



Gratitude

November 22 & 23, 2025

1 Chronicles 16:34

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. *5050*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

16 Rejoice always, 17 pray continually, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Psalms 100:4

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

Message Notes

I'm grateful to God for:

1. **The change He's making in me**
2. **The things I take for granted**
3. **What He has done for me**

Food for Thought

On this weekend before Thanksgiving, it's a good time to reflect on the blessings of life. After all, gratitude changes everything.

Think back over your life, and think about how God has worked in your life. How has He made changes for the better in your life and in your heart?

What are the things or the people for whom you're grateful? Make a list!

Think back over hard times in life. How was God with you through it all? How has he faithfully gotten you through?

In the midst of the struggles now, for what can you be thankful?

STILL WATERS exists to **FIND** the lost, **RELEASE** the captive and **DEVELOP** disciples of Jesus

Still Waters Church | 3617 Scenic Road, PO Box 406, Jackson, WI 53037 | 262-677-1311

Worship Hours: Saturday 5:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am & 10:30 am

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-2pm

Happy Birthday!

Nov 23 Jordy Chapman
Nov 24 Billy Powell
Nov 25 Carol Hanson
Nov 28 Karen Philippi, Grace Steinman

Happy Anniversary!

Nov 25 Dave & Linda Pechacek
Nov 28 Jim Krudwig & Judy McCabe-Krudwig, Eric & Linda Oliver

Ushers

Greeters

Saturday

5pm Debbie Drews

Sunday

9am Debbie Koloski & Kathy Dalton

Dennis Konieczka & Barb Thorstenson

10:30am Kelly & Vicki Passineau

The Flechner Family

Church Website



Online Giving



Greetings Still Waters Family and Friends! On this Thursday a week before Thanksgiving, and as I prepare a message for this weekend, the word that is foremost in my mind is 'Gratitude.' This includes being thankful for the many blessings of life- for people who are important in our lives, for moments and times of love and joy and peace and hope. Most of all, gratitude for the Giver of all that is good. In the midst of our hurting world, it's so easy to focus on what's wrong. By contrast, what does it mean to live a life of gratitude? It doesn't mean we ignore the problems. This weekend in worship, we'll look at how the gratitude is gradually embedded deep in our souls as we make it a point to continually receive the grace of the God of the universe. His grace also brings peace and wisdom in the chaos, and hope and strength which we receive and then take to a lost and hurting world. Church, you are amazing children of God and it's a privilege to call you my brothers and sisters in Christ. I look forward to seeing you this weekend!

Here are more details of this and other upcoming opportunities:

Friendsgiving Sunday, November 23rd!

We're so excited for Friendsgiving! The youth will be hosting this intergenerational gathering. Sunday evening, November 23, **doors open at 4 p.m., dinner begins at 5 p.m.** True to Friendsgiving tradition, friends have the chance to sign up from the Still Waters website to provide a side dish of their family's favorite. If you're willing to share your recipes, we will add them into our ever Still Waters Friendsgiving Family Recipe book. (Send recipes ahead of time to office@stillwaterschurch.com.) The current Recipe book which contains our recipes from previous years is available online or pick up a hardcopy in our Still Waters lobby. **Sign up on the website to reserve your spot/table for this event.** Each table will be hosted by one of our very own Still Waters Youth. As we now have invited you to join us for an evening of friendship, food, and fun with a chance to renew and build friendships, we ask you to **extend this invitation to your friends and family** within and outside of Still Waters! See you Sunday evening, Nov 23rd!

Charge Conference

Our annual business meeting of the church will be Monday, November 24, at 6:30 pm. All are welcome as we conduct the annual business of our church, including Lay Leadership report, pastoral compensation for 2026, as well as approval of lay servants.

ADVENT STUDY, Offerings: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays

The Advent season (the 4 weeks prior to Christmas) will begin November 30! we invite you to join us in an Advent study, corresponding to our weekend worship series.

Choose the study that works best in your schedule! We'll offer the 3-week study on

- **Mondays at 7:00 p.m.** (facilitated by Pastor Lori) beginning December 1
- **Tuesdays, at 10:00 a.m.** (facilitated by Robin Jasinski) beginning December 2
- **Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.** (facilitated by Jena Metzler) beginning December 3.

The study will be based on a book by Pastor Susan Robb called "**The Angels of Christmas.**" In it, we will explore the four angelic visits surrounding the birth of Jesus. In the Bible, angels are messengers. The angels of Christmas came to deliver important messages to people who were hoping for God to intervene in a mighty way. The angels of Christmas still bring "good news of great joy for all the people," including you and me. Based the book by Susan Robb, come explore this special way that God is working in our world and in our lives this Advent season. We invite you on the journey with us! Book is \$19. Sign up online or on your Connection Card.

Advent Candle Lighters- Great Opportunity!

Would you and/or your family like to be a part of our weekly worship service lighting of the Advent candles? Each Saturday night and Sunday morning worship service from the first weekend of Advent (December 1) through Christmas Eve (choose between worship services at 10:00 a.m., 2:00, 4:00, 6:00) we will have an individual/couple/family share in the lighting of the advent candle that week. (The first week of Advent they'll light the first candle, the 2nd week, the first two and so on.) We will have a short script for one or more person to read, as well as have one or more persons light the candle as part of worship. Pastor Lori will email you instructions and a script to read. Choose the day and worship service in which you'd like to participate, by signing up online or on your Connection Card! What an amazing way to be the community of faith together as we make the Advent journey to Christmas! Please note: no Saturday worship Nov 29 or Dec 6, as those will be at Enchantment in the Park with our Youth Praise Team and Praise Team!

Advent Readers- Another Great Opportunity!

Corresponding to the Advent Candle Lighters, we will have a Reader who will share a reading that centers our hearts and brings us into the Advent Theme of the week. This person will practice the reading once in a weeknight practice with our praise team. Sign up for the day and time of the worship service in which you'd like to participate, and we'll share practice date corresponding to that service.

Enchantment in the Park- Still Waters Youth Praise Team (plus young at heart)

On **Saturday evening, November 29, from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.** we are excited that our Still Waters Youth Praise Team (plus some additional young-at-heart praise team members) will share music at Enchantment in the Park. Come enjoy Christmas music and support our amazing youth! Enter Regner Park in West Bend from Main Street. **No Saturday evening worship service that evening so we can encourage folks to worship at Enchantment in the Park** and support our Youth Praise Team and experience the Christmas spirit!

Enchantment in the Park- Still Waters Praise Team

Our Still Waters Praise Team will be sharing Christmas music on this **Saturday evening, December 6, from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.** at Enchantment in the Park at Regner Park in West Bend. **No Saturday evening worship service that evening at the church** so we can come and support our praise team and experience the Christmas spirit!

Candlelight Vigil

Candlelight Vigil for Loved Ones Lost to Addiction - Elevate and Washington Ozaukee Substance Use Coalition will host a candlelight vigil at Still Waters Church, remembering those that we have lost due to addiction. Still Waters praise team will share music. Thanks to Ron Naab for coordinating and participating in this event. Our Still Waters Praise Team will bring the music, and Pastor Lori and others from our congregation will participate. Come and honor lives lost and support those who have lost loved ones: **Thursday, Dec. 4, 6:30 p.m.** Still Waters Church sanctuary.

Christmas Store: Volunteer Opportunities Still Available!

Christmas Store is one of our biggest signature events of the year. This is an event in which 30-40 families who are going through some difficult times are invited to a Christmas event in which they enjoy a wonderful breakfast, get a family portrait taken, shop for amazing items for their children at a fraction of retail, and have a chance to meet for prayer with our pastor and Congregational Care Coordinator. Preparations for this year's Christmas Store on Saturday, December 6th are in full swing. If you still hope to be a part of this magical event, there is still time to volunteer. We are looking for a few more people to help in just a few areas:

- **Building Prep**: Help to clear the children's area on **Tuesday, December 2nd, starting at 2pm**. This involves moving furniture to empty the spaces that will be used for the store. See Al if you have questions.
- **Floaters/Car Loaders**: On Christmas Store Day, **Saturday, Dec. 6th**, take one of two volunteer shifts, one from **8-11am** or **11am-2pm**. Your main duties would be to load the wrapped Christmas presents into the cars along with being present to help keep things running smoothly.
- **Clean Up**: This volunteer position starts at around 2:30pm on Saturday, Dec 6th. We need help boxing the remaining toys and items and moving those boxes into the waiting trucks and trailers to be stored for next year. Help is also needed to clean and reset the sanctuary and return furniture to the children's area.
- **Toy Hauler**: Help transport toys! Two shifts, one getting toys TO the church in preparation for the Christmas store, and one to transport toys FROM the church, after the completion of Christmas store. On **Wednesday, Dec 3rd, at 6 p.m. transport toys** from the storage location in Jackson to the church. If you have a truck or other large vehicle, that would be great! And/Or On **Saturday, Dec. 6, at 3 pm transport toys** and decorations from the church to the storage location in Jackson.

If you are able to help in any of these areas, please sign up online or on your Connection Card. You will be contacted with more details. Thank you to all who have already volunteered!!

Christmas Store Breakfast- Food Donations Welcome!

Our **Christmas Store on December 6** is gearing up! The team that is going to prepare breakfast for the families would appreciate food donations. Here's what we need:

Egg Bakes (9 x 13 pans) They should be brought to Still Waters the day of Christmas Store:

- 3 Bacon Egg Bakes
- 4 Ham Egg Bakes
- 4 Sausage Egg Bakes

Also needed are: 3 gallons of milk, 5 orange juice (64 oz bottles), 4 apple juice (64 oz bottles, 36 cheese sticks, 25 6-oz cups, 2 doz. hard boiled eggs, peeled, 20 single serve boxes of cereal, 3 Bags of Cuties (oranges), 3 Bags of small apples, 36 Envelopes of Hot Chocolate Mix, 4 cases of small water bottles (for kids area), 10 boxes of granola bars, 1 box of instant oatmeal.

All items except the egg dishes can be delivered anytime that week. Office hours are M-R 9-2, or if you're there for a meeting anytime that week, between 10 am - 2 pm on Friday, Dec. 5. Sign up on our Connection Card or website. Contact Robin Jasinski with questions at 262-707-0792

Christmas Promise Event

We're excited to share that Still Waters is once again partnering with Family Promise to host the Christmas Promise Event. Christmas Promise is a celebration for current and former Family Promise guests to reconnect, share their journeys since successfully completing the program and enjoy the holiday season together. The event provides them a warm holiday meal (by us), a visit with Santa, family photos and gifts to help fulfill children's Christmas wishes

This year's event is scheduled for **Tuesday evening, December 9** at Holy Angels School (230 N 8th Ave, West Bend,) in the Walnut Room. We are truly delighted to make this event possible for **over 60 guests** in Washington County — and we'd love your support! There are several ways in which you can make a difference:

DONATE: We're purchasing the main entrées, 15lbs roast turkey & gravy and 15lbs baked ham along with needed supplies. Any financial contribution is appreciated.

PROVIDE FOOD: We're looking for volunteers to prepare and bring:

- Mashed Potatoes (10 lbs)
- Green Bean Casserole (2 full-size pans)
- Mac & Cheese (3 full-size pans)
- Jello (1 pan or large bowl)
- Fruit Salad (2 pans or bowls)
- Dinner Rolls w/ Butter (8 dozen)
- Assorted Pies (6–8)
- Cookies (4-5 dozen)
- Bars (3 pans)
- Water (2 Costco 40 count)
- Juice (fruit punch, 2-3 larger bottles)
- Milk 2 gallons

SERVE: Join us as we serve the food to our guests!

WHEN should I be there? **Bring food by 4:30, servers come at 5:00.** (Guests will arrive around 5:30, and dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m.)

Ready to Sign Up? To donate, supply food or be a server, please sign up via the Connection Card, online, or contact: **Kelly Passineau** kpassin@gmail.com 414-531-0326. Let's come together to make this Christmas unforgettable for families who deserve a little extra joy this season.

Feeding America

Join us on **Wednesday, December 10** (always the 2nd Wednesday of the month) at **1:00 p.m.** for this very important ministry to distribute food to those who are food insecure. On-the-job training is always available; we often have new volunteers each month, so no worries if it's your first time. We'd love to welcome you!

Deck the Halls for All Abilities

Join us on Saturday, December 13, from 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. for a free community celebration in partnership with Michelle's Action Angels.

Guests with disabilities and their families are invited to enjoy music, treats, ornament-making crafts, and our "Everybody's Got Talent" showcase (11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.).

A pick-up option will also be available for those who prefer to receive a goodie bag and ornament-making kit.

Registration Details:

Volunteers: Register on the Still Waters website or Connection Card

Guests: RSVP to mgaafoundation@gmail.com or text/call 414-303-0665 so we can plan enough treats and supplies

We can't wait to celebrate the joy of the season together — sharing God's love through creativity, community, and inclusion.

Everybody's Got Talent

We are excited to offer an "Everybody's Got Talent" event that will take place Saturday, **December 13th from 11am-1pm** during the Deck the Halls for All Abilities. Got a talent? Sing? Play an instrument? Comedy? Juggle? We want to celebrate and include people of ALL abilities to join in this celebration. If you have a talent, we want to see it! Sign up on our Connection Card or on our website.

Children's Christmas Program

Our amazing children are so excited to bring to you their Christmas program on **Sunday, December 14, during the 10:30 worship service. Parts are being assigned, so contact Jena with questions!** The kids will share, "Heaven and Nature Sing," a play centered around the angels' perspective of the birth of Jesus. At the Saturday 5:00 and Sunday 9:00 worship service, Pastor Lori will share the message. At the 10:30 service, the message will be our children sharing with our congregation!

The Flock, Sunday December 14, 5:00 p.m.

Fellowship and Informational Meeting for Youth, Parents, and Siblings

"The Flock" is the name given to a monthly gathering for an informational meeting for youth, parents, and siblings. Snacks available. Sign up online or on the Connection Card.

Youth Group Christmas Party

Our youth grades 6-12 are invited on **Sunday, Dec. 14 from 6-8pm** to our Youth Group Christmas Party! We will hold the Annual Ugly Christmas sweater, socks contests as well as playing Reindeer games, and our White Flamingo exchange.

Each youth should bring:

- 1) A food item to share
- 2) A donation for Washington County Humane Society (WCHS) from their wish list.

Check out the wish list at <https://www.wchspets.org/wish-list/>

- 3) \$5.00 towards Damian's and Linda's (the two children in Honduras that our youth are sponsoring).
- 4) White Flamingo silly gift wrapped with no name on it. (cost not to exceed \$5.00)

Christmas Eve Hospitality- Sharing Candles

On Christmas Eve, we will expand our hospitality team to add the servants who will greet people as they enter the sanctuary and distribute candles! This is a great time to try out hospitality, and play a special role giving candles out to those who come to worship. Thank you for considering on serving on an evening when many guests are seeking the hope of Christ! Sign up on the Connection Card or online.

Consecration Sunday Thank You!

Thank you so much Still Waters for an amazing weekend last weekend as we celebrated the ministry of Still Waters Church through our Consecration Sunday! On just one Sunday, we received financial pledges for 2026 from 64 families. Of those, 40 families increased their commitment, 5 were committing to an amount above a tithe, and 9 were making a financial commitment to Still Waters for the first time! A total of \$254,000 was pledged (it was misread at the luncheon- our apologies). If you were not able to be there on Sunday, feel free to contact John Haas to receive an Estimate of Giving Card at john@stillwaterschurch.com or 262-617-7004. I will say that watching people bring their cards forward, representing the giving ourselves to God's mission was a powerful moment. And as we prayed the Consecration Prayer, it was such an honor to dedicate our lives, our time, talent, and treasure, for God's amazing purposes in this world. Thank you, Still Waters!

Thank you Still Waters!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Lori