

A newsletter from your friends at...



Thanksgiving is still a very popular holiday on the calendar. A high majority of people still celebrate it. It is still the busiest travel holiday in the world. It still brings folks together, even if they don't really know why. Ungratefulness has become easier as time passes, but its been around for a long time. It seems some people just don't appreciate a good deed when it comes their way.

Jesus encountered a group of ten men all inflicted with a debilitating disease that had removed them from living a normal life. The story is found in Luke 17. Leprosy was an incurable disease that would force the one suffering to be removed from social contact with anyone, including family, because it so easily spread from one person to another. When Jesus walked by, they cried out in unison for Him to have mercy on them. They both knew who He was and what He was capable of. Although there are instances in the gospels where Jesus would actually touch a leper to heal them, in this scene, He chooses only to direct the ten to, "Go and show yourselves to the Priests." Apparently Jesus had acquired some level of authority and trust among the people, because there is every indication that the ten did as they were told without question or hesitation. And along the way, all ten were healed! Ten lives changed. Ten families reunited. Ten celebrations! But Luke points out something rather peculiar. Only one returned to Jesus to give thanks. With one important detail: the one who went back was a Samaritan! (The Jews were always quick to point out how dreadful, despised, and ungrateful the Samaritans were!) Yet this one was the only one to offer thanks. In fact, it says, "With a loud voice gave glory to God, fell down at the feet of Jesus, thanking Him." The other nine went their way with not so much as a glance back at the one who had set them free from their affliction.

We are called to be the one, in the group of ten, to be thankful. In a society that has maybe forgotten what it means to give thanks, we have to say it. Not assume that everyone knows it, not say we'll get to it later, not neglect it because its not trendy. In a busy world, those two words can have a huge impact. Say it to others like we're saying it to Jesus, because it might just be the only time that person will hear it. We should not take His blessings for granted. A grateful heart that returns to God is a key part of faith.

Pastor Barry Durkee



Women's Coffee

Ladies, you're all invited to meet for coffee **Saturday, Nov. 15 at 9:30** am at Union Café in Dodge Center. Invite a friend to come along too.



Women's Christmas Party and Ugly Sweater Contest Sat., Dec. 6 at 5:00pm at Jenn Durkee's home

This event is for all women—invite others!

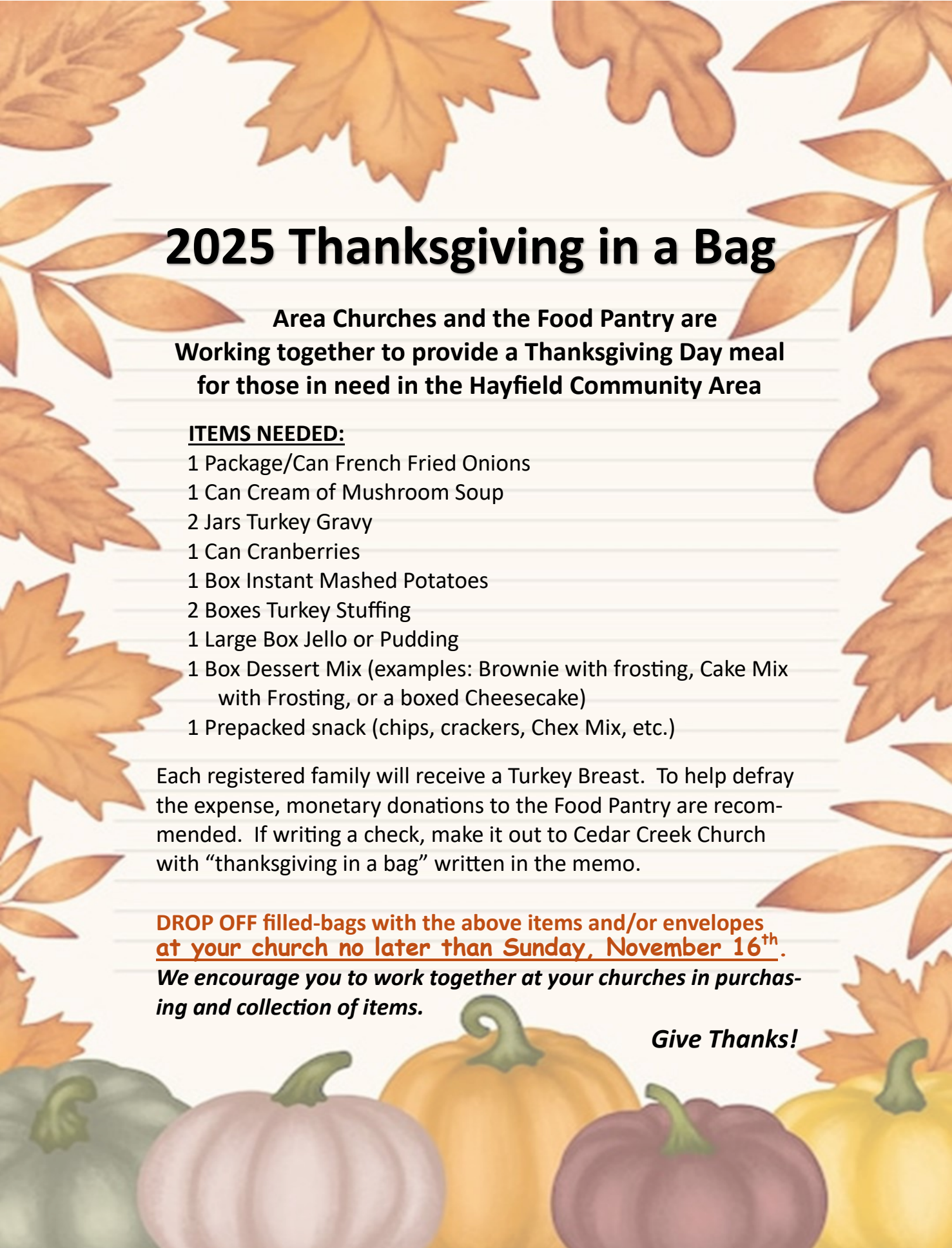
Please signup at church, on hall table.

Ladies, come enjoy fun, food, and fellowship at a Christmas party!

ALSO, we'll enjoy our annual Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest!

So please find the tackiest, ugliest sweater and wear it. There will be a trophy for the winner. GRIN. And everyone please wear your sweater to church the next day... winner will get an honorable mention in the service. Yes, it's silly, but fun!





2025 Thanksgiving in a Bag

**Area Churches and the Food Pantry are
Working together to provide a Thanksgiving Day meal
for those in need in the Hayfield Community Area**

ITEMS NEEDED:

- 1 Package/Can French Fried Onions
- 1 Can Cream of Mushroom Soup
- 2 Jars Turkey Gravy
- 1 Can Cranberries
- 1 Box Instant Mashed Potatoes
- 2 Boxes Turkey Stuffing
- 1 Large Box Jello or Pudding
- 1 Box Dessert Mix (examples: Brownie with frosting, Cake Mix with Frosting, or a boxed Cheesecake)
- 1 Prepacked snack (chips, crackers, Chex Mix, etc.)

Each registered family will receive a Turkey Breast. To help defray the expense, monetary donations to the Food Pantry are recommended. If writing a check, make it out to Cedar Creek Church with "thanksgiving in a bag" written in the memo.

**DROP OFF filled-bags with the above items and/or envelopes
at your church no later than Sunday, November 16th.**

We encourage you to work together at your churches in purchasing and collection of items.

Give Thanks!



Shoebox Gifts for Operation Christmas Child

Share the love of the Lord with children around the world this Christmas, by donating items for **SHOEBOX GIFTS** for Operation Christmas Child thru the Samaritan's Purse.

Everyone is invited to help pack shoeboxes after church one Sunday—date to be determined.



2-4

5-9

10-14

Write a label to indicate on your shoebox

whether it was packed for a boy or girl and

which age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14.

What Goes in My Shoebox?

Start with a quality “wow” item such as a stuffed animal or soccer ball with pump, that will capture the child’s attention the instant he or she opens the box. See our gift suggestions according to age and gender listed on our website for other fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies to fill the shoebox.

More gift ideas at: <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/>



Do NOT Include: Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (neither powdered or liquid); liquids nor lotions; medications or vitamins; NO breakable items such as snow globes/glass containers; NO aerosol cans.



Brighten a Local Child's Christmas through Hayfield's "SHARE CHRISTMAS"

Gift tags will be at church—take a tag or tags and buy gifts. **Return unwrapped gifts to church (watch bulletins for deadline).**

NOVEMBER 2025 at CEDAR CREEK

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
Watch church bulletins for info/deadlines to donate to fall outreaches: Thanksgiving in a Bag, Share Christmas, and Operation Christmas Child						1
2 <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i> 8:30 am Studies Teens / Men / Women 10:00 am Worship  Communion Wee Jubilee	3	4	5 4-6pm Pantry 6:30 pm Supper All FUSION for teens	6	7	8
9 8:30 am Studies Teens / Men / Women 10:00 am Worship  Jubilee	10	11 7:00 pm PUSH Prayer via Zoom 	12 4-6pm Pantry 6:30 pm Supper All FUSION for teens	13	14	15  9:30 am Women's Coffee—meet at Union Café in Dodge Center
16 8:30 am Studies Teens / Men / Women 10:00 am Worship  Jubilee	17	18	19 4-6pm Pantry 6:30 pm Supper All FUSION for teens	20	21	22
23 8:30 am Studies Teens / Men / Women 10:00 am  PRAISE & THANKS SERVICE / Jubilee Board meeting after service 	24	25 7:00 pm PUSH Prayer via Zoom 	26 4-6pm Pantry NO Supper NO FUSION (early dismissal from school)	27 OFFICE CLOSED Happy Thanksgiving!	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29
30 8:30 am Studies Teens / Men / Women 10:00 am Worship  Jubilee						

DECEMBER 2025 at CEDAR CREEK

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3 <u>4-6pm Pantry</u> 6:30 pm Supper All FUSION for teens	4	5	6  5:00 pm Women's Christmas Party & Ugly Sweater Contest at Jenn Durkee's home
7 8:30 am Studies Teens / Men / Women 10:00 am Worship Communion  Wee Jubilee	8	9 7:00 pm PUSH Prayer via Zoom 	10 <u>4-6pm Pantry</u> 6:30 pm Supper All FUSION for teens	11	12	13
14  9:00 am—Serving begins for our Brunch in Bethlehem 10:00 am Christmas Program	15	16	17 <u>4-6pm Pantry</u> 6:30 pm Supper All FUSION for teens	18	19	20
21 8:30 Studies Teens / Men / Women 10:00 am Worship Jubilee 	22 <u>4-6pm Pantry: due to Wed., being Christmas Eve</u>	23 7:00 pm PUSH Prayer via Zoom 	24 <u>NO Pantry</u>  7:00 pm CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE	25 <i>Merry Christmas!</i> <u>Office Closed</u>	26 <u>Office Closed</u>	27
28 8:30 am Studies Teens / Men / Women 10:00 am  Worship NO Jubilee classes	29 <u>4-6pm Pantry: due to Wed., being New Year's Eve</u>	30	31 <u>NO Pantry</u> NO Supper NO FUSION (school break)			

Our Annual Thanks & Praise Service (Nov. 23)



We hope you can join us for our annual service when we give thanks and praise to the Lord! During this service we'll have some open mic times so that people can stand and share with our church family about the things for which they give thanks to God. We hope you will consider sharing on this day.



TEENS:

**Supper & FUSION at
6:30 on Wednesdays!
Invite your friends!**



Bible Studies at Cedar Creek:

Study groups meet Sundays at church at 8:30 am.

Everyone is welcome! We have groups for teens, men, and women.

MEETING AREAS:

Teens in basement, Men in classroom 2, Women in the office lobby

Church Contacts & Leadership Info

Pastor Barry Durkee

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Board Directors:

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Donn Schroeder
Bill Grupp

Board Officers:

Rachel Millner
Barb Thompson
Bill Emerick

Cedar Creek Contributions & Finances Contact John Rasmussen, Treasurer