



*"Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude."*

- Colossians 2: 6-7

Overflowing with gratitude!?! With the world today? How do you overflow like that when you feel like you're floating in a cesspool of overflowing violence, greed, and power-grabbing? The craziness of our times can get to be overwhelming! We are so tempted to *react* with our own toxic solutions and forget the instructions of the Bible.

The Scriptures continually invite us into a *proactive* response beginning with the exercise of gratitude. Gratitude, like love, is a first and foremost *a choice*. It is choosing to focus on the gifts we have received rather than the grievances we cling to. And the above passage adds that, when we walk in Christ, we experience a sense of rootedness, being grounded, confident to meet any challenges. Out of this emerges a natural thankfulness.

So, this Thanksgiving season, I invite you to meditate on the positive gifts that God has placed in your lap right now. Do your "Thank you's" and see how your reality is reframed in the process. Enjoy!

Thankful for you,

*Scott* ♥

### KEEPING YOU INFORMED:

- **Potluck!** 6 pm, Friday, **Nov. 17**, Jenny & Poo's house (30087 E. Bay St., D.I. Questions? Jenny's cell: 941-661-2285). Bring a dish to share. Spread the word!
- **Mark your calendars: Christmas Eve Service @ 7 pm.** This is a great opportunity to invite friends and neighbors to our service of "Carols & Candles". And because Christmas Eve

falls on a Sunday this year: *No Sunday morning service* - so sleep in!

- **Bible Discussion Groups** (*No Bible knowledge necessary and the community is welcome*):
  - *Wednesdays, 10-11am*, On-line discussion of the Gospel of John. Email the Church for the link.
  - *Thursdays, 1:30-3*. Discussion of Genesis in the Church Library.

### Reaching Out !



Our **third quarter mission's giving** was directed to *Local Outreach*. Ingathering was **\$1774.05** for Good News in our community! Well done!

Our **last quarter mission's focus** goes for *international*

outreach. This includes our participation in **Operation Christmas Child**, where we pack shoeboxes to send Jesus' Love all over the planet to needy kids everywhere. You can pick up boxes and instructions in the Church foyer or order them yourself on [their website](#). All shoe boxes must be in church by Sunday, **Nov. 12**.

**2024 MISSIONS TRIP!** A program of outreach to the Romanian people, Oct. 3-17, 2024. Check out the details on our website [www.LighthouseChurchDrummondIsland.com](http://www.LighthouseChurchDrummondIsland.com) and check out the program's website: <https://perspectivedanes.ro/> . Contact *Shirley Hollister* with questions or interest. Thanks, (517-425-2836 or [ahappyheart46@yahoo.com](mailto:ahappyheart46@yahoo.com))



Many years ago I had the opportunity to hear a talk by Lou Holtz, the former head

coach of numerous winning football teams...perhaps most memorably, Notre Dame. His message,

(over)



as I remember it, was about how he stays enthusiastic, positive, optimistic. He made the point that when you are not winning is when it is most important to stay positive.

The greatest lesson I took from the talk, however, was his commitment to writing thank you notes. His message was that being grateful is one of the best ways to remind yourself of all the good around you. It is just darn hard to be "down" when you start noting all you are thankful for. At that time, Coach Holtz was committed to writing multiple thank you notes every day. He would write a note to the server and leave it on the restaurant table with the tip. He wrote to airline pilots and friends who had encouraged him, and to his children.

I took that to heart and made a decision to write at least three thank you notes a day, which I have done — albeit with some interruptions — for about 32 years....

The act of giving for the benefit of someone who has nothing to give in return, is an intentional decision to look beyond oneself, to reach out and invest in the future of a child one will never know. Simply because it is right. Pretty cool. Thank you.

**1 Thessalonians 5:18 ESV "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."**

In His love,

Joy Ryan, President/CEO  
Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch

(Excerpt from [https://www.dakotaranch.org/blog/archive/attitude-of-gratitude/?utm\\_source=google&utm\\_medium=cpc&utm\\_campaign=MW\\_DBGR\\_395-45852\\_googlegrantfy23\\_20220701\\_GGRANT2207&utm\\_content=program\\_nil\\_nil\\_nil&registrants.source=GGRANT2207&mwsc=DBGR-395-GGRANT2207&qclid=CjwKCAjw-eKpBhAbEiwAqFL0mqOqcINWGx4wa7kxlr\\_SKIDvtyoI72\\_zeW1UPCOeZEAHtcImeGU-xhoCcZsQAvD\\_BwE](https://www.dakotaranch.org/blog/archive/attitude-of-gratitude/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=MW_DBGR_395-45852_googlegrantfy23_20220701_GGRANT2207&utm_content=program_nil_nil_nil&registrants.source=GGRANT2207&mwsc=DBGR-395-GGRANT2207&qclid=CjwKCAjw-eKpBhAbEiwAqFL0mqOqcINWGx4wa7kxlr_SKIDvtyoI72_zeW1UPCOeZEAHtcImeGU-xhoCcZsQAvD_BwE) )

## November Birthdays

- 5. Shirley Hollister
- 18. Doris Ellis
- 21. Elmer Klop
- 30. Judy Laing

## October Anniversaries

- 12. Tim & Laurie Mitchell

(If we don't have your birthday or anniversary, let us know!)

## **Pearls Of Wisdom "Who I Am In Christ"**

*I am sealed with the promise of the Holy Spirit.*

*See: Ephesians 1: 13*

- Ruth Wise

**ARTICLES FOR THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER ARE DUE TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY MONDAY, NOV. 20TH (Email, if possible.)**



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