



# The Clen-Moore Messenger



**NOVEMBER 2024**

Dear church family,

At the time that I am writing this, our country is in the final weeks leading up to its Presidential election. I think many of us can agree that this period every four years can be interesting, if not highly contentious. Soon there will be no more political advertisements or daily phone calls or text messages – at least that’s a relief!

As we prepare for this moment, I pray that we will use good spiritual discernment to help direct our votes, just as we should for any important decision we make. Our faith should certainly inform our choices when voting.

Regardless of what happens at the ballot box, we need to continue to live faithfully and gracefully in the days beyond, regardless of whether our preferred candidate is elected to office. This is one of the great challenges for the modern church as our world becomes more divided. There are many issues that set us apart from the world—but there may not be a greater issue that divides Christians against one another than partisan politics.

How we respond to politics and “the powers that be” in our world is equally as important, if not more important than the votes we cast. Voting is an incredible privilege that many modern countries do not have currently, let alone those of ancient civilizations. This was especially true for our Christian ancestors during Jesus’ lifetime and the days of the early church. We can learn a lot about how to put our faith into action during political moments from our ancestors who had to live under Roman rule with no representation or democracy.

During Sunday school and worship, we will spend much of November studying these things. How do we have healthy discourse and continue to love others as the Lord commands? What should our relationship with our government and its leaders look like from a Christian perspective? At what point should our spiritual convictions cause us to be disobedient to the laws of the land, if ever? There are no easy answers, but Scripture offers guidance as we consider how to respond.

One of the most well-known scriptures on the subject is 1 Timothy 2:1-2: “First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.” We will return to this during the series, but I pray that you will keep this in your heart before, during, and after the election. How we respond to the world around us with Christ-like grace and wisdom is our best witness for the Lord—think, speak, and act accordingly!

A few other notes for November—our very own Rev. Rick Vogeley will be preaching while I’m away the Sunday before the election. We are seeking volunteers to welcome voters to our church as a polling station throughout the day. Please take part! Third, pray for the nominating committee as they discern who may be called to step into the role of church elder starting in 2025. There will be a congregational meeting in November to consider candidates and updated church by-laws. (Even the church has its own politics from time to time.) May the Lord use all of us for His purpose in the church and civic lives.

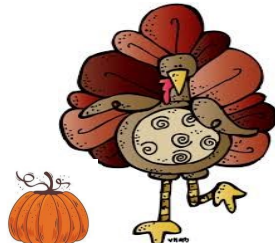
Bless and be blessed,  
Michael



## UPCOMING Events



<b>Michael off October 28th through November 4th</b>			
Sunday, November 3	Prayer Team in Library 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Worship with communion 10:30am Rick Vogeley preaching Christmas Show rehearsal during Children in Worship Women’s Bible Study 6:00pm	Sunday, November 17	Prayer Team in Library 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am Christmas Show rehearsal during Children in Worship Youth Group to Trampoline Park after worship
Monday, November 4	PEO-Y mtg. 11:00am	Tuesday, November 19	Bible Study 9:30am
Tuesday, November 5	Election Day Bible Study 9:30am Ministry & Mission Team mtg. 6:00pm Admin. Team mtg. 7:00pm	Saturday, November 23	Christmas Parade/Float 6:00pm
Saturday, November 9	PEO-A mtg. 10:00am	Sunday, November 24	Prayer Team in Library 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am Christmas Show rehearsal during Children in Worship Decorate for Christmas after worship Women’s Bible Study 6:00pm
Sunday, November 10	Prayer Team in Library 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am Christmas Show rehearsal during Children in Worship Deacons mtg. after worship Women’s Bible Study 6:00pm	Tuesday, November 26	Bible Study 9:30am Presbytery mtg. 6:30pm
Tuesday, November 12	Bible Study 9:30am Session mtg. 7:00pm	Thursday, November 28	Happy Thanksgiving Office Closed
Thursday, November 14	Staff mtg. 11:00am		
Saturday, November 16	Ladies Thanksgiving Brunch in Parlor 10:30am		



**Deadline for December is November 22nd**



**November 2024**  
Health Tip from the  
Health Ministry Deacons

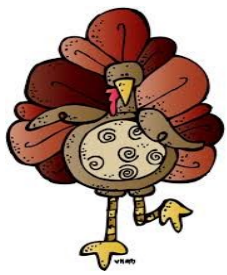


Does God really mean we are to praise and thank Him in EVERYTHING?

We gladly praise God when His favor is evident or prayers are answered. In times of pain, however, expressing gratitude can seem impossible. But praise is important to God and, from His perspective, should not be dependent on our feelings. It is a choice we can make - which both delights Him and helps us to recognize and receive His blessings. God wants us to respond to hardship in this way: 'Father, I thank You that everything is under Your control and praise You that nothing touches me unless it first goes through Your protective power.'

(Taken from Dr. Charles Stanley's sermon)  
"The Power of Praise in Times of Trouble"

Scripture: "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus."  
1 Thess, 5:15-18.



A Thanksgiving Brunch for ladies will be held on **Saturday, November 16th** in the Parlor at 10:30am. Come join us as we enjoy a time together reflecting on our many blessings!

Please RSVP by calling the church office at **724.654.6657**



**Food Pantry/Blessing Box Collection**  
**(Month 7) - November**



- |                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Rice Sides – packet           | Cornbread – box   |
| Quick Oats                    | Tomato Soup       |
| Vanilla Frosting              | Sugar             |
| Apple Pie Filling             | Yellow Cake Mix   |
| Bran Flakes Cereal            | Ketchup           |
| Coffee/Regular or Decaf – can | Green Beans – can |

**Communion will be served on:**



Sunday, November 10th  
Sunday, December 22nd



**Mission Spotlight**  
**November—Arise**

Since 1981, Arise has worked to empower and advocate for those affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, elder abuse, and other serious crimes. Arise inspires to educate citizens to create safer communities and break the cycle of violence. Services provided by Arise include a 24/7 Hotline, counseling for individuals/ families/groups, parenting classes, and community education. Advocacy services such as transportation, court preparation, and safety planning are available.

Arise offers safe-short term emergency shelter, transitional community-based housing and rental assistance for permanent housing. Community outreach and professional trainings are also provided. Arise is currently collecting the following items to be given to clients during the holiday season: pajama sets and slippers for kids and adults, lap blankets, stockings, hot chocolate, family friendly board games, gift cards for local restaurants and retail shops, and movie tickets. Items can be dropped off between 8:30 and 4:30 at Arise 1218 W. State St. New Castle 16101.



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**Clen-Moore**  
**Presbyterian Church**  
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New Castle, PA 16105  
724-654-6657  
Clemmoore.org



Everyone is invited to help decorate for Christmas! Many hands make light work so please stay after worship on Sunday, **November 24th** to help decorate the Sanctuary and other main areas of the church. A light lunch and refreshments will be provided. Just stick around and wait for instructions.

Thank You!



**Christmas Float**



The church is entering a float in the New Castle Christmas Parade on **Saturday, November 23rd**. Small wrapped candy is needed to hand out at the parade. Bins will be available in the Circle Drive.



**CHRISTMAS**  
**Parade**



Clen-Moore is home to 2 local precincts and we will be greeting voters and offering snacks as a way of sharing hospitality and kindness to those entering our doors on Election Day, **Tuesday, November 5th**. For anyone interested in taking part, please contact the church office at **724.654.6657**.



**BLESSED IS THE NATION WHOSE GOD IS THE LORD**  
PSALM 33:12