

*Sing to Him, sing praises to Him;  
Speak of all His wonders.*

1 CHRONICLES 16:9

# Macedonian Call November 2019

Christy Wright is a Certified Business Coach with Ramsey Solutions. She wrote the following article titled "10 Reasons I'm Thankful for Thankfulness." Since Thanksgiving season is here, I thought you may find it helpful. I've edited the piece for the sake of space. You may read the entire article at [daveramsey.com](http://daveramsey.com).

## 1. Thankfulness improves relationships.

Everyone has a need and desire to be appreciated. . . . So when we express gratitude for people, we not only meet their needs and lift their spirits, but we make them feel validated. And that improves the quality of our relationships with them.

## 2. Thankfulness creates contentment.

Media messages are constantly telling us to buy more, do more, look like this, or act like that. With so much distraction, it can be difficult to appreciate what you have right now. But by choosing to be thankful, you can ignore these messages and embrace contentment.

## 3. Thankfulness feels good.

You know how happy we feel around Thanksgiving? We can continue to feel that way long after the turkey and dressing are gone. How? All we have to do is count our blessings and turn our hearts and thoughts toward gratitude.

## 4. Thankfulness keeps us healthy.

Even though the holidays represent a stressful time for many of us, reflecting on what we're thankful for actually reduces stress. . . . When we stop focusing on what we don't have, and begin focusing on everything we do have, our shoulders relax and we invite peace, patience, and health into our lives.

## 5. Thankfulness cultivates humility.

Arrogance and ungratefulness go hand [in] hand. But the opposite is also true. When we choose to be thankful for the big and small blessings in our lives, we foster a heart of humility and a spirit of graciousness.

## 6. Thankfulness is contagious.

Just as fear and worry are contagious, so is the spread of gratitude. When we're inspired by others'

gratefulness, it prompts our own grateful thoughts and actions as well. We can be the catalysts that spread gratitude in our homes, offices and communities.

## 7. Thankfulness produces positivity.

When we're thankful, the natural byproduct is that we become more positive people. There are endless daily annoyances that can bring us down and steal our joy. But when we're intentionally thankful, it naturally redirects our thoughts to see the good in other people and in our everyday lives.

## 8. Thankfulness promotes generosity.

When we are thankful for what we have, we can hold our blessings with an open hand and freely give to others.

## 9. Thankfulness increases likability.

When you are grateful, people see you in a positive light and they naturally like you and want to be around you.

## 10. Thankfulness displays God's character.

The Bible is full of passages on gratitude and thankfulness. It's used in commands, parables, and prayers. This quality is important to God! So when we actively practice gratefulness, we become more of who God created us to be. Plus, we also get to connect with Him through our thankful thoughts and prayers. Unlike talent, gratitude is something that's freely available to all of us and completely within our control. It's not a special "gifting" that some people have and others don't. It's not a feeling that floats through the air at the end of each November. It's a choice. Every day we get to choose to be thankful and to experience the side benefits of gratefulness all year long. ~ Pastor Randy (1 Thess. 5:16-18)  
Happy Thanksgiving!



**No Evening Activities**  
**Wednesday, Nov. 27**  
**Church Offices Closed**  
**Thursday, Nov. 28th**



Every second Wednesday of each month is C.A.R.E. Night. C.A.R.E. is an acronym for

“Christians Actively Reaching Everyone.”

We have a meal each C.A.R.E. Night beginning at 6:00 pm and ministry opportunities follow at 6:30 pm.

This month C.A.R.E. Night is November 13th

Everyone is invited to join us for this night of fellowship and ministry.



The celebration of Halloween last month has got me thinking, a day when people enjoy dressing up as something or someone else. You see clever costumes, scary costumes, cool kid costumes, and even some pretty inappropriate costumes but no matter the costume, people love the idea of being someone different. It's like an escape for them, a chance to take on a new identity. Halloween is just once a year and I'm not here to debate whether people should celebrate the holiday, but I do wonder how many of us disguise ourselves every single day? How many of us wear a mask to hide the pain, the sorrow, the sin, and the shame? Putting on a mask, a happy mask, a strong mask to disguise what is really going on. I personally believe almost everyone is wearing a mask to some degree, afraid of what others will think if they really knew what was underneath. It seems there are very few people that you can trust with knowing the real you, flaws and all. Those are the special relationships, when they know it all and love us anyway. That's how Jesus loves us, He knows everything about us, the worst of us and He still chose to die for us to save us from our sins.

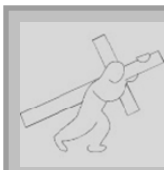
*But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. Romans 5:8 NLT*

You are fully known by God in the deepest sense, He knows you more than you know yourself. Yet you are still fully loved by Him with an everlasting love. God's love frees us from having to wear a mask pretending to be something we are not because even though dressing up for a day is fun, disguising yourself every day is exhausting. It's a prison, a prison you have been set free from by the blood of Jesus. If we are saved, then we are in the process of sanctification meaning God is still working on us. Wouldn't it do us all some good if we took off the masks and admitted it? Now that would be freedom!

Pastor Jeremy



**You are invited to join us for Sunday School each week at 9:45 am as we journey through the story-line of Scripture! We have classes available for everyone from nursery through senior adults.**



**CrossWalk Small Group Bible Studies Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm**



**November Food Drive**  
We are collecting canned vegetables, canned spaghetti, ravioli, etc., rice, laundry detergent, toilet paper and plastic grocery bags for **Christian Ministry of Lincoln County.**  
Please drop off your donations at the specially marked box in the foyer.

**All men are invited to our monthly Men's Meeting on Saturday, November 23rd @ 7:00 am in the Fellowship Hall**



**Sunday November 24th 6:30 pm**



### Sunday Evenings @ 6:00 pm in the Youth Room

This is a service for our students to worship in song and hear teaching that directly addresses issues they face daily. It is a great time of fellowship and an opportunity for real spiritual growth. We hope to see all of our youth there!



### Weekly Youth Bible Study Wednesday @ 6:30 pm



Well here we are at that time of the year when we are supposed to be happy and excited about the next few months. Halloween is 8 days away. I went the other day to get candles for my grandchildren's Halloween pumpkins and guess what? I couldn't find Halloween decorations for all the Christmas decorations which had already taken the place of Thanksgiving decorations! Busy, busy, busy people! Parties, parades, festivals and on and on. What is so amazing is that with all the busyness another year is almost gone! Have you noticed? I just did!!! What I need to remember, as I get busy, is a chorus in a song by Lanny Wolfe, "Only One Life"

*Spring turns to summer, summer to fall  
Autumn brings winter, then death comes to call  
(kind of sad, but listen to the last part)  
Only one life so soon it will pass  
Only what's done for Christ will last  
Only one chance to do His will  
So give Jesus all your days  
It's the only life that pays  
When you recall you have but one life.*

Happy Thanksgiving & have a great year (life)  
~ Pastor Joe

**Children's Church** is worship designed especially for children 3 years - 6th grade. They will meet this month on November 3rd, 10th & 24th during our morning worship

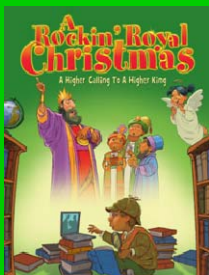


AWANA Clubs  
Sundays @ 6:00 pm  
For Children 3 years - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
(Must be 3 by August 31<sup>st</sup>)

**JOY Ministry Weekly Bible Study**  
**Thursdays at 11:00 am**  
**in the Fellowship Hall.**  
**All Seniors are invited!!!**



**All seniors are invited to join us for our monthly covered dish lunch @ Noon Thursday, Nov. 7th in the Fellowship Hall.**



**Children's Christmas Program Practice**  
**"A Rockin Royal Christmas"**  
**Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm**  
**All children Pre-K—6th Grade**



**Saturday, December 14th—11:30 am**  
**Joy Ministry Annual Christmas Lunch**