

Another Word November 9, 2020

To our family and friends of First Christian Church

Dick Reich would like to thank our congregation for the donations and prayers for the Crop Walk campaign this year. He received 28 donations from us, totaling \$718. City wide, 8 churches participated and the total collection for world hunger was \$5,989. Thank you in the name of Him who said, "I was hungry, and you gave me food."

There will be a Leadership meeting this Sunday, the 15th at 9:45 am, in regard to the budget and slate of leaders for 2021. Our all church meeting will be immediately after the service Dec. 13th. Please mark your calendars. The proposed budget and list of leaders will be posted on our website. Those wishing an early copy please contact the office, and they will be mailed to you.

If you are having a difficult time getting your offering to the church, please consider using "pay pal." This is a convenient and secure link on our website that can be used for a one time gift, or can be set up for weekly and monthly automatic giving.

Your response to the Thanksgiving meals for families in the Head Start program has been wonderful. We committed to 10 complete meals. As of today, we are at 16 complete meals and have a number of anonymous cash donations. I contacted Gina from The Head Start program and it seems the extra cash donations we have received could purchase 21 turkeys. Guess what? They were in need of 21 turkeys. God is indeed in charge, and on His Throne!!

The cards collected last Sunday are going to Brethren Care Village. Please pray that they touch the hearts of those who receive them, and that they know they are loved by God.

Our scriptures for this Sunday are, Psalm 123, and Matthew 25:14-30. "What are you entrusted with? Are you using it?"

There are many who need prayer this week. Please include Mitch's father Bill Hastings, John Myers, David Franklin, Arlene Whitmer, Ada Sue Workman, and Joyce Bradley. Also, please remember our loved ones in our nursing homes, and those who can't be with us in worship on Sundays. May we pray.

Dear God of life, we stand in awe of your greatness. Your love shows no bounds, and your gift of grace is unending. In the midst of our troubles we know we are weak. But you are always there, supporting us, inspiring us, and guiding us to better lives. And for that, we are eternally grateful. We pray for your comfort, strength, and healing for those in our world in need of health and spiritual healing. Protect those who work tirelessly to keep us safe from harm, for they are an extension of your love. We thank you for your gift of life through Jesus, the Christ, in whose name we raise this prayer, Amen

We honored our veterans this past Sunday. 10 stood, representing the 4 major branches of our armed services. One thing I noticed though. When I asked them to stand, there was a hesitation; I could see it in their eyes. There was a modesty, a distinct feeling that no one wanted

to be recognized. It was as if they were collectively saying, “I was just doing my duty.” Doing my duty! They were doing a selfless duty of defending and protecting people, country, freedoms, and peace.”

Peace. The very word expresses calm and a well-being of life. Maybe even brings to mind God’s peace; “the peace that transcends all understanding.” Philippians 4:7.

What we now call Veterans Day first began as Armistice Day, in 1918. On November 11th at 11am, a cease-fire was called for, which ended the world conflict we now know as World War I. It was to be the “War to end all wars.” But the ending of the conflict did not bring about the peace that was hoped.

After a world-wide flu pandemic, an economic depression, and a second world war, it seems the first war’s promise of peace did not hold true.

In 1954, President Eisenhower designated November 11th as Veterans Day. It has become a special day to remember all who have served “The United States of America.”

It is right to honor these men and women, and it is right to remember that many gave the ultimate sacrifice for the preservation of our freedoms. The peace we enjoy has been purchased at a great and awful price by others.

But before we get too full of ourselves, we need to be reminded of what the psalmist declared in Psalm 20:7. “Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord, our God.”

In other words, our ultimate trust should only be placed with God. The things of man can and will ultimately fail us. Since World War Two, there have been many conflicts; Korea, Viet Nam, The Middle East, 9-11. I guess “The war to end all wars” hasn’t happened. We need to remember that lasting peace only will come when Christ, the Prince of Peace, comes and establishes His Kingdom on earth.

But until then, we need to stand behind our military and thank them for their protection, faithful service, and great sacrifice. They represent justice in the world, and they make this world a little safer. So while they work to bring us temporary peace, our job is to pray for eternal peace that will be brought to the world through Jesus.

In His Peace,

Rich