



PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Jim Brannon

In case you run out of things to give thanks for during this season of Thanksgiving, comedian Gene Perret has some suggestions:

1. Automatic dishwashers. They make it possible to get out of the kitchen before the family comes in for their after dinner snacks.
2. Husbands who attack small repair jobs around the house. They usually make them big enough to call in someone who knows what they are doing.
3. Children who put away their things and clean up after themselves. They're such a joy you hate to see them go home to their own parents.
4. Gardening. It's a relief to deal with dirt outside the house for a change.
5. Teenagers. They give parents an opportunity to learn a second language.
6. Smoke alarms. They let you know when the turkey's done.

In a more serious vein, Mother Theresa once told this story at a National Prayer Breakfast.

“One evening we went out and we picked up four people from the street. One of them was in a most terrible condition. I told the sisters to care for the other three and I would take care of the one who looked the worst. So I did for her all that my love could do. I put her in bed, and there was such a beautiful smile on her face. She took hold of my hand as she said two words only, “thank you.” Then she died. I could not help but examine my conscience before her. And I asked: ***What would I say if I were in her place?*** And my answer was very simple. I would have said, “I am hungry, I am dying, I am in pain”, or something of that sort. But she gave me much more. She gave me her grateful love. And she died with a smile on her face.

Gratitude brings a smile and becomes a gift.”



MEN'S MINISTRY

Cris Alexander

Do you find yourself worrying more these days? I have certainly caught myself in a number of “worry moments” in recent years. And why shouldn't we worry? There is so much to be worried and concerned about! We see our nation crumbling from within and feel powerless to stop it. We struggle financially and have great concern about how we will manage during our retirement years. We worry for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren. It's very difficult not to.

I think that worry is sin. Jesus told us not to worry. That's easy for Him to say, right? But isn't worrying prima facie evidence that we do not trust God? Doesn't worrying go directly against Jesus' command not to? In our next RBC Men's Group Bible Study we'll look at what the Bible has to say about this topic, and the difference between worry (sin) and concern (not sin). And we'll look at some tools that the Lord has given us to help us overcome our tendency to worry.

Join us for a great breakfast on Saturday, November 20. We'll eat at 7:30 and open the Word at 8:00. Come hungry and bring a friend!

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Jeanne Fruh



“Father God, one thing I desire of you and seek with all my heart is to dwell in your house all the days of my life, to behold your beauty, and to inquire in your temple. Thank you for your promise to hide me in your pavilion, in the secret place of your tabernacle, and to set me high upon a rock. Thank you, Father. I ascribe greatness to you, for you are almighty God. Thank you for showing me how to bless you. I will always take my stand upon your word and bless you forever. I will let my mouth be filled with your praises all day long. Give me grace to seek your face at all times, Father.” (Quote taken from “**In The Secret Place with God**”, by Clift & Kathleen Richards.



YOUTH NOTES

Radu Pasca

A heart full of thanks...

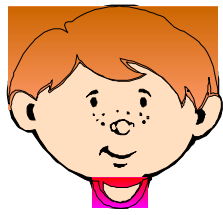
I find it much easier to be discontent than to be thankful. While driving I sometimes find myself unhappy with the slow drivers in front of me who will cause me to be late, rather than being thankful I have a car. Can you imagine having to walk everywhere? Isn't it much easier to complain that the food was cold when it was brought before you, rather than being thankful we have plenty to eat?

We must be careful to be thankful though it doesn't seem to come naturally. The Bible calls us to be thankful in ALL circumstances. That means we must be thankful when things are good, AND when difficulties come our way. If we struggle with remembering to be thankful when everything goes well, can you imagine how difficult it will be to have a thankful heart during the difficult times?

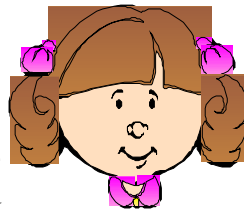
As a college student I was in a worship service where a young girl in a wheelchair was brought before the student body to quote Psalm 139. When she got to the point where it says, “You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! (Ps 139:13-14 NLT)”, her face was aglow. How could this girl in a wheelchair be thankful for the way she was and yet, the rest of us, able to walk, complain about our hair color and nose shape?

It is certain that God treasures the thanksgiving that comes from the heart of His people. “I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and **thanksgiving** be made for **everyone**”. 1 Tim 2:1NIV

Is your heart full of gratitude this season?

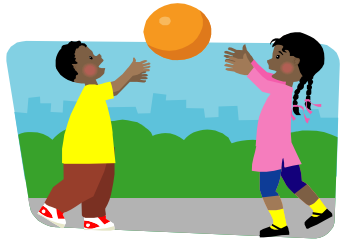


KIDSTUFF **Kathy Sanders**



We've been busy! Following are highlights and dates to circle on your calendar...

- * Our playground proposal was approved by the church Sunday night. The plan is to do the construction this fall!
- * Sink is completed in new downstairs classroom. We'll soon start planning/implementing the baby room expansion.
- * Later this fall, Kim Hackbarth will move downstairs as the permanent Toddler SS teacher and Donna Clarkson will be the new Pre School SS teacher.
- * Children's Christmas Party will be Sat. Dec. 11 at 10:00 AM.
- * Following Children's Christmas party will be lunch and full dress rehearsal for PraiseKIDS.
- * Sunday Dec. 12, PraiseKIDS will present "The Christmas Puzzle" during AM worship. It's not too late to enroll your child in PraiseKIDS so they can be in the Christmas program - Sundays, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM.



AWANA **Cheryl and Steve**

Awana is off to a GREAT start! We have had approximately 26 kids every Wed night. When you add up the number of club leaders, secretaries, and youth helpers (20) that's nearly 50 people that are a part of this wonderful ministry! The kids have already helped to support SECOR with food donations and we are looking forward to our "Penny Drive" to help support an orphanage in Mexico.

Thank-you all so much for your support, encouragement and prayers on behalf of all involved in the Awana program.

Speaking of prayers.....Would you please be praying about our Truth and Training club (3rd-5th graders), we need 2 folks that are able to help them out. Please talk to Steve Crankshaw or Cheryl England if you have any questions.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY **Julie Zgorzynski**

Thanks to those who came to our "End-of-the-year" meeting. We were able to package up 5 Military boxes and 23 Operation Christmas Child boxes. And, yes, Grace, we prayed over them all.

If you would like to get an e-mail reminder two days before our meetings, please share your address with me. I am at juliez4jesus@msn.com.

I am interested in knowing what would be appealing to you this coming year as far as women's meetings go. We have a "Refreshing Moments" in January for our massages - whoohoo; a "Retreat" scheduled in March; "Tribute to Mother's" at the end of April and then what would be your next interests?? We are holding meetings every other month so January, March, May (end of April), July and September and then we take off November and December for holiday/family-time busyness. Please e-mail me or talk with me about your ideas.

Your response to SECOR again this year was Awesome. Thank you so much! And AWANA kid's - WOW!!! SECOR says THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!

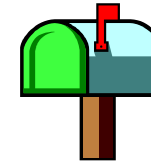
SECOR's food for November is pumpkin filling, cranberries or any holiday canned goods. Mark it on your calendar now to come out to experience SECOR's Christmas Outreach, December 17 to help sort and bag up and then sign up on the 18th to help deliver. It is a fun and rewarding time. Come see how everything is put together for these families, where your donated food goes and how it is all brought together for the Glory of the Lord.

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Redeemer Reflections

A Newsletter of Redeemer Baptist Church
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Every month as I prepare to write this update, I look back over our calendar of events/activities and say, "Wow! Did all of that actually take place? It's surely been a busy month!" And the past month has been no exception: military and operation Christmas Child boxes packed and ready for shipment; youth went into the cabbage fields and "gleaned" vegetables for use in the COMPA food ministry; a 2011 budget planned; approval of construction of playground and resurfacing/stripping of the parking lot; gates installed on our "non-driveway"; plumbing completed in the new preschool room; children's fall festival; and all the regular activities. Now as the page is turned to November, I take a deep breath when I see that this will be another very busy month. God continues to bless our effort in unmistakable fashion!

This congregation never passes up an opportunity to express their appreciation to their staff, and Pastor Appreciation month was no exception. Yesterday (10/31) Radu, Tracy and I were recognized with gifts and some "interesting" expressions of love and affection. The youth composed a "deep and meaningful" song to express their love for Radu. And "Sonny and Cher" showed up for a delightfully, hilarious tribute to the Pastor. I'm sure I speak for both Radu and Tracy when I say it's our joy to be part of such a bunch of "crazies"!

We are still waiting for our first snowfall of the year down here in the lowlands. The mountains have had quite a bit already and the view to the west is spectacular. Reminds me once again of how God has made this world "unnecessarily beautiful".

Thanks to all of you for your prayers and encouragement. This church family knows that your faithfulness is a vital part of our ministry. We never want to take our blessings for granted; and you are a large part of those blessings!