

# The Messenger



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What is the Community Thanksgiving Service? It's a community of churches in the rural area of North Pulaski and Northwest Lonoke County that gather together in thanksgiving. I pray that God will bless this year as our churches come together to give thanks. In searching through Zion Hill's old bulletins it looks like 1979 was the first year that this tradition was started. Covid closed it down for two years, but I believe it is time for us to come together again, setting aside our different doctrines and just joining together as believers in Christ and uniting as God's Children, united in faith in Jesus our savior and say together, thank you God for the blessings you have given to us.

We'll have a time of prayer and praise, with a short devotion and then a time of fellowship with finger food potluck. Make plans to join us.

#### Stitching with Love Ministry

meets every 1st Thursday November 2 at 9am –12pm.

#### Men's Prayer Breakfast

Every 2nd Saturday of each month. November 11 at 8 am

#### Home Extension Club

meets every 3rd Wednesday November 15 at 9:30am –12pm

#### Sr. Saints Fellowship

meets every 3rd Tuesday November 21 at 11:00 am

#### From the Pastor's Desk

Thanksgiving Day is fast approaching, and there is no better time than now to consider the positive benefits of being grateful. It is always a good time to express thankfulness to God. We also should say "thank you" to people who have helped us. Is there someone who has blessed you, helped you, then take a moment to call them, text them, or send them a card. Is there someone you need to acknowledge with an expression of gratitude? There is a study that was done in 2011 that showed that being grateful can actually make you happier and healthier.

The study was conducted by the Harvard University Psychology Department. The study found that managers and supervisors who said thank you to their employees, saw their workers becoming more productive than those whose bosses who constantly criticized their workers. Couples who built into their conversations with each other intentional expressions of gratitude found it easier to manage conflicts and openly talk about their feelings than couples who did not. Even people who identified themselves as religious, reported that when they regularly took the time to send handwritten thank you letters, said they felt happier than those who did not. Among all subjects in the research study those who expressed gratitude to others, reported fewer visits to physicians, than those who said they seldom said "Thank You."

With all the data carefully processed the conclusion of the Harvard Research Center was that expressions of thanksgiving are beneficial to mental, emotional, relational, and physical health.

The closing paragraph of the study stated: "With gratitude, people acknowledge the goodness in their lives. With gratitude people recognize that the ultimate source of happiness lies at least partially outside of themselves. As a result, gratitude helps people connect to something bigger than themselves as individuals- whether to other people, nature, or a higher power."

That conclusion does not surprise me. Harvard researchers may not know who that "higher power" is, but I do. God is the highest power, and He reminds us in His word, "Every good and perfect gift comes from above." (James 1:17) So this Thanksgiving, with the awareness that gratitude brings us closer to good health, good relationships, and to God, let me say to each of you, I am so thankful for you, and your goodness, kindness, patience, and friendship that you have extended to me, and my family this year. I Thank God for each one of you.

Happy Thanksgiving!!

**Terry Fortner** 



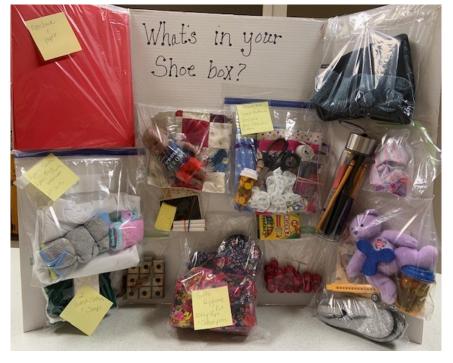
## **Operation Christmas Child 2023**

It's almost time to send the gifts! Through your generous giving, ZHBC will be able to send a total of 25 gift boxes to the children. The ladies have put together a display showing all of the gifts that

will be in each box. Go take a look at all of these



awesome gifts these kids will be receiving. Thank you to each one of you who had a part in this



mission project. The RA's and GA's will gather on November 1 to assemble the boxes and prepare them for shipping.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP DECORATE FOR **CHRISTMAS** NOVEMBER 25 9 AM

#### **Schools Out**

**CABOT** November 20-24

**PCSSD** November 1, 20-24

November 20-24 **JNP** 

### **Children's Christmas Play**

Beginning on October 8. during Children's Church, the children will gather to start practicing for a special Christmas presentation. They will practice each Sunday through December 10. On Sunday, December 17, they will proudly present their program during the morning worship service.

## Youth, Children & Other Happenings

#### **Weekly Youth & Young Adult Gatherings**

Wednesday Night Switch Services Music and a devotion from 6:30-7:30pm Sunday Night The Jumble at 5:30 pm Food, fellowship & Bible Study

## Invite your friends and come join us!



Men from the Project Hope Recovery Project Center in Russellville Arkansas will be sharing testimonies about God's saving power on November 12 during the morning worship service. Project Hope and Saving Grace are free 12-15

month residential Christ-centered disciple programs that, if committed to, result in a new life free from abuse and addiction. The men and women who complete these programs are not only free from abuse and addiction but beginning a new life in Christ.





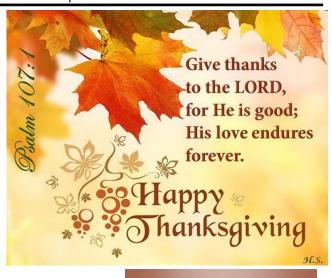
**Set your** clocks back one hour November 5

## Wednesday Night Meals are Back!



5:45—6:15 pm Cost is only \$4.00 per person to help cover food costs. Plan on joining us for this fellowship meal before Bible Study each Wednesday. You'll get fed in body and in spirit!





#### **November Activities**

| 7: Hill Dankisk Channels                       | 1  | 5:45 pm  | Wednesday Night Meal                                |
|--|----|----------|---|
| Zion Hill Baptist Church                       | 1  | 6:30 pm  | Wednesday Night Midweek Service                     |
| Service Times                                  | 2  | 9:00 am  | Stitching with Love Ministry                        |
|  | 3  | 6:00 pm  | 2024 Budget Planning Meeting                        |
| Sunday   | 5  |          | Sunday Services—Daylight Savings Time               |
| 9:45 am Sunday School                          | 5  | 3:30 pm  | Grief Share Support Group                           |
| ·  | 7  | 10:00 am | Tuesday Bible Study                                 |
| 11:00 am Morning Worship                       | 8  | 5:45 am  | Wednesday Night Meal                                |
| 11:30 am Children's Worship (Fellowship Hall)  | 8  | 6:30 pm  | Wednesday Night Midweek Services                    |
| 5:30 pm The Jumble Gathering (Fellowship Hall) | 11 | 8:00 am  | Men's Prayer Breakfast                              |
|  | 12 |          | Sunday Services—Project Hope AM Service             |
| 6:00 pm Growth Group (Sanctuary)               | 12 | 12:00 pm | Finance Committee Meeting                           |
| 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study (Basement)           | 12 | 3:30 pm  | Grief Share Support Group                           |
| Tuesday  | 14 | 10:00 am | Tuesday Bible Study                                 |
| lacoudy  | 15 | 9:30 am  | Home Extension Club Meeting                         |
| 10:00 am Tuesday Bible Study                   | 15 | 5:45 pm  | Wednesday Night Meal                                |
|  | 15 | 6:30 pm  | Wednesday Night Midweek Services & Business Meeting |
| Wednesday                                      | 18 | 11:00 am | Grief Share Surviving the Holidays                  |
|  | 19 |          | Sunday Services                                     |
| 6:30 pm Mid-Week Services                      | 19 | 3:30 pm  | Grief Share Support Group                           |
| Bible Study & Prayer Meeting                   | 20 | 6:00 pm  | Personnel Committee Meeting                         |
| , ,  | 21 | 10:00 am | Tuesday Bible Study                                 |
| (3rd Wednesday is Business Meeting)            | 21 | 7:00 pm  | Community Thanksgiving Service                      |
| GA's, RA's, Mission Friends,                   | 22 |          | No Evening Services                                 |
| Youth Switch Service                           | 23 |          | Happy Thanksgiving—Office Closed Thursday & Friday  |
|  | 25 | 9:00 am  | Gather to Decorate the Church for Christmas         |
| 7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice                   | 26 |          | Sunday Services                                     |
|  | 26 | 3:30 pm  | Grief Share Support Group                           |
|  | 28 | 10:00 am | Tuesday Bible Study                                 |
|  | 29 | 5:45 pm  | Wednesday Night Meal                                |
|  | 29 | 6:30 pm  | Wednesday Night Midweek Services                    |



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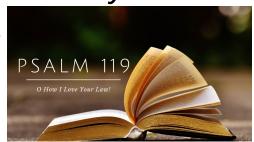
Jeremy Jones, Associate Pastor brojjones.92@gmail.com 501.231.5371

Gary Vaile, Music Director gary.vaile@zionhillcabot.com 501.519.2868

Recent videos of Zion Hill's Sunday services can be viewed at www.zionhillcabot.com/sermons

## A Word from Jeremy

Psalm 119:1-2 – "Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek Him with their whole heart..."



Often, this time of year is one of reflection. As we look ahead to the holidays, we hope to focus more on what we have than on what or whom we've lost. Sometimes, that is difficult especially depending on how recent the loss may have been. We are encouraged by the psalmist as he gives us the recipe for blessings. If we desire to be blessed, we should walk in obedience to God and seek him with our whole heart. I have always found in times of heartbreak, that God is faithful to ease the pain when I am focused on Him wholeheartedly and when I desire to show Him my love for Him by my obedience. Quite often, these are the times when I feel God closest to me and am reminded that I am blessed beyond measure that He calls me His child. This is my prayer for you all as we enter the holiday season – that you will demonstrate your love for God by your obedience and that you will seek Him with your whole heart and thus experience the presence and love of God plus a peace that passes all understanding.

If you're not currently receiving email prayer requests and information updates and you would like to be added to the list, please let Karla know. You can email me at zionhillbc@gmail.com to be added to the list.