day starts with our worship service where members come to share openly those areas in their lives where they want to give thanks. I still remember Pastor Dean asking me if I would share with the congregation a few things in my life for which I am thankful. I thought about this for a moment and I quickly said, “No, I cannot share during the service.” I could see on Dean’s face that my quick answer surprised him. What I did not explain was, sharing for me is very personal and I get very emotional, choked up, when I think about how God has blessed my life.

Thankfully, many in our congregation are able and very willing to share. Listening to my friends and fellow believers give thanks to how God has worked in their lives is such a blessing and is a powerful witness to how close many are in their walk with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

When I think back over all the Thanksgiving services that I have attended, and all of the blessings God has placed in each of our lives, it is one of the strongest reminders of how faithful and present God is in our lives.

The Thanksgiving service also impacts the lives of so many outside of our church family. At each Thanksgiving service, our special offering is directed towards different needs, locally and throughout the world. Here again, the generosity of the WSBC members and attenders is wonderful. Here are just a few agencies that have received our Thanksgiving offerings over the years: B.E.D.S. PLUS, New Life Food, Keystone Church Food Pantry, Humboldt Park Food Ministries, Mulago Child Project, Helping Hands Refugee Center, Pacific Garden Mission, Riverwoods Christian Center (now Fox Valley Christian Action), and Samaritan’s Purse.

Prepare yourself for worship by remembering and thanking God for his involvement in your life, for his abundant love for each of us, and for his promise of everlasting life through his son, Jesus Christ. November is just around the corner so it’s time to get ready and prepare for the transition into winter and the Christmas season by giving thanks to God.

TO DISCOVER CHRIST AND DISPLAY HIS TRANSFORMING POWER

4475 Wolf Rd, Western Springs, IL 60558 · 708.246.1530 · wsbc.info · wsbc@wsbc.info

SUNDAY WORSHIP
9:00 and 10:45AM
Pastor Dean Monkemeier

November 3
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
A Person with a Mission
Romans 15:14-22

November 10
An Undying Vision
Romans 15:23-33

November 17
The People in the Pews
Romans 16:1-16

November 24
Standing Before God
Romans 16:17-27



THANKSGIVING DAY

November 28
10AM



USHERS NEEDED

Are you willing and able to volunteer for this ministry? Would you consider ushering one Sunday a month? Sundays with openings are as follows:

second: one at first service, and four at second service.

third: one at second service.

fourth: one at first service and two at second service.

fifth: two at second service.

As you can see, there are 11 slots that need someone to help with the service. You may reach out to Howard Amerlan either by email or by direct contact on Sunday mornings.



BAPTISMAL SERVICE

November 3

If you are interested in being baptized at this service, please immediately contact Pastor Dean: dean@wsbc.info.



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

November 3

For the clocks and time features on your appliances that are not automated, please use this as your reminder to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The following individuals were welcomed into WSBC membership at the Fall Business Meeting on Sunday, September 29: Bruce and Colleen Horek, Anita Finnegan, Joyce Simble, and Susan Zaremba.




2019-2020 WSBC BOARD MEMBERS

Effective October 1, 2019, the following individuals began their term at WSBC in the following roles:

Russell Cook, moderator; Phil Hueber, treasurer; Treasure Sanderson, Diaconate chair; John Hirt, Discipleship chair; Beverly Hayes, Evangelism chair; Edward Graff, Facility and Finance chair; Mark Wittkamper, Fellowship chair; Jean Dukes, Missions chair; Andrew Tedeschi, Worship chair; Lynette Hoy, SLC rep on Discipleship; Suzanne McCulloch, SLC rep on Worship; Jeff Means, SLC rep on Evangelism; Gerry Nelson, SLC rep on Diaconate; Stan Nelson, SLC rep on Missions; and Sandy Walker, SLC rep on Fellowship.



WSBC Christmas Concerts



KEEP
CHRIST
AT THE HEART OF YOUR
CHRISTMAS

DEC. 14 AT 7PM • DEC. 15 AT 4PM
WESTERN SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

We invite you and your friends to celebrate **Christ, The Heart of Christmas** at our annual Christmas concerts presented by Western Springs Baptist Church on December 14 at 7PM and December 15 at 4PM. These Christmas concerts are a wonderful opportunity for us to invite the community to experience the powerful message of love found in Jesus Christ. We especially encourage you to invite your non-churched neighbors, coworkers, and friends as this concert is designed for them. Concert highlights include: Children's Choir, Youth Choir, and Adult Choir all accompanied by a full orchestra.

Invite cards are available. Please use these cards to invite your friends to the concert.



MISSIONARY PARTNER NEWS BRIEFS

For security purposes, please do not distribute, post, or share this information without individual permission to do so from the partners.

Ilir and Kate Cami

This summer in Greece, a new government was elected promising to reform policies regarding refugees and migrants. The new prime minister has prioritized reinforced order protection, fast asylum procedures, and improved living conditions for refugees. Already they have implemented several decisions which target refugees and migrants. Unfortunately, these measures have only served to make life more difficult for refugees, and for those trying to help them.



One of the most troubling resolutions was to stop issuing social security numbers to new arrivals, which would have given them the right to work, access to public healthcare, and free transportation.

We appreciate your prayer for us in this season. Pray that God would give us wisdom to use our time, energy, and other resources in the best, most helpful way. Since many of the larger NGOs (non-government organizations) have already pulled out of Greece, the responsibility now falls on smaller organizations like us.

Jay and Bella Curtis

Isaac, who has been attending summer camp from the age of 6, is now 14, and has joined his older siblings: Rogelio and Mercedes, in our Crossover Teen Leadership Program.

This summer was Isaac's first serving trip with Fox Valley Christian Action (FVCA) where he and the teen boys participated in the Pittsburgh Project. He was in a group of ten teenagers that repaired a homeowner's porch and balcony and painted the kitchen sky blue. One night at Bible study, Isaac heard through the message that God says, I love you!



Isaac is a freshman at Larkin High and is looking forward to new opportunities. "I am looking forward to PLTW (**Project Lead The Way**) because I want to be an architect. PLTW will prepare me in science and engineering so that I can learn how to make model homes, robots, and prosthetics for people who have lost limbs."

Mark and Liz Sisler



Ever since God began to show us his direction for this change, our family started to pray about all the unknowns.

We want to share that God, in his infinite kindness, answered each of our prayers in some unique way.

Friends of ours in Kenya used to be on staff at Valley Church in West Des Moines. This church sent teams to Kenya in past years to help lead a women's conference for missionary women. When this church heard that we were moving to the Des Moines area, they offered to take back our extra bags (saving us a lot of money).

Both Jaden and Josiah had a midweek morning program at Valley Church

for their ages that they attended the week we moved. Jaden made some instant connections and asked if this could be our new church. This was the final nudging that God gave us, that this was the church he was leading us to.

We had prayed for new friends, and to be known.

In our first week in Iowa, a family invited us out for lunch after church to a brick oven pizza restaurant.



We had prayed for new friends for Jaden and Josiah. After a few days of moving in we discovered some neighborhood kids that were similar in age to our boys. Within a few weeks our boys were making new friends and getting invited to a birthday party. God was answering our prayers in very clear ways. They have also adjusted well to their new school, Des Moines Christian School, for which we are extremely thankful.

The last month, I (Mark) have traveled all over Iowa to survey the current Young Life areas and pray that God would reveal to me his plans for new areas in the year ahead. I have met most of the Young Life staff in our region and went on a fall retreat with them a few weeks ago.



NOVEMBER MISSIONARY PARTNERS' BIRTHDAYS

Kate Cami

November 4

ilirkate@iafr.org

Meg Huffman

November 23

meg.r.huffman@gmail.com

Jon Huffman

November 11

jonathanchuffman@gmail.com

Johanna Metzger

November 24

kurt_metzger@wycliffe.org

Mack White

November 13

joanandmack@gmail.com

Lois Morgan

November 24

dlmorg1955@gmail.com

Linda Holmquist

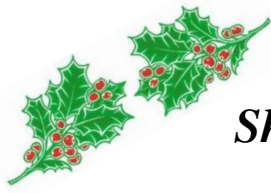
November 20

holmquistla@gmail.com

Philip Wandawa

November 26

pwandawa@kest.ac.ug



**Women's Ministries
Pre-Evangelism Event:
*Sharing the Christ of Christmas***



WESTERN SPRINGS BUSINESS
ASSOCIATION
WINTER WONDERLAND

SAVE THE DATE!
DECEMBER 7, 2-6 PM

Sign up to help on WSBC





Imagine a wonderful morning of fellowship, beautiful decorations, uplifting reflections and a delicious brunch with ladies from WSBC and our community. Please come and invite someone special to join you!



A Village Christmas
Thursday, December 5
9:30-11:30AM
Cost: \$10

Please sign up on November 17 and 24 and December 1
Or call the church office 708.246.1530
Childcare provided



Donations for Breakthrough Urban Ministries will be collected at the door. See breakthrough.org/wishlist for suggested items. Hope to see you there!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (OCC) AT WSBC.



It's that time for the boxes to be picked up and filled. The OCC information table will be in the 45th Street hallway.

Collection week is Sunday, November 17 through Monday, November 25.

We are looking for volunteers to help make and pack cartons, and for drivers to transport cartons through the week. A sign-up table will be in the Community Room during fellowship following the first worship service.

There are many ways you can get involved. First and most importantly, please PRAY. The needs are many. You can fill a box with gifts, sponsor a box to be shipped for \$9, bring extra items to fill boxes at the processing center, and pay for a child to receive the gospel message through the *Greatest Journey* book.

If you have any questions, please talk to: Diane Doty, Deb Duvall, or Cindy Holdren. Also, keep your eye out for the roving OCC boxes and the OCC tree boxes through the church.

Thanks in advance from all the children who will be blessed with your gift.

Serving Christ with joy, *Cindy*.



OWLS

Older Wiser Loving Saints

Our kick-off program for this year was well attended. Members received information on the stamp ministry—important that the donated stamps have a border from the envelope it came from; currently those stamps with the American Flag or Liberty Bell are not being used; stamps from other nations are helpful. This program helps provide Bibles for Turkey.



We also learned how to use the Blue Signs at Railroad Crossings to report non-working gates or to report cars stalled on the tracks.

Our program with Toot-Toot the clown was just wonderful. We got to see another view of Lynda (Toot Toot) Miller. Her presentation was informative, interesting, and entertaining with interactive audience participation.

We recognized member Britta Strid as she is moving to Indiana to be with her daughter and closer to her summer home. Take a moment to wish her well and let her know we will miss her at our church family activities.

Members enjoyed another Fabulous Fazio lunch and a Ridlen-provided dessert.

Now on to our November meeting on November 21, at 12NOON. We're off to the moon celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11.

Our affable George Winkler, who contributed to the Mission's success, will give us a look at what Apollo 11 looked like in its preparation, flight, landing, and return.

He will also discuss other things that were going on during the Apollo program; his experience with nuclear rockets; and a few other things we should keep in mind.

Sign up during Fellowship times on November 10 and 17 or call the church office at 246.1530. The registration cost is \$5 for lunch.



HOLIDAY HOSPITALITY

On Saturday, December 14 at 7:00PM and Sunday, December 15 at 4:00PM there will be concerts entitled "**Christ, the Heart of Christmas**" presented in the WSBC sanctuary. Please plan to bring neighbors, family members, and other guests to either event and enjoy a fellowship opportunity with festive refreshments after the Advent music.

Also, your culinary help is needed. A sign-up table will be available on Sundays, November 24, December 1, and December 8 to record your promised contribution of goodies (cookies, muffins, holiday breads, candies, appetizers). Any questions, please contact Fellowship Chair Mark Wittkamper.



YEAR-TO-DATE TWELVE MONTH FINANCIAL REPORT as of September 30, 2019

	GENERAL FUND			
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Over/(Under)
Receipts	\$773,800	\$865,300	(\$91,500)	(11%)
Expenses	\$786,900	\$865,400	(\$78,500)	(9%)
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$13,100)	(\$100)	(\$13,000)	

	MISSION FUND			
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Over/(Under)
Receipts	\$271,700	\$323,500	(\$51,800)	(16%)
Expenses	\$307,500	\$323,600	(\$16,100)	(5%)
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$35,800)	(\$100)	(\$35,700)	

Note: all amounts rounded to nearest hundred.

THANK YOU

The two new beautiful rocking chairs in the Church Nursery are a gift from the Anne Pandola Memorial Fund. Anne nurtured and cared for numerous children for many years in the Nursery. These chairs are a loving remembrance of her life at WSBC.



2019 METRO SOUTHWEST YOUNG LIFE BANQUET

Friday, November 8

6:30PM

Chicago Marriott Southwest, Burr Ridge

<https://metrosw.younglife.org/Pages/banquet.aspx>

