

"We speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the Gospel."

1 Thessalonians 2:4

ENTRUSTED

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Pastor Iwinski, Editor

Give thanks to the Lord.

That opening is a direct quote of Scripture. Typically I would include the scripture reference under or after the words. The problem with referencing those words of Scripture are which of the nineteen references do you notate? Yes, that exact wording--Give thanks to the Lord--appears exactly that way nineteen times in the Old Testament. Many more references to thanking God for all His goodness can be made.

We have so much to be thankful for. Despite a severe and perceptibly unending recession in our nation we still have an abundance and standard of living that is the envy of the world. We live in a land and nation of plenty and each blessing is a direct result of God's goodness and generosity. Remember the words of Jesus' brother James who wrote: *"Every and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."* (Jam 1:17 NIV).

Why does James include the truth that God does not change in this reference to his good and perfect gifts? It is for the simple reason that we never have to question God's feelings

or desire for us. God wants us to have all we need for body mind and soul. It is God's will that everyone come to a knowledge of saving faith in Him. (see 2 Peter 3). God is good and He is generous.

We see this generosity in the cross, the ultimate gift of life, love and salvation.

It is my prayer that this month you feel wealthy--tremendously wealthy--because you have the truth of everlasting life: Jesus once crucified, now risen and glorified.

God gives us this wonderful treasure exclusively through His Word. Who is the richest person into all eternity? The one who hears the word of God and believes it and cherishes it.

With November comes the start of the Holiday Season. I have already asked my wife what she would enjoy for Christmas. I am sure you are already thinking about the gifts you would like to purchase for your loved one. Let us not forget the greatest gift is the gift of everlasting life and heaven. The greatest gift we can give is our faith and our act of loving service to others. How are we best able to give this gift? By being steeped in God's Word ourselves that empowers us

to witness and proclaim the truth. To be sure we will all be busy this month of November but do not let your daily exposure to God's Word and the truth therein take a secondary spot in this month's activities!

On a practical note: November 27th is the start of our new liturgical year. This year I will be using the historic one year series for the entire church year. This is the historic liturgical series of readings that was in use at the time of Luther. Pastor Boehringer will also be using the historic one year readings at Gethsemane.

A listing of the Church Council and Elders for 2012 is provided later in this issue. Installation of these leaders will take place in early January. Three of the four elders positions are filled. We are intentionally leaving one position open for this year. Keep these servants of God and our congregation in your prayers!

May God richly bless you this November.

In Christ,

Pastor Daniel Iwinski



Christmas Food Drive

The Ladies Guild is sponsoring a Food Drive for families that need assistance this Christmas Season. If you know of anyone who could benefit from this please provide their name and basic family information to Pastor by November 13th. Names will remain confidential--only general information such as # of family, children's gender/age etc. will be shared. Please see Cheryl Iwinski if you have any questions.

Monthly Bible Reading Plan

By following the reading schedule below you will read the entire Bible in one year's time. Blessings on your journey through Scripture!

1-Nov	Luke 12:13-14:11
2-Nov	Luke 14:12-16:31
3-Nov	Luke 17:1-19:27
4-Nov	Luke 19:28-21:9
5-Nov	Luke 21:10-22:46
6-Nov	Luke 22:47-24:23
7-Nov	Luke 24:24-53; John 1:1-2:11
8-Nov	John 2:12-4:38
9-Nov	John 4:39-6:51
10-Nov	John 6:52-8:20
11-Nov	John 8:21-10:18
12-Nov	John 10:19-12:11
13-Nov	John 12:12-14:11
14-Nov	John 14:12-17:13
15-Nov	John 17:14-19:42
16-Nov	John 20:21; Acts 1:1-2:13
17-Nov	Acts 2:14-4:37
18-Nov	Acts 5:1-7:29
19-Nov	Acts 7:30-9:22
20-Nov	Acts 9:23-11:30
21-Nov	Acts 12-13
22-Nov	Acts 14:1-16:10
23-Nov	Acts 16:11-18:28
24-Nov	Acts 19-20
25-Nov	Acts 21:1-23:25
26-Nov	Acts 23:26-27:8
27-Nov	Acts 27:9-28:31; Romans 1:1-15
28-Nov	Romans 1:16-5:11
29-Nov	Romans 5:12-8:25
30-Nov	Romans 8:26-11:24

From the President

November is already upon us and there are so many things that are coming to a conclusion. The outdoor yard work should be drawing to a close for the year, most people have taken their vacations, and the daylight hours are getting noticeably shorter. Many people's thoughts now turn to football, apple picking, or any other cooler weather activity. But even though the seasons change and the events change our commitment to serving God must never change. The elders continue to do their work, the council continues to do it's work, Pastor Iwinski continues to be the spiritual leader of the congregation, and the teachers led by Principal Pagel continue to bring the saving truth of God's love to all of our students in the Christian Day School. Where do you fit in? Where do I fit in? When there are work days at the school or church am I willing to help? Can I really be a member of a congregation if all I do is come to service on Sunday and then leave until next week at 9?

I have asked you over the last couple of months to examine your talents and gifts and how to best use them in service to our Lord. I hope many of you have given this some consideration. I have not heard back from a number of you. I do know that each of us has talents that can be utilized and we have ideas on how to better get the Gospel out to the entire Quad City community. It is my goal over the next two months to speak with many of you personally and ask these questions and really listen to the answers you give. We do not want to go into 2012 and then figure out what we should be doing. Let us examine ourselves so we can hit the ground running as 2012 approaches. I look forward to our discussions and the positive comments that each of you will bring.

--President Dave Riese

Church Leaders For 2012

Church Council

Church President:	David Riese
V.P/Secretary:	Greg Carlstrom
Treasurer:	Phil Parsons
Trustees:	Cory Brenner***, Tony Sullivan
School Board:	Kevin Fritz, Roger Lammers

Elders

Worship Elder:	<i>intentionally vacant</i>
Youth Elder:	Paul Sullivan**
Adult Discipleship:	Arnie Crass
Outreach Elder:	Charlie Needham

** Re-elected to a new two year term

*** Newly elected member to the board