

LIVING GOSPEL CHURCH NEWS

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Simply Living the Gospel

November 2020

Thankful in All Circumstances

There is no denying that 2020 has been a year that has us all feeling hard pressed, perplexed, struck down, isolated and even brought to a complete halt at times. We are living in a time that is surreal and can seem so foreign to what we knew and loved.

And yet, praise be to God, as hard as it has been, we are not crushed, we are not in despair, we are not abandoned and we are not destroyed! Amen!

2 Corinthians 4: 16-18 NIV ¹⁶ **Therefore we do not lose heart.** Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸ **So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.**

This is the key to enduring hard times like 2020 has presented; to keep our eyes on what is unseen and eternal. This is where we find lasting joy in the midst of hardship and loss; where we find peace in the midst of chaos and uncertainty and where we find hope when we have no idea what tomorrow holds. **We remember and give praise to the One who holds our tomorrows.** We remember and give thanks for Jesus, our Savior, who made a way for us to come before our holy God and be seen as righteous. We remember our sin has been washed away through the precious blood of Christ and remembered no more. We remember we are loved completely by God and there is nothing that can ever separate us from His love. We remember we belong to the Body of Christ, the Church, that stretches all across the globe, and we are family forever bound together through the Spirit of Peace. We remember the blessing of showing the love of Christ to others in their hard times.

Let us remember, and fix our eyes and hearts where it matters for eternity. Let us be joyful in the Lord, fervent in prayer and **thankful in all circumstances** for this is God's will for you. *This is His gift to you.*



1 Thessalonians

5: 16-18 NLT

¹⁶ Always be joyful. ¹⁷ Never stop praying. ¹⁸ Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

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God is Sovereign. The World is in His Hands.

Let us remember Jesus is our King who reigns forever.

We are entering an emotional and critical time in our nation with a presidential election happening this month.

We all have felt the great tension and rising division throughout this election process. There are varying beliefs in what is right and good for our country and everyone has a right to voice their beliefs through their votes. This is what makes us an American democracy.

The reality following the election will have some elated while others will be dealing with fear, anger, dismay and worry. Let us remember we are all brothers and sisters and bound together through the Spirit. We are all part of the family of God which is not based on political party affiliation. Let us choose empathy over gloating, and unity over separateness. Let us remember to love one another *first and always*. No matter the outcome-let us each choose love.

I want to invite us to remember this truth-**God is Lord Almighty** and ruler of all the earth. He appoints and deposes kings for His purposes. **He is sovereign over all things.** It is Him only we worship. Every person is flawed and full of sin apart from Christ. No matter the outcome, we as Christians, have a citizenship that can never be shaken or taken from us. Thanks be to God!

Do we believe God is sovereign?

If we do, may we find hope and peace in this truth no matter the outcome. May we all choose to pray for our leaders and for God to work through them in powerful ways for His glory. May we praise God for His sovereignty and put our trust in Him.

“Some trust in elections, some in politicians, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.” quote from Courtney Reissig

Psalm 20:7 Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

***Celebrating—
November Birthdays***

Chris Schroud	November 1
Alanea Sugden	November 11
Alena Hessler	November 19
Megan Kleist	November 19
John Holder	November 20
Marlene Muttini Spyros	November 26



Thankful for YOU!

There is MUCH to be thankful for, *especially in this year of a pandemic.*

Thank you for all the love that is shared for one another in this church whether we see each other physically or solely online.

Thank you for continuing to show up, tune in and worship as The Body! Your presence truly matters to all of us.

Thank you for remaining faithful and committed to God in these uncertain times. Your faith is inspiring others to stand in their faith.

Thank you for generously giving financially to the care of God's church and to the ministries we support. Thank you for being faithful; you make all the difference in who we are able to serve as a church.

Thank you for being prayer warriors and lifting up the needs of one another, our community, our nation and our world. God hears the prayers of the faithful and responds.

Thank you for caring for one another so well in this time. Your love and concern is just the lift others need to keep going on hard days.

I thank God for each of you. I thank God for binding us together through His Spirit and joining us as family.

While celebrating Thanksgiving, will likely be very different this year for most, I pray your cup still overflows with blessings from above.

Love, *Pastor Karrie*



Gideons International

We are a body of believers dedicated to making the Word of God available to everyone and, together with the local church, reaching souls for Christ.

In November our mission focus and love offering will be to support Gideons International Ministry. We have partnered with this ministry many years.

“The Gideons International is the result of a meeting between two men who wished to band commercial travelers together for evangelism. What began in 1908 as an Association of Christian businessmen placing Bibles in hotel rooms has evolved into an expanding mission to provide Scriptures to all people in nearly every facet of life. **Today, we have taken more than 2 billion Scriptures in more than 95 languages to 200 countries, territories, and possessions across the globe.**” Excerpt taken from their website.

Join us **Sunday, November 15th** as Gideon and brother in Christ, Ken Manthey visits and shares with us on the impacts of this ministry. He always brings powerful testimonies of men and women who have had their lives completely transformed and given new hope because the Word of the Lord was given to them at just the right time. Ken has been a faithful servant, so gracious and full of joy. He is a delight to hear from each year and we are looking forward to welcoming him back.

Ways you can support this ministry:

- Give a love offering and know it will be put to use to bring the Gospel to the nations far and wide.
- Become a financial partner-you can join on their website to donate monthly towards specific ministry aspects.
- Become a prayer partner. You can pray over this ministry, all those who serve and for the people and places they are bringing the Word to.

***And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?
(Romans 10:14)***

Coming Events

Sunday November 15th– Ken Manthey with Gideons International will be joining us for worship and to share updates with their ministry efforts. Please join us or be sure to tune in!

Monday November 16th– Ladies Prayer Group 9 am at church or via Google Hangouts.

Wednesday November 18th– Give Blood. Rio High School 12:30-4:30. Call school or 800 RED-CROSS to make an appointment.

Freedom in the Spirit– Deepening Your Faith Through Small Groups.

Mondays: Men's Bible Study 6:00 pm at church or on Zoom. Contact Pat Graham for more information.

Wednesdays: Going deeper into Sunday messages. 7:00 pm Google Hangouts. Contact Pastor Karrie to join. **Youth Group started again– 6:15 pm at church**

Real Moms. Real Jesus. Meeting monthly online. Talk with Britt Sugden for dates and online platform.

John 8:36 (NLT) ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.

Let us use our time wisely in these days to grow in Christ and build our friendships.

Let's Encourage Each Other

*Let's gather safely and encourage each other. It is good for our soul to gather. We can do so safely and pray with one another-even via the phone. Let's stay connected. **Please know I am not too busy for you.***

Please know I am always here to pray with you and lift you up.

Email: pastor@livinggospelchurchrio.org

Or via cell phone:
608 566-3936

May God Bless You.

Living Gospel Church
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PLACE
STAMP
HERE