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A Word from Woody. . .

“Thanksgiving Lists Reprised”

November reminds us of Thanksgiving, and Thanksgiving reminds us of being thankful. And this is consistent with Paul’s admonition to “give thanks in all circumstances: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thessalonians 5:18). So in the spirit of Thanksgiving, three of our church members have graciously agreed to share their lists of 10 things— in no particular order— for which they are thankful. Enjoy!

Beryl Lynn Jones enumerates her blessings in this way. (1) I’m grateful I was born in America where I have religious freedom to worship God without fear of persecution; (2) My church-- Lake Vista UMC is a phenomenal church of kind, and loving people. I’m grateful to be a member; (3) My health-- after a long and healthy life, I’ve had some challenges; I’m so grateful to wake up every morning alive and well; (4) My children-- we raised our children to be good people with strong Christian values and I’m grateful for His protection; I learned years ago as a parent, you try to protect your children but you can’t be their protector 24/7; you have to turn them over to God and pray the Christian values you taught them will lead and guide them all the days of their lives; (5) My family-- I am blessed to have had a family who loves me; although many members of my family are no longer with me, I’m grateful for the time we had together; (6) I have friends who have shown their love and support when I needed it most; I’m grateful for true friendship; (7) This year I’ve learned to be grateful for my accomplishments and not dwell on the things I have not been able to achieve; (8) My work life was full of stress and challenges; God has taught me patience and to be grateful for small things such as a walk in the park, the beauty of a garden, a quiet drive in the country; (9) I’m grateful I’m a happy person and optimistic about life; (10) I thank God every day for the people who have touched my life and those whom I have had the opportunity to touch in some small way. In the true fashion of a Louisiana lady, Beryl Lynn— like someone else below!-- adds a few more for lagniappe: I’m also grateful for struggles, as they make us



appreciate the positive things in life; personal growth; things taken for granted-- there are so many homeless people in America-- like a home, clothing, warm bed, enough food to eat; someone to share my life with (there are lonely people in the world with no family or friends); and I’m grateful for the people in my life who make the time to be my friend.

Scott Herbert provides us with his list. (1) my relationship with God; (2) my wife and children; (3) my family – parents, sister and grandparents; (4) my health and that of my extended family; (5) the success in my job and the financial rewards it has brought; (6) my friends-- local, college, and lifetime; (7) Our (Mary Ellen & I) quest for seeing the world together-- traveling throughout the US and international destinations; (8) my love of the outdoors-- fishing and gardening; (9) being an American; (10) the Saints and Tennessee Vols football teams.

Judith Martin, who is recovering from hip surgery she had this summer, shares the following with us. (1) The wonderful community at Lake Vista UMC; (2) Drains in New Orleans that work; (3) Donuts in the parlor; (4) Reverend Woody Hingle's insightful sermons [editor’s note: I did not pay her to say this, and I thank you kind Judith!]; (5) Sing-alongs at the end of services; (6) Joyce in charge of the nursery; (7) Firemen and policemen who take charge as they must; (8) Moral support from families for very ill persons in hospital care; (9) Movie makers who come to New Orleans and get the place right; (10) Old-fashioned jazz music. And like Beryl Lynn above, more lagniappe! Judith adds: Prayers for persons who are in hospital care; dedicated, professional nurses in the medical field; and neighbors who will acknowledge each other with a wave and a smile.

Wow—what great lists! And now it is our turn to write our lists, which would be very appropriate to share over Thanksgiving turkey and pumpkin pie!

Yours in Christ,

Woody

Youth Corner

Have Compassion!

The Lord used our dessert table during the voting and on the Sunday at church to raise over \$140 to support our Compassion International child in Rwanda. For \$38 per month Compassion International provides our child a good daily meal, gives him an education, and shares the Good News of Jesus!

This month we will go bowling on Sunday, November 17th from 3:00-5:00 PM at AMF All Star Lanes on 3640 Williams Blvd. in Kenner. Please be sure to invite friends!

Mission Second Harvest

On Tuesday, November 14 the S.P.A. Ladies are organizing an outreach to the Second Harvest Food Bank, 700 Edwards Ave. in Elmwood from 8:30 AM-11:00 AM. We will meet in the morning to help this important organization, and all are welcome to join in! If you would like to participate please call the Church Office.

Angel Tree Is (Almost) Here!

The first Sunday of Advent is December 1st, and that means the Advent Tree will go up with names of children who have an incarcerated parent. Each child has his or her information on a paper "angel" ornament which tells us a toy and clothing article the child would like for Christmas. We are encouraged to spend no more than \$40 per child. Let's keep this important ministry in our prayers!

In October



Church Family Night

Church Family Night will be on Wednesday, November 13th—*please note this is the second Wednesday of the month.* Our speaker will be Pastor Woody Hingle, and he will share what he learned from the Wesleyan Covenant Association's Global Gathering earlier this month in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The church will provide Thanksgiving turkey as the main course for our meal from 6:00-7:00 PM and Pastor Woody will speak from 7:00-7:30 PM. Everyone is encouraged to bring a food item. The cost is \$5 per person, no more than \$15 per family.



Gray and Yolande Goudeau (with Woody) spoke last month on foster care.

Advent Devotionals Due!

One of the many great ministries at Lake Vista UMC is the Advent Devotional. What makes it so special is you—as you share what the Lord is doing or has done in your life! Everyone is encouraged to submit a brief devotional—even if only a few sentences—along with a Bible text, prayer, and thought for the day. I.e., we follow the **Upper Room's format.** Please submit your devotional to the Church Office by email or otherwise by Sunday, November 17th so we can have the devotional booklet ready by the first Sunday of Advent—December 1st!

Sermons for November

Pastor Hingle will give a Stewardship message on Sunday, November 3rd. On the next Sunday Rev. Dr. Lloyd Harsch, a Church History professor at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, will preach "Reading the Fine Print" based on Luke 9:23-27. Pastor Woody will bring conclude the sermon series, "The Gospel According to Jonah" in the final two Sundays of the month with the messages "Repentance" and "Reconciliation",

Stewardship Sunday and Fall Feast

On Sunday, November 3rd Lake Vista UMC will hold its annual Stewardship Sunday. This is an opportunity for us to make financial pledges for the 2020 ministry year. This year's chair of the event is Edward Payne, and he addressed the church to prepare us for stewardship on Sunday, October 27th. Let us keep the results of Stewardship Sunday in our prayers as we prepare for a financially sound year ahead.

A Fall Festival potluck luncheon with music, dancing, and games will follow immediately after worship. Linda Schirer will provide ham.

Leonardo Santos Recital

Leonardo will be performing his doctoral recital November 12 at 7:00 PM. All are invited and the event is free! The event will be held at the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary 3939 Gentilly Blvd. New Orleans in the Sellers Music Building: 4129 Providence Place. If you can make the recital to support Leonardo, you won't regret it!

Prayer Focus

- ✠ Barbara Velasquez, health
- ✠ For The United Methodist Church to stay united under the final authority of Scripture and to follow the Book of Discipline
- ✠ Judith Martin, recovery from hip surgery

A Time for Guys' Fellowship!

Pastor Woody Hingle is leading a Men's Sunday School Class that meets in the Library at 9:30 AM, and we are currently studying the Gospel of Matthew. The men will have their supper gathering at New Orleans Hamburger and Seafood (817 Veterans Blvd.) from 6:30-8:00 PM on Monday, November 25th.

Joint Thanksgiving Celebration

On Sunday, November 24th we will enjoy a Thanksgiving luncheon after church along with our brothers and sisters from Lakeshore Church! Please bring a side dish or dessert and a friend!



Sharing
Good Times

Addressing the Skeptic's: New Book!

Our next meeting will be Friday, November 15th at 12:00 Noon in the Parlor. We will start our new book by Dr. William Lane Craig called *The Son Rises: The Historical Evidence for the Resurrection of Jesus*. Please join us for a respectful, thought-provoking discussion on an examination of the evidence for the faith.

Coin Drive Raises Big Bucks

Kaylor Grimm, a high school junior, thought it would be fun and a blessing to challenge students in her school to a coin drive to raise funds for those in the Bahamas living without easy access to food, shelter, and clothing in the wake of hurricanes this summer. The students astonished Kaylor's religion teacher by raising over \$1,500! She thanks her friends at LVUMC who helped make this happen.



Charge Conference This Month

On Saturday, November 2nd there will be a Charge Conference for Lake Vista UMC and other churches at St. Matthew's UMC in Metairie. A breakfast will be held from 8:30-9:30 AM, and the Charge Conference itself will be take place from 9:30-10:30 AM. The Charge Conference is where the pastor's salary and church leadership positions are formally adopted. Please let the Church Office know if you would like to attend.

A lighthouse for Christ in the heart of the lakefront.

Lake Vista

United Methodist Church

6645 Spanish Fort Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70124

Small Group Offerings

Wednesday SONset and Wonderful Wednesday Bible Study—The SONrise Prayer and Communion service will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 AM this month, except for November 6th and 27th. The Wonderful Wednesday Bible studies will go over the previous Sunday's sermon meets at 7:00 PM, but only on the 20th this month.

The S(tudy), P(ray), A(ct) Ladies' The SPA Ladies' Fall Bible Study has ended. We will meet for brunch at **Mary Ellen's house at 8:30 AM on November 5th**. On Tuesday, November 12th, we go to Second Harvest Food Bank to work in the kitchen, as our mission for this Fall. The study will start up again in January.

Sunday School classes for women begin at 9:30 AM on in the Fellowship Hall. Men's classes meet in the library at 9:45 AM. Youth meet in the Education Building, and children on the playground for Storytime Corner also at 9:45 AM.

A nursery sitter is available for children during worship services.

Prayer Walk Around the Neighborhood

This month's Prayer Walk is Friday, November 16th, 10:30-11:30 AM Please join us for this important ministry.
