

CHUM NEWS

November 2025 Newsletter



A Message from the Pastor...

Pastor Samuel Mohn

Dear Friends in Christ,

I'm writing these words high above the clouds, on my flight home from London after a truly meaningful journey retracing the steps of John Wesley and the early Methodist movement. Standing in the places where faith took root centuries ago has reminded me that the story of God's grace is not confined to one nation or culture—it is a story that spans continents, generations, and hearts.

As I prepare to spend the month of November serving in South Korea for my ministry co-op, I carry that same sense of connection and gratitude with me. This next leg of the journey is not simply a travel experience—it is a calling to learn from our brothers and sisters in Christ across the globe. I look forward to worshiping with them, sharing meals, learning their stories, and experiencing how God's Spirit is at work in their lives and communities.

Here at home, November is also the season of Thanksgiving—a time when many of us

gather around tables to give thanks for blessings near and far. I can't help but think of how thanksgiving is not limited to one holiday or one table. Gratitude is a way of living. Whether we are in a sanctuary in Youngstown, walking the streets of London, or worshiping in Seoul, God's abundance surrounds us.

This Thanksgiving, I invite us all to remember that gratitude connects us to God and to one another. Let's give thanks not only for the blessings we hold but also for the blessings we share. Let's remember those who may be far from home, those who are hurting, and those who long for a place at the table. Let our thanksgiving lead us to hospitality, generosity, and love.

I'm grateful for each of you—your prayers, your faithfulness, and your willingness to grow in Christ together. I look forward to sharing stories and experiences from my time in South Korea when I return. May God bless you and keep you in this season of gratitude.

With Thanksgiving,
Pastor Sam

Celebrating Hymn History

Now Thank We All Our God is one of the most beloved hymns of thanksgiving and praise in the Christian tradition. Its familiar melody and powerful words have echoed through centuries, carrying a message of gratitude even in the hardest of times.

Born in a Time of Great Hardship

The hymn was written in the early 17th century by Martin Rinkart, a Lutheran pastor in Eilenburg, Germany, during the ravages of the Thirty Years' War. His town was overcrowded with refugees, and in 1637, plague swept through the region. Rinkart buried thousands—including his own wife—often conducting 40 to 50 funerals a day as the only surviving pastor.

And yet, out of this unimaginable suffering came a hymn of thanksgiving:

“Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices...”

Originally written as a simple table grace for his family, Rinkart's words became a powerful congregational hymn—one that called people to praise God not because life was easy, but because God's love endures.

A Melody of Hope

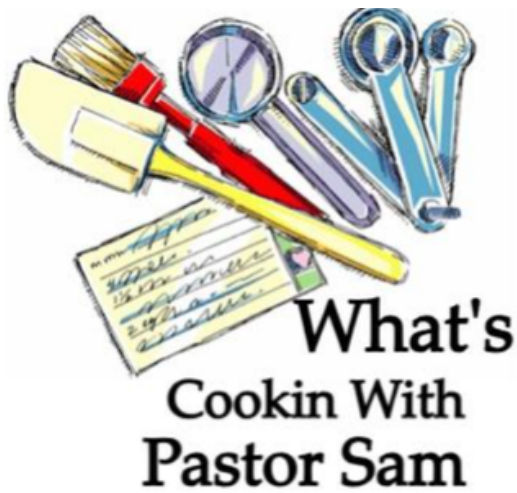
The tune, “Nun danket alle Gott,” was composed around 1647 by Johann Crüger. Its steady and triumphant melody became a beacon of faith for communities recovering from war and loss. Later, Catherine Winkworth translated the text into English in the 19th century, making it beloved around the world—including in The United Methodist Hymnal (No. 102).

The hymn has been sung at national days of thanksgiving, peace celebrations, and countless worship services over the centuries. It is a reminder that gratitude is not dependent on circumstances—it is a declaration of trust.

A Song That Still Speaks

Rinkart's hymn reminds us that gratitude can be an act of resistance against despair. To give thanks in hard seasons is to affirm that God is still faithful and present. That truth has not changed since 1637—it continues to shape the faith of the church today.





Leftover Turkey Stuffing Balls

Ingredients

- 3 cups mashed potatoes
- 3 cups stuffing
- 1 ½ cups shredded turkey
- Gravy
- Optional: Black pepper
- Panko (see notes)

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees and spray a baking sheet lightly with cooking spray.
2. Warm-up your potatoes and stuffing so that they are easy to handle.
3. In a large bowl, combine potatoes, stuffing and turkey and season with black pepper if you like. (There should already be enough salt in the ingredients)
4. Form into balls, pressing down firmly as you would when making a snowball.
5. Place balls onto the baking sheet and bake for 10-12 minutes.
6. Plate and coat with hot gravy.
7. Dig in!

Notes

No real measurements are needed, simply combine equal parts mashed potatoes and stuffing and then add half the amount of shredded turkey..



Pastor
Sam
Wesley
Heritage
Tour



November Birthdays

11/1 Andrew Moyers

11/6 Andre Ptichkin

11/7 Kimberly Gallagher

Natasha Keiran

11/8 Jan Gorsuch

11/1 Tammy Sulek

11/16 Clara Jones

11/18 William C. Welsh

11/19 Carolyn Kopp

Brian Oslavic

11/20 Stephanie Dougherty,

Marjorie Funk

11/23 Susan Kifer

Alexander Smith

11/24 Daniel Paul

11/27 Leonard Draghi

11/30 Margaret Bennett



Worship 101: Part 2 – The Proclamation

The Proclamation: Hearing God's Word

Every Sunday, after we've gathered in through prayer, music, and greeting one another, worship moves us to the heart of the service: The Proclamation. This is the time when we pause to listen—not just with our ears, but with open hearts—because God still speaks to us today.

The Reading of Scripture

The reading of Scripture is at the center of this moment. When we hear these ancient words, we believe they are not just stories from the past—they are the living Word of God, speaking into our lives right now. Sometimes they comfort us, sometimes they challenge us, but they always invite us to grow.

The Psalm or Responsive Reading

Many services include a Psalm or other responsive reading. This isn't just a tradition—it's a way of letting the whole congregation join their voices in praise and prayer. It connects us with generations of believers who have prayed these same words for centuries.

The Children's Message

When included, the children's message reminds us that the Word of God belongs to all ages. It invites young hearts (and often older ones too!) to hear the Good News in ways they can understand and carry with them.

The Choir Anthem

When the choir sings, they aren't just performing—they're proclaiming God's Word through music. A well-chosen anthem can lift our spirits, speak to our hearts, and deepen the message of the day. Even if we're not singing ourselves, the anthem gives us space to reflect and listen in a different way.

The Sermon

The sermon is a time for the Scripture to be interpreted and applied to daily life. It isn't just a lecture or a speech—it's a conversation between God's Word, the preacher, and the congregation. Through it, we are invited to hear God's call, be shaped as disciples, and imagine what it means to live faithfully in the world.

The Proclamation portion of worship centers us in what matters most: listening. God's Word comes through Scripture, through song, through preaching, and through the Spirit who speaks to each of us in unique ways.

Connect with us!

Website:

www.churchhillumc.com

Facebook: facebook.com/ChurchHillUMC

Worship with us Sundays at 10am!

**Church Hill United
Methodist Church**

189 Churchill-Hubbard Rd.
Youngstown, OH 44505

Livestream available at:

www.youtube.com/@churchhillumc6144



SCAN HERE

Our Team

Sam Mohn, Pastor

Jane Page, Director of
Worship

Carla Jenkins, Pianist

Terri West, Children's
Director

Deanna Slifka, Youth
Director

Joe Seifert, Sound Room
Tech

Charity Washington,
Custodian

Prayer Requests

Lee Elmo, Dora Baker, Ron Baker, Elaine (friend of Gay M.), Nancy Smith, Helen Hess, David Moyers, Eileen Hawkins, Jeff Hawkins, Darlene Capitola, Andre Williams and Dianne, his mother, Jimmy Quinlan, Joette Sondheimer (Viv Seifert's sister), Jane Doughton, Kevin Vara, Carol Smith, Ron Miller (Ken Miller's cousin), Burce MacLellan (Ken Miller's friend), Alma Knupp, Jimmy Weller, DeeAnn (Carla Jenkins' sister), Samuel M, Margie Ryan, John Baksa, Bella, Mike (Nancy Smith's brother), Jerry (Jan Ferry's nephew), Tiffany Orwig, Lori Furlong, Carla Jenkins, Mrs. Pirlozzi (Felicia Brown's mother), Jean Dutko, John (Clara Jones' nephew) Sandy (Terri West's sister), Hope Warner, Natalie D'orzio (friend of the Ahlswede family), Roger Bartlett (Helen Hess's son - in-law), Frank Zedek (Kathy Zedek's son, from Bible study), Ed (Jane Page's Brother-in-law), Bev Clinton. Irene O'Hara, Prayers for teachers and military members and their families

Contact Linda Toepfer at 330-718-2361 for the current prayer list and to request prayers.



NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Pastor Sam will be in South Korea for the entire month of November. His first day back in the office will be Wednesday December 3, 2025.						1 Noon-2pm Soup Drop Off Dining Hall
2 <i>Communion</i> 9:30 Bible Brew 10:00 Worship Soup Sale	3 New Carpet in Youth Hall being installed	4  Election Day	5 4:45-7 KK/YG 7:30 Choir	6 9:30am Pan- try Set Up 10:30 Bible Study 6pm Pantry Set- up 6pm Grief	7 10-Noon Liberty Com- munity Food Pantry	8
9 9:30 Bible Brew 10:00 Worship	10 NAMIMV 6-7:30 Parlor	11  Honoring ALL WHO Served THANK YOU VETERANS	12 4:45-7 KK/YG 7:30 Choir	13 10:30 Bible Study 6pm Grief Share	14 Lobby Carpet Cleaning 8-	15
16 9:30 Bible Brew 10:00 Worship	17	18	19 Thanksgiving Banquet 4:45 -7 KK/YG 7:30 Choir	20 10:30 Bible Study 6pm Grief Share	21	22
23 <i>Christ The King</i> 9:30 Bible Brew 10:00 Worship	24	25	26	27 	28	29
30 <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i> 9:30 Bible Brew 10:00 Worship						

COME, LET'S
SING FOR JOY
TO THE

LORD,

LET'S SHOUT
JOYFULLY TO
THE

ROCK
OF OUR
SALVATION.

PSALM 95:1, NASB



Church Hill United Methodist Church

189 Church Hill Hubbard Road

Youngstown, Ohio 44505