



Canaan Connects

Monthly Newsletter of Canaan United Methodist Church
November 2023

Dear Canaan church family,

Thinking back, I cannot help but think how hard the past few years have been on ALL of us, as a church family and as individuals. It's like Covid left us with a nasty little curse and we have never recuperated. Will things EVER get back to normal...or...is THIS the new normal?

We have all experienced things these past few years that have truly changed our lives, either for the better or for the worse. For me, I lost my beloved husband of 52 years to pancreatic cancer in the very midst of the pandemic. Nothing seemed "normal" during that time; there had to be exceptions to everything because of Covid. I am sure if each of us think back, we all can certainly remember Covid's effect on us.

As a staff member at Canaan...wow...look what our church experienced through the last several years: disaffiliation, the flood the day after Thanksgiving that left our church with extreme damage. As if that wasn't enough, the fierce winds that brought the vinyl cemetery wall down. But then focus on the "outcome" of each incident. Haven't we ended up being "blessed" in some way each time?



It seems that just one thing after another keeps happening. But because our faith in God is strong, we made it! And we will continue to "make it" because of our faith and who we are. I cannot tell you enough how much I love Canaan Church! We are "Canaan Strong" and I pray that we always will be! I just pray that Canaan church keeps on being who we are always! This is the most "loving and caring" church family I have ever been a part of and it is what makes me most proud of being a member.

Now, for me, I face another struggle – lung cancer. I already feel your love for me and your prayers and I ask that you keep sending them please. Oh, how I wish I could walk up to each of you, hug you and thank you for your love and tell you just how much you mean to me. There are no words. This church has been my life for the past several years and I have been so blessed by my years of service here. I pray that after some treatments, I will be able to return to work and return to singing in the choir. I am going to do my best. I thank you for the beautiful cards, the texts, the visits and the phone calls. Each one of you is "special" to me!

Hebrews 13:8 says "*Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever.*" Think about those words and then think about all of the changes we have seen over the past few years. The one thing that did NOT change and NEVER WILL change is JESUS CHRIST! He is always there with his arms wide open. What a friend we have in Jesus! He is certainly my friend and I know that he will be with me during my struggles.

This is the season of Thanksgiving and my focus will be on all of the BLESSINGS that I have in my life and my Canaan Church family is on the very top of that list. Oh, how I love each one of you so very much!

In His Love, Marcy

| November 2023 | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---|--|--|--|--|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| USHER TEAM: Randy Long, Joel Smith, Bill Smith, Donald Bodenheimer, Frank Tiano, Jeff Sink RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE ITEMS: Travel size deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo & conditioner | | | 1 6:30 pm CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING 6:30 pm Men's Prayer Group | 2 6:30 pm Choir Practice 8:30 am OGHS Life Skills | 3 7 pm FUSION to concert at Pinedale | 4 |
| 5 ALL SAINTS DAY 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am FUSION 5 pm Choir Practice | 6 | 7 8:30 am OGHS Life Skills | 8 6:30 pm Men's Prayer Group | 9 8:30 am OGHS Life Skills 6:30 pm Circle of Friends | 10 | 11 |
| 12 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am CHICKEN PIE LUNCH 5 pm Choir Practice | 13 | 14 8:30 am OGHS Life Skills | 15 6:30 pm Men's Prayer Group | 16 6:30 pm Choir Practice 8:30 am OGHS Life Skills | 17 | 18 5 – 7 pm FUSION MOVIE NIGHT & Babysitting |
| 19 COMMUNION 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am FUSION 5 pm Choir Practice | 20 | 21 8:30 am OGHS Life Skills | 22 6:30 pm Men's Prayer Group |  | 24 | 25 |
| 26 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am FUSION 5 pm Choir Practice | 27 | 28 8:30 am OGHS Life Skills 6:30 pm CHURCH COUNCIL/CHARGE CONFERENCE | 29 6:30 pm ADVENT STUDY 6:30 pm Men's Prayer Group | 30 8:30 am OGHS Life Skills 5:30 pm THE LORD'S TABLE |  | |



NOVEMBER

- 2 - Abigail Sizemore
- 3 - Grayson Smith
- 6 - Blakeley Atkins
- 7 - Odessa Berrier
- 10 - Ricky Puckett
- 15 - Kane Milam
- 16 - Gina Harrison
- 18 - Greyson Guy
- 21 - Derrick Mendenhall
- 22 - Suzanne Breedlove
- Gayle Denton
- 24 - Song Warden
- 28 - Jaxon Holloman
- 29 - Haley Hemrick



Romans 12:1-2

NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS...

Friday, Nov. 3, 7 pm:
Matt Maher Concert at Pinedale Christian Church

Sunday, Nov. 5: meeting at 11:45 am

Saturday, Nov. 18, 5:30 – 8:30 pm:
Movie Night & Babysitting for Pre-k – 5th grade.
Pizza, popcorn & pj's

Sunday, Nov. 19: meeting at 11:45 am

Sunday, Nov. 26: meeting at 11:45 am

Wed., Nov. 29, 6:30 pm
ADVENT STUDY begins.

Children are encouraged to attend!
The study is each Wednesday evening,
Signup sheets will be provided in the
gathering area each week for meal
preparation.

ADVENT BEGINS ON DEC. 3
with our "Hanging of the Greens"
Worship Service as we prepare the
sanctuary for Christ's coming.



BUDGET THROUGH OCT. 31

| GENERAL BUDGET | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Rec'd: | \$302,754 |
| Needed: | \$348,084 |
| - | \$ 45,330 |

BUILDING FUND

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Total Pledged: | \$129,934 |
| Total Rec'd Pledges: | \$ 71,909 |
| TOTAL: | \$ 201,843 |

| VOLUNTEERS for NOVEMBER | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| DATE | SUNDAY SCHOOL | WORSHIP NURSERY |
| NOV. 5 | The Fowlers | Jenn Guy |
| NOV. 12 | The Beesons | |
| NOV. 19 | J. Thompson | The Fowlers |
| NOV. 26 | The Alvarados | |

Christmas Cantata
Sunday, Dec. 17, 6 pm

"Christmas Presence"

