

Word Of Hope  
The Amazing  
Grace  
Place

NOVEMBER 2009

*"CONTENTMENT SUNDAY"*

Sunday, November 15



**A devout life does bring wealth, but it's the rich simplicity of being yourself before God.**

1 Tim 6:6 (The Message)

**There is great gain in godliness with contentment.** 1 Timothy 6:6 (RSV)

**In our worship and between-the-services potluck brunch on Sunday, November 15,** we give thanks to God for the rich simplicity which God promises for our lives. We usually think of this day solely in terms of estimates of giving for the coming year and that certainly is a piece of it. But we reap best what is first sown in prayer and trust. And our focus in this time of thanksgiving and hope is first and foremost on the life of contentment which God desires for us all. Come and enjoy the peace which only God can give. **(For the sermon on Nov 15, we will have a special guest preacher about whom we'll say more in our weekly newsheet.)**

*FAIR TRADE "FAIR"*

On Sunday morning, Nov 8, we will host a Fair Trade "Fair" at Word of Hope. We will have the opportunity to purchase unique handmade items from artisans in third world countries. These events provide workers with a fair wage for their handicrafts and, with Christmas just around the corner, make beautiful gifts for those on your list. IN ADDITION, there will also be a local benefit since a portion of the proceeds will be given to God's Pantry on behalf of Word of Hope. Come prepared to be wowed and by all means bring a friend or neighbor.

*THANKSGIVING WORSHIP*

Our Thanksgiving worship is on Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. The worship is simple, uplifting, joyous, and takes place in a unique community setting. Come and give thanks in a season of harvest and abundance. Oh and bring a dessert to pass; did we mention "unique?" Invite the neighbors!

*HEALING SUNDAY*

We will have a Service of Healing at both our worship times on Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. Our worship will include the laying on of hands and prayers of healing. We are all in need of wholeness, which the healing power of the Holy Spirit brings to us. If you have a friend or neighbor who would especially benefit from this meaningful service, please invite them to worship with us that day. All are welcome to the Amazing Grace Place.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [WWW.WORDOFHOPECHURCH.COM](http://WWW.WORDOFHOPECHURCH.COM)

## FROM THE PASTOR



(Curious about the roots? See below)

Vocatus atque nonvocatus, Deus aderit.

It amuses me that every once in a while an old fragment of Latin class resurfaces. I figure that as hard as I had to work at it all those years ago, it's not surprising. Nor is the feeling that I should have the right to inflict it on anyone who will bother to listen. Except that some of those fragments are worth repeating. Like...

Vocatus atque nonvocatus, Deus aderit. Translation: Bidden or unbidden, God is present.

Let me suggest you repeat that to yourself a couple of times. Maybe even try some other but similar vocabulary. Called or not, God is present. Invited or uninvited, God is here. Requested or refused, God cares and comes. Bidden or unbidden, God is present.

I suppose in a sense that has a rather ominous ring. As in reminding us that God is hanging out with us even if we'd rather God weren't. As in the unlikely event (highly unlikely to be sure) that we were up to something we'd rather God not really know about. With or without an invite, God knows the score about our lives. Ominous indeed. But isn't it also the height of encouragement?

What if God really is present even when things are going so far south I haven't even had the time to whisper an "O God!?" What if, despite my best and failed intentions to be really spiritual, God has got me covered even without my knowing it? What if in my deepest joy, God is inviting me to something even more spectacular? Vocatus atque nonvocatus, Deus aderit. Bidden or unbidden, God is present.

We usually (and often automatically) associate November with Thanksgiving. It's a good connection and one that we hope to reinforce with the "House-of-God-Keeping" emphasis for the month: *Simply Thanksgiving*. But I wonder if thanksgiving is quite so automatic in us this year.

It's been a tough year for a lot of folks. Tough on families, marriages, individuals, and even faith communities. Maybe "thanks" isn't exactly foremost on our minds. Maybe even the celebration of the date itself will be more muted and subdued because of the difficulties. Not to worry: Bidden or unbidden, God is present.

God is not isolated from our discouragement or fear. He feels our pain up close and personal in his boy, Jesus. Jesus knew full well the impact of botched plans and minimal resources, but there was a sense of joy and thanksgiving in him which I suspect we all long to learn. In him you get the gist that it may be in the hardest of times that we have the precious opportunity to see just how powerful God's deliverance can be. Jesus even makes the outrageous claim that when we have the Father's rule going on in our lives, we've got everything we really need: we've got it all.

Bidden or unbidden, God is present. Vocatus atque nonvocatus, Deus aderit. I don't expect you to learn the Latin. But it may take a life-time of learning to truly trust that presence. In the meantime we can begin with *Simply Giving Thanks*.

## HOUSE-OF-GOD KEEPING

### "SIMPLY THANKSGIVING"

**What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on  
the name of the Lord**

Psalm 116:12,13

## PRAYER

"What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits?" I can only give my own self—all that I have, and all that I am. I desire to surrender myself wholly unto you, O my God, to live more simply as one separated unto you, not finding my joy and comfort in the earthly blessings you so richly bestow on me, but, while thankful for the gracious gifts, looking only to the Giver as the Source of my happiness and the Object of my life. I cannot shake off the habits of thought and feeling which many years have wrought in me; I can only ask of you to have mercy on me, poor and needy as I am, and subdue in me all that is perverse and wayward in my heart, and so fill me with your pure and heavenly love, that all my narrowness and selfishness may be done away in the wideness of your love. Amen

-Maria Hare (1798-1870)

(**Getting to the roots:** while on sabbatical last year I was in northern California among the giant redwoods and read a plaque which noted a rather astonishing fact. Those massive trees can grow to a height of 360 feet but because of the abundant rain readily available at the surface, their roots only go down about 6-10 feet into the soil. That, of course, makes them very vulnerable to high winds—of which that coastal region experiences plenty. The trees survive though because their roots are intertwined and the roots of one reinforce the weakness of another. That and the fact that they can lean on each other. It seems like nature's way of confirming that we only make it through tough times *together*.)

**Thanksgiving Worship: "family style"  
Tuesday, Nov. 24, 7 pm: Bring a dessert**

**KING QUILT RAFFLE**

Contentment is a warm blanket and as part of our festivities on Contentment Sunday, November 15, we will raffle off a beautiful king-size quilt and all the accessories (see the set in the entryway.) Tickets are \$1/ each or \$5/7. Proceeds are matched by Thrivent for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. (Winner need not be present.)

**WOH NEEDS YOUR HELP.....**

to volunteer for cleaning the building. The facility will be divided into sections so the work schedule can be easily assigned. You can sign up for cleaning a section (or more) once (or more) each month. (Approximate cleaning time is 1 hour per week per section). **Your time can be tax deductible**—contact **MARJORIE FLORO** (ukladycol@insightbb.com).

**WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS****LUNCHEON**

Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> for the Annual Women's Christmas Luncheon at Joseph Beth Bookstores Restaurant. We will have a relaxing lunch, enjoy some fellowship and fun and, if you wish, you can bring a \$5 gift to exchange (gift exchange is optional.) If you are interested watch the clipboard or call **COLLEEN BLACK** (223-3877). All are welcome!

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**

In mid-November, look for the sign up sheet for Christmas poinsettias to decorate the church "in honor of" or "in memory of" an important person or event. Each poinsettia is \$10. Watch the bulletin for details

**FROM AROUND THE CHURCH**

"That's a lot of money for a congregation of 10 to raise. But we will go forward. ...We're not going to give up on the place."

*Nancy Tingley as quoted in The Oregon; one of just 10 members of Pilgrim Lutheran, Portland, OR., on the \$1,000 insurance deductible to repair damage after vandals smashed a window and stuck a running garden hose inside, flooding the church with more than 500 gallons of water. (From The Lutheran magazine)*

**ADVENT FAMILY ACTIVITY**

On Sunday, November 29, during our normal True North time we will gather between services for a simple fellowship time to make Christmas ornaments for our tree in the entryway. We will also have some to take home to share with others. This will be a great time where all ages will be able to participate and make something special. Please bring a light pastry, holiday goodie or drink to share. We will snack on the goodies while we put the ornaments together. This is a great way for all people to slow down for a minute, take a break before the holiday rush and spend some time with each other. Watch the weekly sheets for more details.

**CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE**

The **KICK-OFF FOR OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE** will be Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> when the tree will be trimmed! We will again be providing assistance for some local families in need. Check out the display – it will include a variety of gift ideas. Even if you are able to buy just one gift it will be a gift of love for that recipient. On Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> all gifts must be returned in preparation for our **GIFT WRAPPING LUNCH & FELLOWSHIP**. So plan to stick around and share in some fun and fellowship while helping those in need.

**GET A BETTER LOOK...**

We often include photos of recent WOH events in our newsletter. If you'd like to get a better look at those, check out our website: [WWW.WORDOFHOPECHURCH.COM](http://WWW.WORDOFHOPECHURCH.COM) and click on "News & Events" where you'll find all the latest Newsletters and Weekly News updates.

**WOH WISH LIST**

Our fellowship hall folding chairs are beginning to show the effects of time and use so we're putting 70 new folding chairs on our "Wish List." If you'd like to help, just let Pastor know.

**TIME CHANGE —DON'T FORGET!!**

**Turn Your Clocks Back 1 Hour  
Saturday, Oct 31st**



## BOOKS AT WORD OF HOPE

Take a look at our WOH books for exchange/purchase in the following areas:



**THE ROLLING USED BOOK SALE.** The books on the shelf in the entryway are now part of an ongoing used book sale. See something you like? Drop a donation in the box and take your new found treasure home. Like to get rid of some books? Bring them in and add them to the shelves. They'll become part of the on-going sale.

**BIBLE REFERENCE LIBRARY** We continue to have a pretty impressive collection of reference books on the Bible and basic theology. That's now on the shelf in the back classroom and is available to all on a simple honor system. If you find something helpful, simply borrow it and then bring it back. The only thing we ask is that you don't return it to the shelves in the entryway.



### CAMPUS MINISTRY MEALS

Word of Hope folks will be providing a few meals for the students at the Lutheran Campus Ministry gatherings on Sundays in November. They have a regular worship at 5:35pm to which everyone is welcome. It is followed by a meal provided by congregations. WOH will provide meals on Nov 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. The meals begin at 6:15 and should be enough to serve about 10 and should include a main dish, veggie/salad and a dessert. The students at LCM are most appreciative and really enjoy these home-cooked meals. If you're interested in helping out contact the church office

### OKTOBERFEST CELEBRATION

Our great thanks to all who helped with the Oktoberfest ~ to **MARJORIE FLORO, COLLEEN BLACK, JANICE ADAMS** and all who helped in organizing the event, the grillers – **DAVE EARNEST & DON BLACK, JULIE McEWEN** for organizing the abundance of food dishes and to the many, many folks who helped out in setting up, cleaning up and providing all the fellowship and fun for the event! What a fabulous event!!

### NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

We're looking to have a new member orientation for folks considering membership at WOH as well as those "just looking." It's a time to field questions, provide perspective, listen in on one another's experiences "doing church" and get to know each other a bit better in the process. See Pr Duval if you're interested.

## COMING SOON

We are in the process of pulling together a class that would provide an overview of the Bible for those with minimal experience. If you'd like more info, please touch base with Pr Duval—272-8515.

### NEED SOME HELP?

Got a fall cleanup that's just overwhelming? WOH Youth & Adults are teaming up to give you a hand on Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> from Noon-4pm! We're setting out to help out WOH folks and their friends and neighbors with fall cleanup tasks – raking leaves, washing windows, whatever is on your list! If you or someone you know could use this kind of assistance contact **DARLENE TAYLOR** at dtaylormom5@aol.com. And plan to join in this effort – we guarantee a good time!



### FRIENDS

#### FINE FOOD & LIVELY CONVERSATION

There's still time join in the "Friends" gatherings. It's a "diners night" that joins folks together for food and conversation. Adults can sign up as "hosts" or as simply "participants." Hosts will be responsible for setting a time and date for their gathering, providing a main dish, and contacting their list of participants who will in turn bring to the event a side dish as assigned by the host. (Dessert, bread, salad, etc.) The gathering can be anything from a picnic to a BBQ, game night or a formal dinner. If not enough "participants" can make it, the host is then free to invite anyone else—friend, neighbor, relative, co-worker, whoever. The object is simply to get folks together for a pleasant meal and opportunity for fellowship. **Gatherings will be in Nov or Dec & Jan or Feb.** Questions? See **DARLENE TAYLOR** or check out the **CLIPBOARDS**.



### WOH SERVICE PROJECT

On Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> we're turning our attention to RMH. We'll join forces to prepare a meal for the folks who are calling RMH home. Watch for details and plan to join us for a fun evening of fellowship and caring.

### A PAUSE THAT REFRESHES

Each weekday, we send out a brief devotional reading by e-mail. If you would like to have a look, send a note to **TADWrig45@cs.com** and we'll send one your way.

## WOH FOLKS ...

YOU  
RAISE ME  
UP

**MANY THANKS TO ALL** - Dear Friends, Thanks so much for the school supplies that were donated for Surry Elementary School. Your kindness is greatly appreciated by the students and staff at my school. We are all looking forward to a great year. Thank you for helping us start it out right! *Kathryn Tighe*

Dear Friends, Thank you so much for the thoughts and prayers for our family while Joe was in the hospital in Lexington. Being away from home at such a difficult time was made easier by the kindness people showed. We really appreciate everyone who took the time to call, visit, or pray for us. We are thankful to be home and Joe is doing much better now. *Joe, Kathryn, and Sam Tighe*



**CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES** to **LISA & NICK WARPINSKI**, who were married at WOH on October 17<sup>th</sup>. Lisa is the daughter of **BOB & DARLENE TAYLOR**. We ask God's richest blessings upon Lisa & Nick in their life together.

**WE CELEBRATE** with **COURTNEY & ROB JARRETT** upon the birth of **EMMA GRACE**, who arrived on October 9<sup>th</sup>. He is also welcomed by little brother **RODNEY** and grandparents, **JANICE & LAMARE ADAMS**. We thank God for the life of this new child, entrusted to our care.

### WEEKLY FAITH GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

**WORSHIP EACH SUNDAY: 8:15 Classic Grace**

**9:30 "TRUE NORTH"**—Christian education for all ages

**10:45 Celebration Service**

**6:30-8 pm "Bible Basics"** Confirmands AND adults

**LIVE THE FAITH**, our small, care group meets on Wednesdays, 7-8 pm. **All are welcome**

**LIFE LINE**, our Sunday morning, between-worship-services, small care group with a variety of topics. **Walk-ins expected**

**Pastor Thom Duval: 272-8515**

**Office times: Monday- Friday 7:30am-10:30am**

### **WALK AS YET BY FAITH**

Our two small care groups—"Live the Faith"

**Wednesdays, 7-8 pm** and

**"Lifeline" Sundays 9:30 am** — are shaping up.

Our Sunday morning Adult Group is discussing viewing and talking about the Rob Bell series of videos

## BRIN'S GARDEN MEMORIAL WALK

Take few minutes to stop by Brin's Garden and take a look at the new stones in front of the altar in Brin's Garden. Over time it is planned that the number of stones will increase to make a continuous "Memorial Walk" in Brin's Garden, providing a path for prayer as we enter the Garden for worship or a quiet time with God. The stones in place have been given in memory of or in honor of loved ones and friends by members of the congregation. Those names will appear on a plaque to be located in the narthex. You can see a stone sample on the table in the entry. Consider remembering or honoring a loved one, family member or friend by purchasing a stone. (Purchases are tax deductible; \$100/each).

**TIME CHANGE —DON'T FORGET!!**

**Turn Your Clocks Back 1 Hour**

**Saturday, Oct 31st**



### *GO GREEN!*

It's that time of year again! Time to prepare everything for winter. To make sure your heating bill is as low as it can be, make sure all your windows are properly sealed and doors have weather stripping on them, check your roof for missing or damaged shingles, clean and test your furnace, and wrap your water heater in an insulating blanket. To prevent cold air from sneaking in through your electrical outlets and light switches that are on outside walls of your house, put foam gaskets behind them and put safety plugs in unused outlets. Both of these things can be found in most hardware stores. If your home has no sidewall insulation, place heavy furniture like bookshelves, armoires and sofas along exterior walls, and use decorative quilts as wall hangings. This will help block cold air.

Halloween is a fun holiday and there are a few things you can do to make it enjoyable for the earth too. Good will and other consignment shops are great places to find costumes. Also, don't throw away the pumpkin seeds out of your jack-o-lantern; instead you can roast them for a healthy snack.

I cannot stress enough, rake your leaves instead of blowing them! If you can't rake your leaves just leave them on your lawn. Leaves are beautiful natural fall decorations for your lawn. Also, if you have a compost pile put your leaves on it for wonderful compost.

*Mary Webb*

**Thanksgiving Worship: "family style"**

**Tuesday, Nov. 24, 7 pm: Bring a dessert**

## WOHLY-WORD OF HOPE LUTHERAN YOUTH



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21 at 6 p.m. – ANNUAL CHILI SMACKDOWN** We'll have the usual competition to see whose cuisine reigns supreme!! Come join us for a night of chili and antacid where you get to enjoy and judge our chili chefs. And stick around afterwards for an old-fashioned 'Hymn Sing'. Plan to join in! This is a fund raiser for our Sr. High youth's annual mission trip. SH youth, come at 3 p.m. to help set up and serve!

**YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT – RONALD McDONALD HOUSE** On Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> we'll be joined by other WOH folks & friends to prepare a meal for those who are calling RMH home. Watch for details!

**2010 MISSION TRIP** Yes folks, it's been TEN YEARS since WOH first ventured out to support this ministry! Amazing!! And it's time to begin the planning for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Mission Trip! This year will be in the Lexington area so watch for details about our upcoming planning sessions!

**SUNDAY MORNINGS IT'S TRUE NORTH!!** It's a time to catch up, share our Joy, Junk & Jesus and share in some interesting conversations. Come join us - **9:30am!!**

**YOUTH TO LUNCH** - We'll gather at noon and head out for lunch at Q'doba's! Everyone is welcome to share in this fellowship time. It's a great time to catch up and to introduce friends to our youth group so bring them along! And don't forget funds to cover your appetite! Watch for date & details!



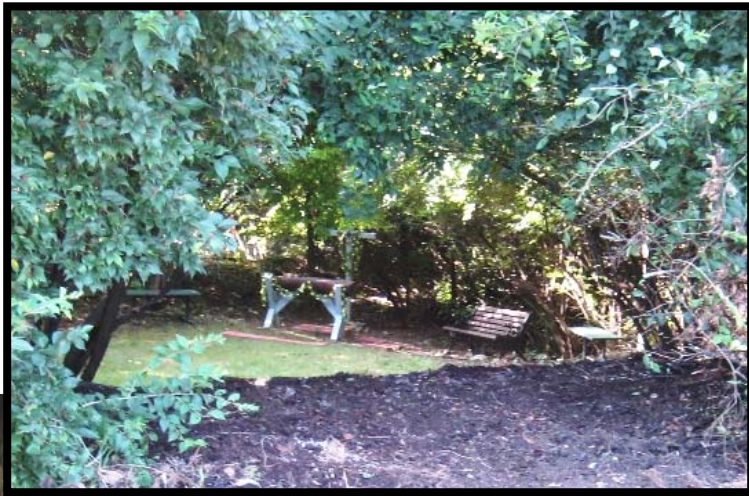
**Please Come and Join Us – All Are Welcome!!**

# WOH OKTOBERFEST ~ A WEEKEND OF CELEBRATION

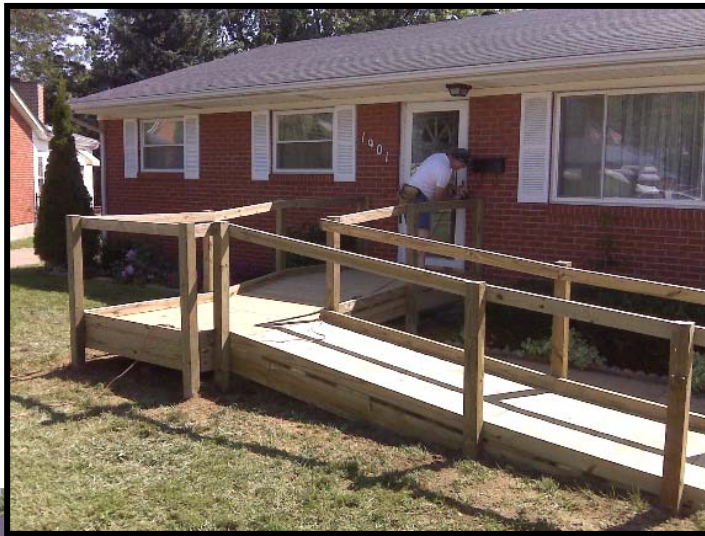


## WOH FOLKS WORKING TOGETHER





Fall  
Cleanup in  
Brin's Garden



WOH Ramp Build Project

