

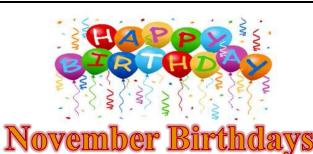
Remember to do your civic duty and your Christian responsibility by voting on November 6<sup>th</sup>.



### **Operation Christmas Child**

Thank you for your generous response for children who need to know God's love and our love. And THANK YOU, Kidz Kollege and Linda Downs!

Return your boxes November 11th



#### 

God Bless You on Your Birthday!

# November Calendar

P.E.P. Club Fellowship1
Trivia Night3
Daylight Savings Time Ends4
Fellowship Breakfast4
Church Council Meeting4
Love Packages Trip6
Thanksgiving Meal and Service7
W.M.U. Meeting10
Veteran's Day11
Oper. Christmas Boxes Due11
Cookies Due for Police
& Firemen18
No Wednesday Services21
Happy Thanksgiving!22
No Evening Service25







## JOHN'S JOTS

November is the season for giving THANKS... and we have so much to be thankful for--for our nation, for our Church, and for our families. I have much to be thankful for in my life and my ministry, and I thank God, my dear wife, and all of you.

I am THANKFUL for your kindness—the cards, gifts and presentations that you shared for Pastor Appreciation. You express your support and encouragement in many ways. This affirmation means more than I can tell, and be assured that I appreciate even more the privilege of being your Pastor.

I am THANKFUL for our staff. Johnny and Nancy have served over 25 years, Steve & Ronda have served over 10 years, and Rich is the newest addition to our staff. We are indeed blessed to have a dedicated and talented staff, serving the Lord and our Church. My heartfelt thanks to our staff, and the privilege of serving with them.

I am THANKFUL for Anniversaries. The Choir's presentation of How Great Is Our God was outstanding, and a great way to celebrate the 59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FBCO. As we reflect on important milestones in those 59 years, we are reminded of some wonderful Pastors and people that have blessed FBCO thru the years. And God continues to bless our Church "Family Tree", realizing that we are growing from the fertile soil of our past. We have already begun conversations about how to celebrate our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. But we don't have to wait for an anniversary to celebrate—worship should always have a spirit of celebration and of praise to God. Last Sunday certainly did!

I am THANKFUL for our fellowship. Our annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be next Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00pm. We will have a traditional meal of turkey and dressing with all the trimmings. Don & Helen Cook have coordinated this holiday meal for many years, and they do a wonderful job with many willing helpers. A special part of our Thanksgiving celebration is the Lord's Supper. We will observe this memorial around the tables with our Church family, just as First Century Christians did. Of all our blessings, our salvation through Jesus Christ is the greatest. There is no charge for this meal, but reservations are needed. Plan to join us for supper.

I am THANKFUL for your compassion—Operation Christmas Child boxes are due Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Please don't forget to bring your shoeboxes. And notice the Kidz Kollege article on the inside—32 OCC boxes. Great job, boys and girls!! We will have a dedication for these boxes of love that Sunday morning. I appreciate all of you who filled and donated boxes this year.

*I am THANKFUL for the time change*. Remember to set your clocks BACK one hour this Sunday, and join us for breakfast at 9:00. before Bible Study.



November is a season to be THANKFUL. Brenda and I are thankful to God for each one of you—our Church family. Thank you for loving us, for praying for us, and for serving God with us. Brenda and I pray for a Happy Thanksgiving for each of you and your families.

Gratefully, **Pastor John** 

First Baptist Church of Oakville \* St. Louis, MO, 63129, \* 314 846-8511 \* www.firstbco.net

# GWEN'S Gallery

#### Unshakable Hope by Max Lucado

What is shaking in your world? Perhaps your future, your faith, your family or finances? It's a shaky world out there. Could you use some unshakable hope?

If so, you are not alone. Hope is hard to come by these days. Many people believe this world is as good as it gets, and let's face it, it's not that good.

Though we've never been more educated, entertained, and connected, the suicide in rate in America has increased 24 percent since 1999. How can this be?

One of reasons must be this: people are dying from lack of hope. But what if we filtered our lives through the promises of God? Because life is filled with problems, God's Word is filled with promises. In *Unshakable Hope*, Max Lucado unpacks a dozen of the Bible's most significant promises, equipping us to overcome difficult circumstances, experience lasting security, and make wise decisions.

And since his Word is unbreakable, our hope is unshakable.

#### Ours for a Season by Kim Vogel Sawyer

Ever since the doctor confirmed they would never have biological children, Anthony and Marty Hirchler have grown apart. As Marty drifts further from the faith of her Old Order Mennonite sect, Anthony pours himself into his construction business to escape the melancholy at home.

Feeling displaced in the tight-knit, family-focused community, Marty fears healing will never come. An unexpected letter from her childhood friend, Brooke Spalding, proposing that Anthony act as general contractor in transforming a Kansas ghost town into a resort, offers Marty a chance to leave the painful reminders of her childless state behind.

When a frightening diagnosis and an encounter with a distraught young trespasser change Marty's role in Kansas, she wonders if a bigger plan is unfolding. As each soul struggles to rebuild broken relationships, the new town of Spalding, Kansas, takes shape. But can shelter come soon enough to offer healing from life's losses and open the door to peace for Marty, Anthony, and Brooke?



# Kidz Kollege

The Kidz Kollege kids went shopping at the local *Dollar Tree* on Wednesday, Oct. 24, and bought enough items to fill **32 boxes** for Op-

eration Christmas Child. The kids raised all the spending money during their walk-a-thon on September 26. On Monday, Oct. 29, all the Kidz Kollege kids aand their families enjoyed a *spooktacular* outdoor hotdog dinner, bonfire, tractor rides and Halloween treats from 5:30-7:30 P.M.

Here's the Kidz Kollege schedule for the rest of 2018: November 7 NO Kidz Kollege (It's the Thanksgiving Meal)

November 14 Kidz Kollege

November 21 NO Kidz Kollege (It's Thanksgiving Eve)

November 28 Kidz Kollege

December 5 Kidz Kollege

December 12 Kidz Kollege (Store Night)

December 19 Kidz Kollege (Caroling and Christmas Party)

December 26 NO Kidz Kollege (Christmas Break)

Ed & Pauline Maness

# Kidz Praise . . . Children In Action

Our first month with our new youth leaders was quite successful. Cory, Sam, Abby, and Aniston have done an amazing job. We are in the process of moving to a digital system {Classroom Dojo} to replace our RESPECT cards. Parents will soon be able to link in and check their kid's points out. A few more exciting changes are over the horizon for Kid's Praise! I can't wait to share them with you!

As for November, we will be doing some lessons on giving thanks and being thankful. We will also be learning about missions as well as doing a few mission projects.

We praise God by loving one another, and we show that love through RESPECT.

Cyndi Harmon



# John's Notes



Greetings Everyone.

I have always enjoyed a good Paul Harvey's "The rest of the story" story or "the story behind the story" story. One of my favorites is the story of one of the most successful Rock/Pop/Spiritual/Gospel songs entitled *My Sweet Lord*, written by George Harrison. The story starts in December of 1969 with the Beatles still officially together. Keyboardist Billy Preston brought a Edwin Hawkins gospel album with the song *O Happy Day* on it to a music session, and played it for George Harrison who wanted to write a Gospel song. He wrote *My Sweet Lord*, and at the time had no intention of recording it himself. and was going to give it to the Edwin Hawkins Singers to record. He later decided he would give it to his friend Billy Preston to record. The Edwin Hawkins Singers were on tour in England, and George invited them to sing on the Preston recording which had a full Gospel flavor.

Five months after this recording, with the Beatles officially broken up, George decided to record *My Sweet Lord* himself on a solo record. Wikipedia states, *It was a song he had been reluctant to record, for fear of committing himself publicly to such an overt religious message*. George said "I was sticking my neck out on the chopping block because now I would have to live up to something. But at the same time, I thought 'Nobody's *saying* it; I wish somebody else was doing it."".

Harrison's recording did not have the same heavy Gospel feel, and with Phil Spector engineering the song, the final cut sounded similar to The Chiffons song *He's So Fine*. So much so that with the enormous success of *My Sweet Lord*, Harrison was sued for copyright infringement. It was an International Number 1 hit by the end of 1970 and was number 1 in America for five weeks. By 2010 the single had sold over 10 million copies making it one of the most sold singles all time and, when it was reissued in January 2002, it returned to number 1 in the UK two months after George Harrisons death.

Beatle member and devoted atheist John Lennon told a reporter, "Every time I put the radio on, it's 'Oh my Lord' – I'm beginning to think there must be a God." Mikal Gilmore credited My Sweet Lord as being "as pervasive on radio and in youth consciousness as anything the Beatles had produced". After a long legal battle Harrison had to pay \$587,000 in damages. Harrison said of the episode: "I don't feel guilty or bad about it, in fact it saved many a heroin addict's life. I know the motive behind writing the song in the first place, and its effect far exceeded the legal hassle." The song has been met with controversy through the years. Some Christian fundamentalist anti-rock activists objected that chanting "Hare Krishna" in My Sweet Lord was anti-Christian or satanic, while some born-again Christians adopted the song as an anthem and a tool to witness to unbelievers, and the message is clear. I believe God knows our hearts when we sing, and the song encourages all to seek Him, and can even reach people through controversy.

On a personal note thanks to Gods Choir at Oakville for a stunningly well done job of presenting *How Great is our God* October 28<sup>th</sup>, and I invite you all to join the choir as we will be singing a Christmas cantata entitled *Only Love*. Tell Someone about the good things at FBCO and I Love You All,

John Gorse