

hands & feet

A monthly newsletter of the Webster United Church of Christ, Federated

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesdays 6:30pm Small Group
"Bible 101"

Saturday, November 8, 11:30-1pm
Veterans Day Luncheon

Sunday, November 9
Stewardship Sunday

Sunday, November 16, after worship
Monthly breakfast and birthday
celebration

Thursday, November 27, 3pm
Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Saturday, December 6, 1-3pm
Community Christmas Party



EDITORIAL



Dear friends in Christ,

As I sit here staring at a blank document on my computer wondering, "what am I going to write about for the November newsletter?", I thought, since no new and original idea was coming to mind, I should go back and look at some of my previous articles over the years. I came across one I wrote several years ago about being thankful and even though I was trying to avoid using the ever popular "be thankful" theme, something slightly different came to mind which I think is still applicable to all of us today. So, here we go.

November is a month where people tend to list out the things we're thankful for, (it's probably because of that one holiday called "Thanksgiving"). Some will even list something every day on their social media pages. Not a big fan. Many times the things listed after family and friends are all material things which eventually break, get lost, or simply need to be replaced.

But don't get me wrong, I'm not trying to be the Scrooge or Grinch of Thanksgiving, it is good to be thankful. The Bible even tells us that. First Thessalonians says, "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

Wait, look closely, did you notice what it says? "Give thanks in all circumstances..."

(continued on page 2)

NOVEMBER 2025 EDITION

"I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds." Psalm 9:1



EDITORIAL (conclusion)

So, does this mean we're supposed to give thanks in those times when life isn't going like we've planned or when something bad happens? Well, I hate to be the bearer of bad news but, yes, that's exactly what it means.

We all know that bad things are going to happen. People will get sick, things will break or be stolen, feelings will be hurt by those we call our friends, and relationships are going to go through tough times and may even come to an end. It may be hard to see these as times to give thanks, but they are. And here's why...

Notice the word that comes before "all." What is it? It's the word in. We're told to give thanks in all circumstances, not for all circumstances. The evil, the bad things of life don't come from God, those are a result of sin being in the world. This is why we're not thankful for all circumstances. We're thankful in all circumstances because no matter what we're facing in life, God is still in control and God's presence is still with us. This means that his love, mercy, compassion, and all the other wonderful things God is and does are still with us. They are with us because we are his beloved children. And to prove that, God sent Jesus, His only Son, so that anyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

So in this month of reflection on what it is that we're thankful for...the thing I'm most thankful for is this – the precious gift of Jesus and his victorious resurrection! Because through this we are claimed as God's children. And I'm thankful that God continues to go with us wherever it is that we go. It's my constant prayer that no matter what any of us experience in our lives, that we remember that he's always there with us and we can lean on him all the time. May you have a blessed and thankful Thanksgiving!

I'll include here a Thanksgiving prayer by Rev. Steve Garnaas-Holmes, United Methodist pastor, spiritual writer, and poet. Perhaps it's one you might consider using at your Thanksgiving table this year.

Giving Thanks

*You who are the Mystery at the heart of all things,
Source of all that is, to you we give thanks.*

*For the gift of Creation, and the wonder of this world,
we thank you.*

*For every creature and the web of all living things to
which we belong,
we thank you.*

*For the gift of life, and the miracle that we are here
today,
we thank you.*

*For gifts of sight and hearing, the gift of movement
and touch, and for all the wonders that we behold,
we thank you.*

*For all the people who have blessed us,
we thank you.*

*For all our loved ones, for any who have taught us,
helped us, loved us, accompanied us or prayed for us,
we thank you.*

*For the food we eat, and all those around the world
who provide it,
we thank you.*

*May our gratitude overflow to others, especially those
who do not have what we do;
may our thanks take form in giving and in working for
the world you intend for us.*

*O God, fountain of our souls and earth of our lives,
we thank you, and pray that we may always live in hu-
mility, gratitude and joy.
Amen.*

In Christ,

Pastor Sabina



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Date	Scripture	Sermon
11/02/2025 Communion Sunday Stewardship Campaign	Proverbs 28:18-27	"Steward Living"
11/09/2025 Stewardship Sunday	Luke 18:9-14	"A Life of Stewardship"
11/16/2025	Isaiah 65:17-25	"A New Hope"
11/23/2025 Christ the King Sunday		Guest Preacher
11/30/2025 First Sunday of Advent Sermon series: "Come Home for Christmas"	Jeremiah 33:14-16 Luke 21:25-36	"Time to Go Home"



STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 9!

But there is always time to pledge your treasures to God to continue our ministries at the Webster Federated Church! Help us feed and clothe people, give hope to the hopeless, give joy to the children, and share the Gospel with a nation in need.

Please cut and complete the card below and mail it to the church.



You can also complete your pledge card online on our website on the home page at uccfedwebster.org.

Not ready to commit to a pledge yet? You can still contribute to the work of our church by donating via check or online. Please contact Pastor Sabina for more information.

2026 PLEDGE CARD

Please return to the church by
November 5, 2025

Stewardship is...



Love in Truth
and Action

MY/OUR COMMITMENT TO THE CHURCH

In grateful recognition that all our time, treasures and abilities come from God I/we gladly join with others in the support of Christ's Church.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

I plan to give \$ _____ ☐ weekly ☐ monthly ☐ annually
beginning (date and year): _____ for an annual total of
\$ _____.

I would like pledge envelopes ☐ yes ☐ no

I understand that this commitment can be changed at any time by giving notice to the church treasurer.

Signature: _____

Verse of the Month

And whatever you do,
whether in word or deed,
do it all in the name
of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks
to God the Father
through him.

Colossians 3:17



Come Home for Christmas

New sermon Series starting on
November 30th.

Jesus is calling... "Come home this Christmas..."



PRAYER OF THE MONTH

To pray is to regain a sense of the mystery that animates all beings, the divine margin in all attainments. Prayer is our humble answer to the inconceivable surprise of living. It is all we can offer in return. Who is worthy to be present at the constant unfolding of time? Here we are amidst the meditation of the land, the songs of the water, the humility of the flowers, flowers wiser than all alphabets - Suddenly we feel embarrassed, ashamed of our complaints and clashes in the face of tacit glory. How strange we are in the world! Only one response can maintain us: gratefulness for the gift of our unearned chance to serve, to wonder, to love life and each other. It is gratefulness which makes our small souls great.

by Abraham Joshua Heschel, the rabbi, scholar, and philosopher



You are a child of
God, you are
wonderfully made,
dearly loved and
precious in his
sight. -Psalm 139



Ministries News



The Giving Tree will be distributing tags to church members, Jack and Jill Preschool, Webster First Federal Credit Union, and others in our community during the third week of November. We'll get the tags out before Black Friday and Cyber Monday to help shoppers find some good deals.

If you take a tag, please plan to spend a minimum of about \$50 on that child. Parents and guardians will list three ideas for presents, generally toys or clothing, as well as an age appropriate book. You don't need to buy all three of the presents listed on the tag, but at least one item listed should be purchased. Sometimes people buy one gift, sometimes people buy everything on the list. It is at your discretion. Please note: no gift cards.

Please do not wrap the gifts; put them in a gift bag to make it easier for parents to bring them home.

Presents will need to be turned in to the Ladies' Parlor on Friday, December 12th, from 4-6pm or Sunday, December 14th, between 10am and noon, so that presents can be distributed to parents and guardians on Tuesday, December 16th, from 9-11am or Thursday, December 18th, from 4-7pm.

Questions? Please contact Gayle at websterdudleygivingtree@yahoo.com or phone her directly at 774.200.8988.



Golden Bees Update Items Needed:

The Golden Bees have been hard at work this year, spreading warmth and care throughout our community. **Their dedicated hands have assembled 585 sleeping bags and nearly as many health kits —**

all lovingly distributed to those in need.

These gifts of comfort have reached churches, homeless shelters, food pantries, and other local organizations. Many have also been given directly to individuals who come to the church seeking help. Each sleeping bag and kit is a small act of compassion that brings hope to someone facing difficult circumstances.

As the need continues to grow, the Golden Bees are asking for your support. Donations are needed to keep this ministry thriving.

- Sheets
- Blankets
- Throw blankets
- Winter hats, mittens, and scarves
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo (preferably shampoo and conditioner combination)
- Lotion
- Hard candies
- Band-aids
- Hand warmers
- Small packages of tissues
- Hand towels and wash cloths
- Other toiletry items also accepted

Please bring donations to the church on Mondays from 9:00am - 12:00pm or during church office hours, Tuesday through Friday 9:30am - 1:00pm.

If you have any questions or want to be involved, please call Carol Beauchesne at 860-481-0233 or the church office at 800-943-0061.

Ministries News



FEED MY SHEEP Free Meal Ministry

Feed My Sheep Update

The Feed My Sheep ministry continues to go strong, serving our community with compassion and care.

Each Thursday from 5:00pm to 6:00pm, a hearty meal of soup, sandwiches, salad, dessert, and beverages is lovingly prepared and served to all who come.

Behind every meal is a wonderful team of dedicated volunteers — including church members, members of the community, and enthusiastic students from Dudley Middle School — who work together to ensure that everyone feels welcome and nourished.

So far this year, nearly 1,500 meals have been served. Each one represents not only food on a plate but also kindness, fellowship, and a reminder that no one in our community eats alone.

We are deeply grateful for everyone who gives their time, energy, and love to this important ministry. Together, we truly are feeding both body and spirit.



Happy November from ministry leaders Gayle and Gloria, and the Threads of Hope Closet, and Happy Thanksgiving!

We try our best to practice gratitude daily, but November is the ultimate month to be grateful for how lucky we are and to be thankful for our church and community for their generosity.

Thank you to everyone for the last year of support! We are thankful to all our volunteers and our newest helpers, the National Junior Honor Society from Dudley Middle School headed by their teacher, Christina LaPorte.

Spiritual Growth

Bible 101

The Basics Every Christian Needs to Know

**Discussion Group
Every Tuesday
6:30pm**

11/4: Psalms
11/11: Proverbs
11/18: Ecclesiastes
11/25: Song of Solomon

Advent Small Group Study

Unwrapping Advent

Celebrating the Wonder of Jesus' Arrival Then and Now

Tuesdays, 6pm, from 12/2 to 12/23

EVENTS



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

FREE

VETERANS DAY

LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2025

11:30AM TO 1PM

Open to all!

On the menu:
Butternut squash soup, baked ziti and meatballs,
mixed salad and apple crisp!

The Pulaski Brass Band will entertain us
with patriotic tunes!

Donations are welcome. All proceeds will go to our
Feed my Sheep weekly free meal ministry.



Mark Your Calendars

UPCOMING EVENTS

FREE COMMUNITY

Christmas

Party

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH

1PM to 3PM



Yuletide Tea

Saturday, December 20th,

12:30pm



LET'S GIVE

THANKS

together

Please join us for

THANKSGIVING DINNER

NOVEMBER 27TH - 3PM

This is a FREE MEAL AND ALL ARE INVITED!

Turkey and all the trimmings!

United Church of Christ, Federated

"Come as you are, we mean it!"

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OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday through Friday, 9:30-1, or by appointment

WORSHIP: Sundays at 10, in person and live on Facebook

BIBLE STUDY / SMALL GROUPS: Tuesdays at 6:30

THREADS OF HOPE (free clothing, hygiene products,...): Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-11, Thursdays 4-7

FEED MY SHEEP FREE MEAL MINISTRY: Thursdays, 5

GOLDEN BEES SLEEPING BAG MINISTRY: Mondays, 9-12

KNIT PRAY LOVE MINISTRY: Mondays, 10-12, Ladies' Parlor

OUTDOOR FOOD PANTRY: Ongoing