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Greetings church family,

Christians are called to model a life of thanksgiving (Eph. 5:4). No one should be more thankful, in every season and situation, than people who've been saved by grace! (Eph. 2:8-9) As Thanksgiving approaches, our hearts thank God for salvation and for every good and perfect gift He gives (James 1:17). It is God alone who meets our every need (Psalm 145:16). As the Scripture says, "I will give to the Lord the thanks due to His righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the Lord, the Most High" (Psalm 7:17)

As Christians model a life of perpetual thanksgiving to God, we do recognize November as a special season of giving thanks. (Thanksgiving is November 22 if you're wondering!)

This month I want to express my appreciation to the folks serving *behind the scenes*. As we know, if you're not visible you sometimes get forgotten. It's the "out of sight, out of mind" complex. Well, that's why I want to highlight these special folks – to indeed notice them, and thank them for their service. It takes a lot of effort to make the average Sunday run smooth and safe. These folks deserve our church's appreciation. Join me in thanking them as you have opportunity in the weeks ahead.

Thank you, Tech Ministry! David Barnes and his crew do a wonderful job. There's more buttons in that media booth than they have fingers, let me tell you! These folks control lighting, sound, video, online broadcasts, recording and producing. The life of Sunday services really is in their hands! As we grow, they will face new challenges but will have great opportunities. Be sure to thank them for their steady contribution and continual pursuit of excellence.

Thank you, Safety Ministry! The importance and appreciation of this team simply cannot be overstated. The church building must be a safe and secure space for people to worship. Danny Stevens and his team are prepared for threat assessment, inclement weather advisories, medical emergencies, and security breaches (just to name a few things on their plate!) As we gather for worship, know there's a team of folks watching, listening, and standing ready to serve at a moment's notice.

Thank you, Children's Ministry! From bottles to goldfish, our kid care team may work harder than anyone in the church. They shoulder a heavy responsibility. They're entrusted with precious little ones to keep safe and secure, all while teaching them about Jesus. The success of our Sunday morning experience is largely dependent on the level of childcare we provide. Young families tend to gravitate toward churches with excellent children's ministry. I thank our team for serving our kiddos. We simply couldn't do it without them. Having an excellent, well-staffed children's ministry is a top priority for our church.

Our desire is to develop a culture of service in the church – every member, every ministry. We want you to know your gifts and find a ministry (1 Cor. 12:12). To learn more about how you can serve here at Coats Baptist, email serve@coatsbaptist.com

Serving together,

Pastor Neal

LIFE OF WORSHIP | Pastor Jonathan [Psalm 34:3]

Let me just start out by saying how excited I am for the next two months: VERY! Sure, the holidays can be stressful, but when you stop and think about why you are thankful in the month of November and then celebrate GOD WITH US in December, I cannot help but get excited. I want to use my newsletter space to tell you about a few things I am thankful for and then promote a few upcoming seasonal musical events in the life of our church.

I am thankful for: my family and their salvation, my friends and how they support me, my church family that loves me, my worship ministry team that serves with me, my God who sacrificed everything for me...

Did you notice that I only listed people? Of course I could have listed things like a car to drive, a roof over my head, food to eat, etc. but those didn't come to mind first. God has placed people in my life that I do life with.

He has deigned us for relationships, starting with a relationship with Himself. Don't forget people! Love them, cherish them, and pray for them. Thank God for them! Give Him praise for what He has done for you as He accomplishes His will in you through His people. It's a simple thought but it will produce a deeper life.

Okay, here are a few seasonal musical events to mark on your calendars:

- Children's Choir presents *Angels Say What!?*—Dec 2 at 6 pm
- Joyful Ringers presents *Lord of All*—Dec 9 at 6 pm
- The Worship Ministry presents *Christmas at Coats*—Dec 16 at 6 pm
- Christmas Caroling—Dec 23 at 6 pm

NEW MUSIC CORNER

Hills and Valleys

Tauren Wells

Won't Stop Now

Elevation Worship

I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)

Keith + Kristyn Getty

LIFE ON MISSION: DISCIPLESHIP | Pastor Jimmy [Phil 3:10]

There has been lots of excitement at Coats Baptist lately with career and short-term missionaries sharing how God is moving around the world. We've also had two men - practically speaking, two families - ordained to serve as deacons in and to His Church. It is amazing to see how God calls leaders for His work but we cannot ignore the fact that He calls each of us. We each have different roles, and different abilities, but Jesus' instruction to follow Him (Luke 9:23) was a command for everyone to emulate His way of life.

There are six things all Christians should be doing, regardless of circumstances or roles:

- Pray for all unbelievers - we tend to focus on physical needs; let's prioritize the spiritual
- Live a Christlike life - as a living sacrifice, our every action should proclaim Jesus' Lordship
- Share the gospel - many do good deeds; we give hope by telling of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus
- Minister in the community - we minister in teams, in the church, through the church, to the community
- Cross cultural barriers - social, ethnic, and economic barriers, to name a few, cannot stop the gospel
- Make disciples who make disciples - bottom line, this is our commission

It is my prayer for you - and for me - to live life on mission!

SENIOR ADULT NEWS

On Wednesday, November 7, Senior Adults will leave CBC at 8:30 am traveling to Bear Creek, NC to visit Southern Supreme Fruitcake, have a kitchen tour, and purchase our Christmas fruitcakes. We will have lunch at Ron's Barn in Sanford before returning to CBC at approximately 2:30 pm.

On Tuesday, November 13, Seniors will hike one of the beautiful trails at the Raven Rock State Park in Lillington. We will leave CBC at 9 am. Non-hikers are encouraged to come and enjoy fellowship at the picnic area. We will then enjoy an old fashioned picnic of fried chicken and chocolate cake before returning. Sign up for both ASAP!

Contact: Gail (910) 591-9847 | Kathy (910) 891-8326 | Bonnie (919) 820-2332

DISASTER RELIEF

Please pray for those affected by and those responding to the recent hurricanes. A team is being formed to serve in New Bern. The team will leave mid-afternoon on Sunday, November 11 and will work with Samaritan's Purse. Be in prayer for this opportunity. Details will be forthcoming about a team going to Florida in December.

Contact: Danny Stevens | (919) 279-7063

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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services
9:45 am Sunday School
Children's Church 8:30 & 11:00 am
6:00 pm Evening Worship Service

NOVEMBER PRAYER CARDS

This month, remember to pray for
Singles, Seniors & Families.

NOVEMBER

- 11/4 Women's Breakfast (9:45—Fellowship Hall)
- 11/11 Veterans' Luncheon (12:00—Fellowship Hall)
- 11/11 Deacons Meeting (7:00)
- 11/14 Grocery Assist (5:30)
- 11/18 OCC Box Collection Sunday (am services)
- 11/18 Community Thanksgiving Service at Coats Community (7:00) - No 6:00 service at CBC!
- 11/21 No Evening Activities or Bible Studies**
- 11/22 Church Office Closed**
- 11/22 Trash Can Turkeys at the Denning's (8:00)
- 11/23 OCC Processing Center
- 11/23 Church Office Closed**
- 11/28 Children's Choir Bonus Rehearsal (6:00)

Follow us on social media or visit our website (coatsbaptist.com) to stay up-to-date on our latest events and happenings!

 @coatsbaptistnc



If you use Spotify as your go-to music streaming, follow our playlist:
Worship All Week with CBC

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child boxes are ready to be packed! Box collection Sunday is November 18. During the morning services, you will have an opportunity to bring your boxes to the altar.

Volunteer with at the OCC Processing Center in Charlotte on Friday, November 23! You must be 13 years old to volunteer. Buses will leave the church around 10:00 am and we work from 4-10 pm. Slots are limited, so sign up with this link to secure your spot: bit.ly/OCCPCVolunteer

Contact: Kristina Smith | (910) 658-2630
Jackie Jagers | (910) 984-5298

THANKSGIVING TURKEYS

The Men's Ministry will be cooking trash can turkeys on Thanksgiving Day, November 22. Bring your family and your seasoned turkey and a metal trash can to Carsie Denning's house at 8 am and we will cook them while you fellowship and fish. The Denning's address is 2675 Abattoir Rd.

Contact: Carsie Denning | (919) 820-2302

STUDENT MINISTRY | Anthony [Psalm 51:10-13]

If you are in high school and you come to our Wednesday night Bible Study you probably know how I would answer this question, "What is one of the most misquoted verses in the Bible?" My response would be Philippians 4:13, "I am able to do all things through Him who strengthens me."

Now, don't get me wrong, this is an incredible verse, full of truth and assurance. And, I do believe I can accomplish any task God sets before me because Christ strengthens me. So why do I feel this is misquoted? Because most people seem to quote this verse when facing an insurmountable challenge, i.e. "I can climb Mount Everest because Jesus Christ strengthens me!"

Now, if God calls you to climb Mount Everest, then yes, Jesus Christ will be your strength. But overcoming incredible odds is not the context of this verse. Paul wrote the book of Philippians while being held as a prisoner. In Philippians 4:10, Paul is thanking the Philippian church for their support of him while he is in prison. But then he continues, in Philippians 4:11-13:

I don't say this out of need, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know both how to have a little, and I know how to have a lot. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being content—whether well fed or hungry, whether in abundance or in need. I am able to do all things through Him who strengthens me.

Paul's message is not one of being victorious in the face of overwhelming odds. His message is one of contentment, in Christ, no matter his circumstances. Parents of newborns offer a dramatic example, "I can have much sleep, or little. My child may scream or rest peacefully. I may find myself crying or laughing, but I know this to be true, I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13 is about being content by the power of Christ wherever God puts us.

So, you may be asking, where am I going with this? Well, Thanksgiving is coming and the best way to truly prepare to give God thanks for all His blessings and goodness is to be as Paul was; content in Christ, no matter the circumstances. It is a hard lesson. Nothing in our culture emphasizes contentment. It's a good thing that we do not belong to our culture.

Happy Thanksgiving! May you find contentment in Christ that compels you to give thanks to God for He is worthy of our thanksgiving and praise!

"Rejoice always! Pray constantly. Give thanks in everything, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

VETERANS LUNCH

All Veterans and their families are invited to join us for lunch in the fellowship hall immediately following the second service on November 11. The Men's Ministry will be preparing a meal and Amanda Cole, active-military spouse, will be speaking. Please join us as we show our appreciation for those who have honored our Lord and country by serving in our Armed Forces.

PASSION 2019

Passion is a three-day worship experience for 18-25 year olds. We will be attending Passion on January 2-4, 2019 in Washington, DC. The entire cost of the trip for you is only \$125. This includes your ticket, hotel stay, and transportation. Spots are first come, first serve and they are limited!

Contact: Pastor Jonathan | (910) 398-3916

WOMENS MINISTRY

There will be a women's breakfast will be on Sunday, November 4, during the Sunday School hour in the fellowship hall. Kristin Trick will be our speaker.

The Women's Committee is beginning a time for all ladies to gather and unite in prayer together, centered on praying God's Word over our community, our local church body, our families, and our friends. The first meeting is on Sunday, November 18 from 5:00-5:45 pm in room 312.