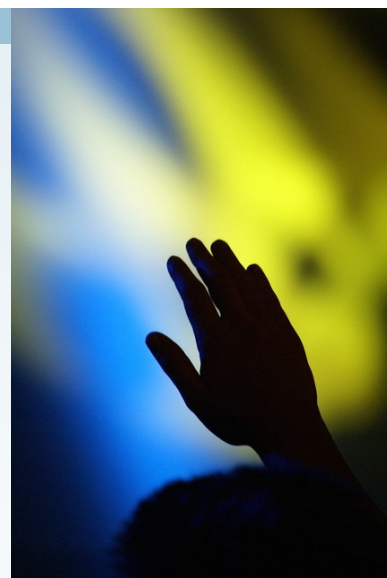




November 2021



Fox River Life



*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
-1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

November is of course the month that we focus our attention as a nation on being thankful. Whether folks are believers or not, there has been built into the calendar year a month and a specific holiday that is dedicated to pausing and reflecting on the blessings and good things in their life. I believe that this is a good thing, even if people have no relationship with Christ. There is nothing negative about a nation's people being grateful for what they have. For the Christian the admonition that we see not only in the scripture above, but in all of the Word of God, is that we are to be thankful at all times and in every situation and circumstance. Even though this is the command, we acknowledge that there are times in our lives when gratitude is easier to express than others. So, in this month's newsletter I am going to give you 7 Reasons to Be Thankful in Difficult Times. These are not the only reasons, but I hope it will be an encouragement to you.

1. God Is Sovereign

This is not only the first on my list, but I believe should be first in bringing us to a place of thankfulness. Romans 8:28 declares to us: "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." All things mean all things, whether we would count them as good or not, in the hands of our sovereign God we can rest that this difficulty is not meaningless. In addition, we can rest assured that our God has not been caught off guard by these less than desirable circumstances that we find ourselves in. Everything that happens to us has gone through our Saviors hands and comes to us a gift of His love for us.

2. God Has a Plan

In Jeremiah 29 God is speaking to those who have been taken into captivity by Nebuchadnezzar and uprooted from the Promised Land and deposited in Babylon. God comforts these people, who are in the situation they are because of their own sin, with these words in verse 11: "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a

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Praise and Glorify the Lord

"Praise the LORD, my soul. LORD my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendor and majesty. 2)The LORD wraps himself in light as with a garment; he stretches out the heavens like a tent 3)and lays the beams of his upper chambers on their waters. He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind. 4)He makes winds his messengers, flames of fire his servants. 5)He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved. 6)You covered it with the watery depths as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. 7)But at your rebuke the waters fled, at the sound of your thunder they took to flight; 8)they flowed over the mountains, they went down into the valleys, to the place you assigned for them. 9)You set

continued

From the Pastor's Desk (cont.)

future and a hope." What a glorious comfort this is to them and to us. That even if we are experiencing the consequences for our own sin, that God has not abandoned us and that this punishment is part of God's ultimate plan for our life. He has a reason for whatever struggle we may be going through, even if it is the result of our own disobedience...He is the great Redeemer.

3. God Is Sanctifying You

I do not want to make a big deal about what I have been going through over the last few months, as there are many who suffer much worse than I have and for longer periods of time, some certainly who call Fox River Baptist home. However, one of the things that God has been doing through this whole process is sanctifying me. Sanctification is a life long work of making us more like Christ and cleansing us from the blemishes of our sin. Paul in speaking to the Ephesian Church and specifically to husbands in chapter 5: 25-27 makes this wonderful statement about our true Husband: "Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish." Nothing helps us to pinpoint the areas of our spiritual walk that is out of step with God than difficult times.

4. God Is Humbling You

Paul in 2 Corinthians 12 shares with us that in his life with Christ that he had been given a great honor of seeing God do miraculous things and even had some amazing visions. These experiences combined with his own intelligence and pedigree, lent themselves to pride in his life. So, God in His wisdom gave to Paul a "thorn in the flesh" to keep him humble. This thorn was difficult and caused him much consternation, however Paul saw that this malady was a blessing from God: "But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong." (2 Corinthians 12:9-10) In my recent physical challenges I have been shown where I am not as sanctified as I previously thought I was. This humbling has been frustrating, to say the least, and yet I see the eternal value in it.

5. God Loves You

When we go through the "dark night of the soul" we must hold onto the truth that God loves us. One way we can remind ourselves of this is to remember that the Lord only disciplines and chastises those whom He loves, Hebrews 12:5-6: "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives." God only spends his efforts of sanctification on those who are His sons. We should not hate the discipline of the Lord, but rather we should embrace it because He is declaring to us that He loves us so much that he can not allow us to stay in the same condition spiritually as we are today. Often, He uses events in our lives that are not pleasant and make us uncomfortable to get us to rise out of the easy chair of our complacency.

6. God Is More Desirable

Discomfort is a great tool in the hands of God to help us to let go of this present world and all that it has to offer and see that the greater thing in this life and the life to come is not more of what this world can afford us, but what we have and will have in Christ Jesus. Paul expresses this sentiment in his letter to the Philippian church. "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better." (Philippians 1:21-23) Even though Paul had



*"The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him."
Psalm 28:7*

The Women's Ministry Committee met on Thursday, October 21st. We have plans in place to bless the residents at Brewster Village with a Christmas Stocking full of goodies and a gospel tract. Donations are being accepted for mini chocolate bars/candies, mini holiday notepads, holiday pencils, Nutri-Grain bars, small candy canes, and mini lotions.

The Single Women's Supper was held on Tuesday October 5th and November 2nd. They are well attended and they really enjoy the time they spend together. They will continue to meet on the first Tuesday of the month. The next gathering will be held on December 7th at Jan Jourdan's home.

Deaconess Ministry

UPDATE



Deaconess of the Month—Carol Smith



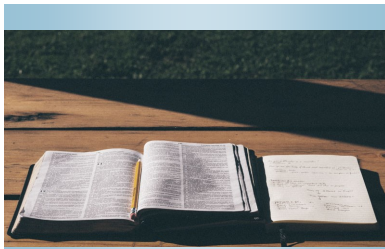
This picture was taken at the Bressler home where we enjoyed dessert after a fun progressive supper. Our evening began with delicious appetizers at Mark and Nancy's house followed by salad at Jan Jourdin's and a main dish at the Smiths. There was a lot of good fellowship and great conversations! If you missed it, do not fear. We are planning a good old fashioned Christmas party in December. It will be held here at church and will even include rides to and from church for those who do not care to drive at night. Please stay tuned for more details!!!



Mothers & Daughters/Granddaughters
~ Angela Zogelman & Auroua Kemp
~ Betty Callahan & Michele Hewitt

The "Rest of Us"
~ Carol Smith, Connie Snortum, Linda Hoffman
& Ellen Rudzinski

The October Ladies' Craft and Lunch was a huge success! We had ladies of all ages in attendance and enjoyed our time of fellowship and crafting. Ellen Rudzinski also provided us with a devotional. The next LC&L will be held on Sunday, January 16th after Sunday School. Mark your calendars and plan to attend!



a boundary they cannot cross; never again will they cover the earth. 10)He makes springs pour water into the ravines; it flows between the mountains. 11) They give water to all the beasts of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst. 12)The birds of the sky nest by the waters; they sing among the branches. 13)He waters the mountains from his upper chambers; the land is satisfied by the fruit of his work. 14)He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for people to cultivate— bringing forth food from the earth: 15)wine that gladdens human hearts, oil to make their faces shine, and bread that sustains their hearts. 16)The trees of the LORD are well watered, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted. 17)There the birds make their nests; the stork has its home in the junipers. 18)The high

continued

From the Pastor's Desk (cont.)

experienced success in his ministry and his “sticking around” would certainly add to that success, he confesses that the greatest achievement of his life would be to depart this world and go to be in the presence of Christ in the next. I believe that all of the pains and disappointments of life have helped him to focus on the eternal goal and reward before him.

7. God Increases Brotherly Love

When the people of God do what we are told in Galatians 6:2: “Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ,” we have a unique opportunity to minister to each other as they go through this unpleasant time. One of the benefits of difficult times is the effect that it has on the Body of Christ to rally around that person or family and to show them love and compassion. In these last couple of months that Becky and I have been dealing with my recent physical ailments we have been blessed and humbled by your love for us in prayer, words of encouragement, cards and acts of service. We have always felt loved by this body of believers, but we have experienced that even in more in these recent days. I am so grateful for God revealing your love for us at this time.

As I stated before this is not an exhaustive list of Reasons to Be Thankful in Difficult Times, but I do hope that it gives you pause to reflect on the goodness of God in the valleys of life. So, much more should be said and certainly could be said and said better on this topic. However, I offer this to you as an offering of Thanksgiving not only for the difficult times of life, but more importantly to the One who makes all difficult times worthwhile. Happy Thanksgiving!

In His Name & For His Glory,

Pastor Tim & Becky Godfrey



UPDATE...





SUNSHINE SINGERS

Folk Music of the 60's






Friday November 5th
 Show: 7:30pm, Doors: 6:45pm
Cup O Joy Music Venue
 525 N. Taylor St. Green Bay, WI

Get the Best Seat by getting a Reserved or Early Bird Seat at: cupojoy.com



Sing Along - Clap - Hum or Just Listen
 60's Folk Music, Familiar Tunes, and more.
 Kingston Trio, Peter Paul and Mary,
 Limelighters, Chad Mitchel Trio, Weavers...

In the group are 4 former members of the 5 Milers, Rob Nancy and Ben. New: are singer Jennifer and guitarist Mitch.

The next Young at Heart meeting will be held on Friday, November 19th at 10:00 am.

Intentional Discipleship Update

Our Bible studies for ladies and men have been going very well over the last two months. I have heard nothing but positive things concerning the content of the studies, the attendance, and the good discussions around the material in those studies. In addition, our Sunday School has been very well attended and once again Scott Dohms is doing a fantastic job with the Youth and our triumvirate of teachers for the Adult class continues to lead us into truth. The Elders are extremely pleased with the way in which we continue to be committed to “growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior



Jesus Christ.” I also want to thank the teachers for their willingness in October and November to share their time with the missionary guests that we have had or soon will have.



By Linda Hoffman
Church Librarian

This time of year causes me to want to hunker down inside and ignore the outside world! I truly believe that I could be satisfied to hibernate from November to April! I am not a lover of the cooler temps that these months bring, but as my wonderful husband has often reminded me (even though he doesn't like the cold weather either), the farmers need the winter. Apparently the moisture the snow provides is a great asset to the farm land. Ok...I guess I'll have to concede to that and learn to tolerate the frigid temps that we get Every year in Wisconsin.

The change of season also provides the perfect time to pick up a book and read your way through the days that it's preferable to be indoors. The library can help you find just the right book(s) to help you wait out the weather. Each month, we will

choose a different topic or author to highlight on the table outside of the library. This month, Angela has chosen “Strong Christian Women” authors. Be sure to take a look and check out a book!



Happy Reading - Linda and Angela



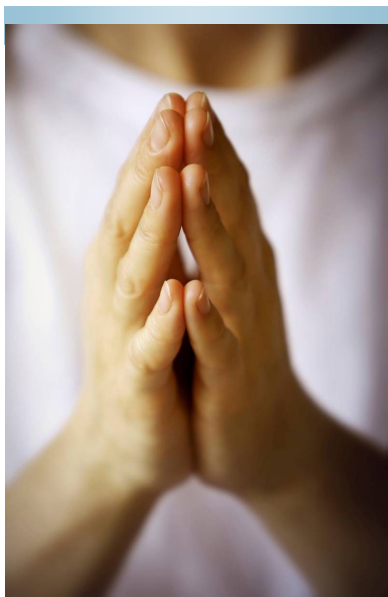
mountains belong to the wild goats; the crags are a refuge for the hyrax. 19)He made the moon to mark the seasons, and the sun knows when to go down. 20)You bring darkness, it becomes night, and all the beasts of the forest prowl. 21)The lions roar for their prey and seek their food from God.

22)The sun rises, and they steal away; they return and lie down in their dens.

23)Then people go out to their work, to their labor until evening. 24)How many are your works, LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. 25)There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures beyond number— living things both large and small.

26)There the ships go to and fro, and Leviathan, which you formed to frolic here. 27) All creatures look to you to give them their

continued



Sunday Evening Services Schedule

November 7—Ask PT

November 14—Prayer at 5 pm

November 21—Sola Christos

November 28—Prayer at 5 pm

SUNDAY



Men's & Women's
Bible Study
Saturdays at 8am

Women's Bible Study
Thursdays at 1:15pm

Women's Prayer
Wednesdays at 9:30am



Financial Update—October 3-31, 2021

Budget needed weekly: \$ 2,606.00

Received: \$ 3,075.00

Contact Rob Mlodzik with questions.



November 7

Ryan Smith

November 14

Scott Smith

November 21

Kyle Tubbs

November 28

Howard Schimke

St Joseph's Food Pantry

Each month we will collect
non-perishable food items.

Place your food items on the table
provided in the foyer.



Connect
WITH OUR
CHURCH FAMILY

Here at FRBC, we have a prayer chain meant for the sharing of prayer request needs and for sharing praise for the awesome & mighty work God does in our lives. Please feel free to share any praise or request at our new prayer request email address:

prayer@foxriverbaptist.com

Care to be part of the prayer chain? Email or call Becky Godfrey at
becl.godfrey@gmail.com — (920)277-1526

Missions

“Go Ye into all the World, and preach
the Gospel to every creature.”
Mark 16:15

Missions Update

You only have about three weeks to pack your boxes for Samaritan's Purse. You can either do this yourself or go online and choose the sex and age of the child, and you can pick what goes into the box or let Samaritan's Purse choose for you. More information on this can be found in the bulletin.

We will be having two missionary speakers during Sunday School in the month of November. On November 7th, we will have Kirby Stoll who is the President/CEO of Children's Shelter of Cebu. We have supported this ministry for years and have recently moved our support out of the Missions budget and back to being supported by the generous donations of those who attend Sunday School. On November 21st, we will be honored to have with us John & Elaine Mehn who have been supported by us for over 25 years. They were missionaries in Japan until recently and now are living in the US full-time outside of Chicago. Their ministry has transitioned to that of being members of Converge's Asia Impact Team to help broaden the scope of ministry all over Asia. We look forward to hearing from both of our guests this month and hearing what God is doing in and through them.



John & Elaine Mehn



Samaritan's Purse
National Collection Week
is
November 15th – 22nd.
Boxes and information
are available in the
foyer.

*Contact Gary Snortum
with questions

*food at the proper time.
28)When you give it to
them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand,
they are satisfied with good
things. 29)When you hide
your face, they are terrified;
when you take away their
breath, they die and return
to the dust. 30)When you
send your Spirit, they are
created, and you renew the
face of the ground. 31)May
the glory of the LORD
endure forever; may the
LORD rejoice in his works—
32)he who looks at the
earth, and it trembles, who
touches the mountains, and
they smoke.”
Psalm 104:1-32*

FRBC Vision Statement

We desire that everyone who enters Fox River Baptist Church grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and grow in authentic, loving, familial relationships to make the name of Christ known in our community and world, all for the glory of God and joy of all.



4—Anne Van Asten

16—Michael Mlodzik

19—Caleb Dohms



3—Rob & Lynn Mlodzik



Fox River Baptist Church

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Thursday - 9:00 am - 1:00 pm