

## FROM PASTOR'S DESK

### “Be thankful”

I read a story about a faithful dog. Who walks into a butcher's store carrying a purse in his mouth. He puts the purse down & sits in front of the meat case. “What is it ,boy”? the butcher jokingly asks “want to buy some meat?” “Woof” barks the dog. “what kind?” Liver, bacon, steak ...”woof” interrupts the dog. “And how much steak?” Half a pound, one pound... “woof”. The amazed butcher wraps up the meat and finds the money in the dog's purse.

As the dog leaves he decides to follow. The dog enters an apartment complex, climbs to the third floor and begins scratching at a door. The door swings open and an angry man starts shouting at the dog. “Stop” yells the butcher. He is the most intelligent animal I have ever seen”. “Intelligent?” says the man, this is the third time this week he has forgotten the key.

Was the man thankful?

How often, we focus on negatives rather than the positive aspects of our lives. It is possible to get all the way through thanksgiving season without ever stopping to be thankful to God for God's goodness in

**November, 2022**

our lives. Sometimes we may even focus on what we do not have rather than on the abundant blessings that God has poured upon us. We cannot count God's blessings. Can we?

Another important point of thanks giving is that showing gratitude to God by expressing our thankfulness to people by helping them in their needs. Matthew 25:40 says, “In as much as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me”. Let us focus on ways to express our gratitude to God through Thanks Living. St Paul exhorts us in 1Thessalonians 5:16-18, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you”.

Wishing you and your family a blessed thanksgiving. Let us be thankful.

Grace & peace,  
Pastor Saroj Sangha.

## **THANKSGIVING BLESSINGS AND THE SACRIFICE OF PRAISE**

### **Deuteronomy 26: 1-2**

“And it shall be, when you come into the land which the Lord your God is giving you *as* an inheritance, and you possess it and dwell in it, that you shall take some of the first of all the produce of the ground, which you shall bring from your land that the Lord your God is giving you, and put *it* in a basket and go to the place where the Lord your God chooses to make His name abide.

The month of November brings us many important biblical events on the calendar. It is an important month for those of us living here in the United States as well across the world. Churches set a day in the month of November to give praises and thanks to our creator.

In the Old Testament the first Thanksgiving had taken place in the promised land. It was Israel's national Thanksgiving Day, and its purpose is stated for us in Deuteronomy 26:1-19. When the people entered the Promised Land, they were to bring the first fruits of the land to God, and give thanks to Him for all His blessings. From this first Thanksgiving we learn great lessons for our Thanksgiving Day celebrations in the United States as well as in other parts of the world.

Ninetieth Psalm shows the range of Moses' poetic powers. He was a man of God, knows the frailty and shortness of life of a man. He chooses to suffer affliction with the people of God than to be called the Son of Pharaoh's daughter. The people of Israel began to live in the land which was supported by its produce. He taught them to offer sacrifice of praise and worship and

commanded the people of Israel to offer the first fruits of their labor so that it would mark the beginning of new life. This new life had been anticipated on the basis of the covenant of the promise of God. They purchased nothing and they owed everything to God and taught them it was the act of God's sovereign grace. By Faith he earnestly pleads with God for the life of the people of Israel.

Exodus 15:1-21 Moses, Miriam and the people of Israel sang thanksgiving and praises saying, “I will sing unto the Lord”. So like Moses, David in Psalm 65 sings the glory of God's grace and providence in fields of nature and it tells us that God's love encircles us all the year with a crown, each month has its gems, each day its pearls. With His unceasing kindness He girdles us all the time with a belt of His love. Our great God will visit us in life to the most lonely and solitary souls and answer our prayers and to perform wonders.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving let us remember America's Founders and Presidents: Let us offer Prayers as we mark the Two-year mark of the Coronavirus Pandemic; for the people affected by the Natural Disasters. Gun violence has become a daily tragedy affecting the lives of individuals and families; Prayer for Peace; A Prayer for the Departed; A Prayer of Healing and helping others who are in need. A prayer of Gratitude and Thanksgiving to our Lord of Almighty for walking with us through the season of our lives and filling us with new Promises and Life.

By Suneethy Durgam



## Memorial First India United Methodist Church's



# Come One! Come All!

When: Saturday, November 19th, 2022

Time: 1 p.m.—6 p.m.

Where: 9226 Colesville Rd,  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Fellowship Hall (Lower Level)

Enjoy delicious Hyderabad Biryani, Dosas, Indian Desserts, Delicacies, Baked goods, Crafts & much more.













Dosa with sambar and chutney

Doughnuts - Indian Style



HAPPY  
*Thanksgiving*

# November 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b>  Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>2</b>  <b>7.00 pm</b> <b>Bible Study &amp; Prayer</b> Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>3</b>  Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>4</b> 	<b>5</b>  <b>Turn Back Your Clock 1 Hour</b>
<b>6</b>  <b>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</b> <b>22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after</b> <b>PENTECOST</b> 10:30 In person and online Worship Service  Holy Communion <b>Cantata Practice</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>9</b>  <b>7.00 pm</b> <b>Bible Study &amp; Prayer</b> Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>10</b>  Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>11</b>  Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>12</b>  <b>AD Council Meeting 10:00-12:00</b>
<b>13</b>  <b>PLEDGE SUNDAY</b>  <b>23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after</b> <b>PENTECOST</b> 10:30 In person and online Worship Service <b>Cantata Practice</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>16</b>  <b>7.00 pm</b> <b>Bible Study &amp; Prayer</b> Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>17</b>  Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>18</b>  Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>19</b>  <b>HARVEST SALE 1pm –6pm Fellowship HALL</b>
<b>20</b>  <b>THANKSGIVING SUNDAY</b> <b>24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after</b> <b>PENTECOST</b> 10:30 In person and online Worship Service Holy Communion Cantata Practice	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>23</b>  <b>7.00 pm</b> <b>Bible Study &amp; Prayer</b> Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>24</b>  <b>HAPPY THANKSGIVING</b> 	<b>25</b>  Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>26</b> 
<b>27</b>  <b>FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT</b> <b>25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after</b> <b>PENTECOST</b> 10:30 In person and online Worship Service <b>CANTATA REHEARSAL</b>	<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b>  Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	<b>30</b>  <b>7.00 pm</b> <b>Bible Study &amp; Prayer</b> Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm			