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NEWSLETTER OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

THE VINE:

November 2016

On The Vine

I came across this illustration on gratitude and wanted to share it with you since this is the month that we celebrate Thanksgiving. It comes from the book, "The Gift of Thanks" by Margaret Visser. She uses three concrete images to convey the power of gratitude—gratitude as soil, lubricant, and glue.

Soil refers to the disposition of the person to be grateful, and his freedom to choose not to be. He is able to "cultivate" in himself a grateful disposition An ungrateful disposition, by contrast, is hard and dry, not easily moved by kindness, unwilling to be kind in return In European languages people often talk of poor soil as "ungrateful."

Gratitude is also a social "lubricant" It makes things move smoothly; after all, giving and giving back are movements back and forth When there is no gratitude, there is no meaningful movement; relationships become rocky, painful, coldly indifferent, unpleasant, and finally break off altogether. The social "machinery" grinds to a halt.

Gratitude is "glue." The image points again to the social cohesion that gratitude supplies. Modern society is experienced as fragmented, in danger of flying apart ... Gratitude is "a kind of plastic filler," "an all-purpose moral cement," a sort of magic paste that is amazingly malleable, squeezing itself into the cracks and then solidifying and strengthening the social structure.

In such a cynically selfish world our ability to be grateful and show gratitude really is counter-culture. Paul tells us in 2 Thessalonians to "**give thanks in all circumstances.**" Lets commit to following those words. *Kevin*

All Church Thanksgiving Dinner

We will be celebrating Thanksgiving with a special meal on **Sunday, November 13th following our 10:00am service.** Turkey, ham loaf, ham, dressing, mashed potatoes, noodles, rolls, drinks and table service will be provided. The deaconesses ask that those planning on attending bring a dessert, salad, or vegetable dish to this meal. Make sure to mark your calendars and invite a friend on this important day!

Entitlement vs Gratitude

The bigger our sense of entitlement, the smaller our sense of gratitude [Our entitlement mindset] has led to a proliferation of lawsuits: when we don't get something we really want, we sue somebody. For example, the San Francisco Giants were once sued for passing out Father's Day gifts to men only. A psychology professor sued for sexual harassment because of the presence of mistletoe at a Christmas party. A psychic was awarded \$986,000 when a doctor's CAT scan impaired her psychic abilities. You have to wonder about this third one: If she really was a psychic, shouldn't she have known not to go to that doctor in the first place?

Finance & Nominating

The Finance and Nominating Committees will be meeting in the month of November. If you have a budget request for the Finance Committee please talk with Kara before this meeting which will take place near the end of November. Please be in prayer for our Nominating Committee as they will be asking people to serve on various boards and committees in 2017.

Thank You

To everyone who gave to the World Mission Offering
 To everyone who gives their dimes to Rancho San Juan Bosco Orphanage
 To everyone who is working on the Operation Christmas Child project
 To everyone who gave to Operation Sleighbell
 To everyone who gave to the ABW Peoria Friendship House project
 To our Deacon's who help lead this church
 To everyone who invites others to this church
 To our musicians, praise team singers, and people at the sound board
 To our Trustees who continue to work on keeping our facilities up to date



Community Thanksgiving Service

Our annual All Church Thanksgiving service will take place on November 20 at 6:00pm at the Nazarene Church. Please join us at this important service as all our churches gather to give thanks to the Lord.

Worship Attendance in October

October 2	45
October 9	62
October 16	55
October 23	49

Happy Birthday

2nd -Maddie Bradford	16th -Kaylee & Keegan Sheehy
7th -Christina Moran	25th -Guthrie Gardner
9th -Chad Ellis	26th -Judy Hoult & Bradley Ingram
12th -Susie DeBaun	28th -Seth Ellis
15th -Baylor Gardner	29th -Dave Rigger

Kevin Coe - Pastor
 Debbie Sims - Choir
 Guthrie Gardner - Youth
 Shannon Ellis - Office

