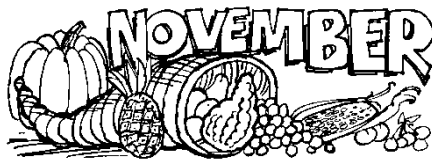


ANNOUNCING



Women's Fellowship: The next meeting is Tuesday, November 15th at 1:00pm

EVERY MONTH SCHEDULE

Sunday School	Sunday	9:45 a.m.
Informal Worship	Sunday	10:45 a.m.
Worship Hour	Sunday	11:00 a.m.
Commissions	3rd Thursday	6:00 p.m.
General Board	3rd Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Singers	Thursday	4:15 p.m.
Friday's Fellowship	1 st and 3 rd Fridays	1:00 p.m.
Women's Fellowship	3rd Tuesday	1:00 p.m.
Food Bank	1st Sunday	9:30 a.m.

The Mirror – November 2022

The Mirror is published once a Month. Information deadline is the 3rd Tuesday of the month.



Empire Church
of the Brethren

P.O. Box 215

Empire, CA 95319

Phone: 209-522-4302

Pastor John Price: (209) 480-2778

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, who abides in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."

For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence; he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.



You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. *Psalm 91:1-6*

IN CHRIST ALONE

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!

My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Ron Cadruvi – Health Issues

Norma Lutes – Knee Issues

Butch Peterson – Strength

COVID – Among Us



GIVING THANKS



Terri Roberts, author of *Forgiven, The Amish School Shooting "The Happening"*, has these words for us on Thanksgiving. She is the mother of the man who took the lives of the Amish school children and experienced the wonderful forgiveness from their parents. "Like forgiveness, a thankful heart is in itself a healing balm to the soul. On any given day we will experience good things and bad things, just as in our lives we experience good seasons and bad. If we choose to be thankful for the good things, it will raise our awareness of things for which to be thankful. If we focus instead on the negative, we will be pulled down into bitterness and darkness.

I have learned that choosing to give thanks is not the natural thing to do, but is the necessary thing, and it releases some of the pain inside us. When life feels too hard, finding something for which to be thankful has lifted my heavy heart and given me strength to move forward. My goal each day is to find at least one specific thing for which to give thanks. Today I awoke and saw sunshine. On a cold winter night, I enjoyed a warm bed. My hopes for Charlie's future have been dashed, but I can offer thanks that my hopes for his family are being fulfilled. Seeing my grandchildren thriving, with two wonderful parents guiding them, gives me so much cause for thanksgiving. Seeing the Amish schoolhouse families move forward and thrive in their lives is a sincere desire fulfilled, and I thank God for them.

As I give thanks, I discover that my reasons for thankfulness far outnumber my reasons for sadness. And that too is a reason for thankfulness."

Terri Roberts



As November approaches, pick up a pumpkin as you are shopping and start a Thanksgiving pumpkin. Using a sharpie, start at the stem and write at least three things you are thankful for every day. As you go through the month, keep on turning the pumpkin and writing your thanksgivings around the pumpkin. Then on Thanksgiving you can either use your Thanksgiving pumpkin as a centerpiece for your Thanksgiving table or cook it and make a pumpkin pie. Either way you can enjoy your Thanksgiving pumpkin and all of the things you are thankful for! Let's all proclaim, To God Be the Glory for the abundant blessings He has given us!

Susan Price

POSITIVE INSIGHTS

“And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou has said: but make me therof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.” I Kings 17:13

One of the greatest human beings I ever knew was an old man who lived in Syracuse, New York. One time I went to him for advice about a problem. And he said, “Well now, son, tell me all about it.” I had no trouble doing that, because my mind was full of it. When I had finished he said, “You know, God has a sense of humor. You know what He does? When He has a wonderful possibility for you, He buries it at the heart of a big difficulty and He hands you this difficulty. So if you know the mind of God you thank him for the difficulty because you know that, with His exquisite sense of humor, He has buried a bright possibility at the heart of that difficulty.”

But how do you find this thing that has been buried in the difficulty?”

“You surround the difficulty with prayer and faith and good hard thinking,” answered Mr. Andrews, “And melt it down. And after a while, in the midst of it, you see this bright, shining thing, this potential good.”

Life Lifter: *In every difficult situation is potential value. Believe this, then begin looking for it. Say aloud, “I don’t believe in defeat,” until the idea dominates your attitudes. You will receive power to handle all your problems.*

Norman Vincent Peale

AN INVITATION

Members and friends of our Brethren churches in California have done volunteer work in disaster areas outside of California. Sometimes the question comes up, “Why don’t we work on projects in our own state?” We now have the opportunity to work on a disaster project in California!!!

The Mennonite denomination has extended an invitation to the Brethren to join with them on rebuilding homes, businesses in Paradise, California. We are limited to sending 15 volunteers. Several people have signed up to participate all ready. The week for service is February 28 to March 4, 2023.

The contact person for more information is Lindy Frantz. His phone number is **1-209-604-6559**. He may be contacted by email also: **lfrantz667@aol.com**.

WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP



Women’s Fellowship is working on blankets this month. If you are able to tie or sew, your help would be welcome. The blankets are donated to **Children’s Crisis Center** for Christmas presents. We meet the third Tuesday of the month at 1:00 (Oct. 18).

Lois Frantz



WHO YOU ARE MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

Author Unknown

A teacher in New York decided to honor each of her seniors in High School by telling them the difference each of them had made. She called each student to the front of the class one at a time. First she told each of them how they had made a difference to her, and the class. Then she presented them with a blue ribbon, imprinted with gold letters, which read, "Who I Am Makes a Difference." Afterwards, the teacher decided to do a class project, to see what kind of impact recognition would have on a community. She gave each student three more blue ribbons, and instructed them to go out and spread this acknowledgement ceremony. Then they were to follow up on the results, see who honored whom, and report to the class in about a week.

One of the boys went to a junior executive in a nearby company, and honored him for helping him with his career planning. He gave him a blue ribbon, and put it on his shirt. Then he gave him two extra ribbons and said, "We're doing a class project on recognition, and we'd like for you to go out, find someone to honor, and give them a blue ribbon."

Later that day, the junior executive went in to see his boss, who had a reputation of being a grouchy fellow. He told them that he deeply admired him for being a creative genius. The boss seemed very surprised. The junior executive took one of the blue ribbons and placed it right on his boss's jacket, above his heart. And then when asked, offering him the last ribbon, "Would you take this extra ribbon, and pass it on by honoring somebody else? The teenager who gave me these is doing a school project, and we want to keep this ribbon ceremony going and see how it affects people."

That night, the boss came home and sat down with his 14-year-old son. He said, "The most incredible thing happened to me today. I was in my office, and one of my employees came in and told me he admired me, and gave me a blue ribbon for being a creative genius. Imagine! He thinks I am a creative genius! Then he put a blue ribbon on me that says, "Who I Am Makes a Difference." He gave me an extra ribbon and asked me to find somebody else to honor. As I was driving home tonight, I started thinking about who I would honor with this ribbon, and I thought about you. I want to honor you. My days are hectic and when I come home, I don't pay a lot of attention to you. I yell at you for not getting good enough grades and for your messy bedroom. Somehow, tonight, I just wanted to sit here and, well, just let you know that you do make a difference to me. Besides your mother, you are the most important person in my life. You're a great kid, and I love you!"

The startled boy started to sob and sob, and he couldn't stop crying. His whole body shook. He looked up at his father and said through his tears, "Dad, earlier tonight I sat in my room and wrote a letter to you and Mom, explaining why I had took my life, and I asked you to forgive me. I was going to commit suicide tonight after you were asleep. I just didn't think you cared at all. The letter is upstairs. I don't think I need it after all."

His father walked upstairs and found a heartfelt letter full of anguish and pain. The boss went back to work a changed man. He was no longer a grouch, but made sure to let all of his employees know that they made a difference. The junior executive helped many other young people with career planning, one being the boss' son, and never forgot to let them know that they made a difference in his life.

In addition, the young man and his classmates learned a valuable lesson: "Who you are DOES make a difference."

Please know that you are very important! Who you are does make a difference and we want you to know that.



GOOD STORY

Author Unknown



After a few of the usual Sunday evening hymns, the church's pastor slowly stood up, walked over to the pulpit and, before he gave his sermon for the evening, briefly introduced a guest minister who was in the service that evening.

In the introduction, the pastor told the congregation that the guest minister was one of his dearest childhood friends and that he wanted him to have a few moments to greet the church and share whatever he felt would be appropriate for the service. With that, an elderly man stepped up to the pulpit and began to speak.

"A father, his son, and a friend of his son were sailing off the Pacific Coast." He began. "When a fast approaching storm blocked any attempt to get back to the shore. The waves were so high, that even though the father was an experienced sailor, he could not keep the boat upright and the three were swept into the ocean as the boat capsized."

The old man hesitated for a moment, making eye contact with two teenagers who were, for the first time since the service began, looking somewhat interested in his story. The aged minister continued with his story. "Grabbing a rescue line, the father had to make the most excruciating decision of his life: to which boy would he throw the other end of the life line. He only had seconds to make the decision. The father knew that his son was a Christian and he also knew that his son's friend was not.

The agony of his decision could not be matched by the torrent of waves.

As the father yelled, 'I love you, son!' he threw out the life line to his son's friend. By the time the father had pulled the friend back to the capsized boat, his son had disappeared beneath the raging swells into the black of night. His body was never recovered.

By this time, the two teenagers were sitting up straight in the pew, anxiously waiting for the next words to come out of the old minister's mouth.

"The father," he continued, "knew his son would step into eternity with Jesus and he could not bear the thought of his son's friend stepping into eternity without Jesus.

Therefore, he sacrificed his son to save the son's friend. How great is the love of God that He should do the same for us. Our Heavenly Father sacrificed His only begotten son that we could be saved. I urge you to accept His offer to rescue you and take a hold of the life line He is throwing out to you in this service."

With that, the old man turned and sat back down in his chair as silence filled the room.

The pastor again walked slowly to the pulpit and delivered a brief sermon with an invitation at the end. However, no one responded to the appeal. Within minutes after the service ended, the two teenagers were at the old man's side.

"That was a nice story," politely stated one of them, "but I don't think it was very realistic for a father to give up his only son's life in hopes that the other boy would become a Christian."

"Well, you've got a point there," the old man replied glancing down at his worn bible. A big smile broadened his narrow face. He once again looked at the boys and said, "It sure isn't very realistic, is it? But I'm standing here today to tell you that story gives me a glimpse of what it must have been like for God to give up His son for me. You see . . . I was that father and your pastor is my son's friend."

ALL CHURCH FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP & SENIOR LUNCH

Each month from November through April, The All-Church First Friday Fellowship will have lunch at the Empire Church of the Brethren. The Fellowship Hall will open at 11:30am, with lunch served at noon, and will remain open for games, puzzles and visiting together until 2:30pm. The suggested donation for the lunch is \$5 per person. In addition to the church family, other seniors (aged 62 and above) are welcome to join us. You are encouraged to invite your friends and neighbors. In January, once we've had a couple of practice runs, we'll discuss other ways we might invite seniors in the community to join us for a good meal and the fellowship of others. Mark your calendars with these dates: Nov. 4, Dec. 2, Jan. 6, Feb. 3, Mar. 3, Apr. 7.

SEPTEMBER 2022 STATISTICS

Average Attendance: 20

Giving:

Local:	\$4,188.00
Sunday School:	0
Youth:	0
Messenger:	0
Mariners:	0
Other:	199.32
Total:	\$4,387.32



DATES TO REMEMBER IN NOVEMBER



ANNIVERSARIES

14th –Jerry & Amy Stokes

08th –Erica Price

10th –Candice Arellano

18th –Clark Hartman

Tim Vaughn

20th –Jerry Goodman

Harold Harger

22nd –Mary Rariden

25th –Uriah Winchester

26th –Geri Masellis

30th –Laura Snyder

BIRTHDAYS

01st –Heather Winchester

02nd –Ken Barklow

Kaitlynn Lutes

03rd –Wendla Dyer

05th –J.J. Storne

If we have missed wishing you a happy birthday or a happy anniversary, we may not have your dates. Please turn in your name and dates to the church secretary. You are important to us!

OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA ADDRESSES:

Website:www.empirecob.org; **Facebook:**www.facebook.com/EmpireCOB;

Twitter:https://twitter.com/empire_cob; and

Instagram:<https://www.instagram.com/empirechurchofthebrethren/>



NOVEMBER 2022 PRAYER CALENDAR



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 Hebrews 12:1-3 Sarah Adams Gerald Allinson Alex & Cathy Arellano	2 Genesis 12:1-4 Candice Arellano Molly Arellano Donna Ayres Elaine Azevedo	3 Matthew 18:21-35 Ben & Jen Baker Ken Barklow Don & Pat Benton Wanda Bollinger	4 Psalm 18:1-6 Pauline Bert Michael Best Earleen Cadruvi & Fam. Ron Cadruvi & Fam.	5 1 Kings 19:1-9 Phyllis Caudle Linda Carter & Ivy Ashley Cooksey & Fam. Naomi Covey
6 Philippians 1:4-11 Pastor & Teachers Arlene Cupp Charlotte DeHart Chuck & Wendla Dyer & Family	7 Matthew 25:1-13 Jim & Sue Eikenberry Zac Fear Pam Franklin & Cherith Franklin	8 Romans 8:35-39 Kerby & Heather Frantz Lyndall & Lois Frantz Lloyd Fullmer Jerry Goodman	9 Proverbs 4:20-23 Thomas & Patricia Guthrie Harold Harger Clark Hartman Jack & Rosetta Hartsfield	10 Matthew 25:31-40 Ryan & Kelly Heiny & Fam. David & Evelyn Hurlbut Kevin & Deborah Hurlbut & Family	11 Exodus 1:22; 2:1-10 Jay Irizarry Randy & Teri Johnson & Family Sheryle Knott & Fam.	12 Lamentations 3:21-24 Mary Lou Lee David & Cheryl Leib JoAnn Lusk Norma Lutes
13 Jeremiah 17:7-8 Pastor & Teachers Gerri Masellis Ric Mason Stacy Nelson Suzanne Neptune	14 John 3:16-18 Kelly Olsson Clifford Parker Brad Parrish & Family	15 Romans 5:1-6 Tommie Parrish Daymon & Sarah Peterson & Family	16 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 Dennis Peterson Oscar Phan Jason & Kirsten Piazza & Family	17 Luke 15:1-7 Skip & Kathleen Powell Jeff Price Jeremy & Erica Price & Fam.	18 Matthew 17:14-20 Joel & Susan Price & Family John Price Nathan & Kim Price & Family	19 Ephesians 2:1-10 Kay Qualls Mike & Laura Radcliffe & Family Mary Rariden Charlotte Rice & Fam.
20 Psalm 42:1-11 Pastor & Teachers Lana Royer Keith Shafer Vance & Maria Shafer	21 Psalm 19:1-9 Vern & Patty Shafer Troy & Joy Slaybaugh & Fam. Marilyn Snider	22 Mark 4:30-34 Tony & Laura Snyder & Family Gayle Stanfill Glenn Stanford	23 Psalm 142:1-7 J.J. & Soleena Storne & Family Veronica Suderman & Family	24 Psalm 107:1-9 Arthur Syverson Mark & Amber Syverson & Family Mike Syverson	25 Philippians 4:10-13 Natasha Towe Carolyn Trent John & Sue Vacca	26 Hebrews 10:19-25 Tim & Catherine Vaughn & Family Linda Ward & Fam.
27 Psalm 143:7-10 Pastor & Teachers Roger & Cynthia Welch & Family Josh & Heather Winchester & Fam.	28 John 15:1-8 Derek Wyatt Don & Susan Wyatt Donny & Erica Wyatt	29 Matthew 13:3-23	30 John 6:47-59			



PRAYER
















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NOVEMBER 2022 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR



	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	2  8:00 am Government Commodities Distribution	3  4:15pmFellowship Singers	4 FIRST FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP & SENIOR LUNCH 11:30am-2:30pm at the Church	5 HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP 9:00am-2:00pm
6  Daylight Savings Begins 2:00am (Set clock back one hour)	7	8  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	9	10  4:15pmFellowship Singers	11	12
13  Coffee Hour	14	15  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon 1:00pmWomen's Fellowship Mtg.	16	17  4:15pmFellowship Singers 6:00pmBoard Meeting	18 1:00pm Friday's Fellowship Sizzler 3101 Hotel Drive Turlock	19
20  All Church Thanksgiving Dinner	21	22  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	23	24  Thanksgiving Day Church Office Will Be Closed	25  Shed Work Day 9:00am-12:00pm	26
27  Sunday Luncheon	28	29  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	30			

EVERY SUNDAY

9:45am Sunday School

10:45am Informal Worship

11:00am Worship Hour