

St. Paul Ministries

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St. Paul, a United Methodist Church, and so much more...

"Thanks-living Everyday!

The leaves have changed color, the weather is cooler, and the days are getting shorter! You might have "Turkey Dinner" on your mind as we enter the month of November. I wonder what you like best about this time of year, and the time we call "Thanksgiving"?

When I hear the word thanksgiving as it comes up in conversation this year, I am paying close attention to what comes to my mind. The first thing that I think about is sharing Thanksgiving Day in a significant way, with significant people. I think about how this has been a day all through my life that has been a focused time to express gratitude for the blessings in life that have come through experiences that remind me that I am blessed.

It is interesting, that my thoughts have been focused this way for 65 years! But in this 66th year of my life, that has been a year of cancer treatment and healing, I am so very aware that there is MORE! When God brings us through the challenges that seem bigger than we are, perhaps gratitude is an expression and a "Calling"! This entire year I have found myself doing "grateful living", not just feeling grateful.

Richard Foster in his book, "Celebration of Discipline", shares that, if we fill our lives with simple good things and constantly thank God for them, we will be joyful, that is, full of joy." This tells me that if we are truly full of joy, we will live out that joy in our lives. This kind of joy transforms us so that our living as one transformed, impacts others. It is clear to me today that I have, in the past, minimized the impact of the practice of being grateful.

Brett and Kate McKay, in an article on gratitude, zero in on what I needed to hear: "Gratitude is really a discipline rather than a feeling, a moral virtue rather than a mood enhancer." Let's consider that this discipline grounds us for all the other spiritual disciplines that shape us into disciples of Jesus.

What does it look like to you to live gratefully? Imagine how your life might be different. This year embrace Thanksgiving as the beginning of your practice of "Thanks-living". Each day try to "live" gratefully, enhancing your relationship with God and others. I will pray for you, and I ask you to pray for me, and together we will share the JOY living thankfully!

Rev. Deb Egloff



Thanksgiving is an expression of gratitude – readiness to show appreciation for kindness and to return kindness. St. Paul UMC is especially grateful to the following churches and organizations that have partnered with us in 2022 with financial, material and volunteer donations.

Aley UMC	Aley UMW	Belmont UMC
Centerville UMW	Christ Kettering UMC	Christ Kettering UMW
Church of the Cross	Concord UMW	Corinth Presbyterian Church
Crossroads Church	David's UCC	Eastmont UMW
Englewood UMC	Fairview UMC	Fairview UMW
Faith Community UMC	Germantown UMC	Hope Collective UMC
Lewisburg UMC	Mosaic UMC	Normandy UMC
Normandy UMW	N. Riverdale Lutheran Church	UMC at Otterbein Residence
St. Charles Catholic Church	St. Mark's Episcopal Church	Southern Hills UMC
Sulphur Grove UMW	Union UMW	

***Sincere apologies if your church's name has been omitted. It will be listed next month.

St. Paul is extremely thankful for all the individuals who give so generously to our mission. You know who you are! Blessings!

<section-header>Dear Friends, You are cordially invited to enjoy a **Multicultural Thanksgiving Dinner** with our Hispanic-Latino community Sunday, November 20. 2022 p.m. St. Paul United Methodist Church Dayton, OH 45403 Please bring a covered dish,

salad or dessert to share, if possible.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! - Psalm 36:1