

Volume 29 Issue 11

November 2025



**OUR MISSION: Impacting The Kingdom Of
God One Person At A Time**

USBC NEWS

Pastor: Dr. Dennis Felder

GRAVY GRATITUDE AND GRACE



Thanksgiving is that special time of year when we gather around the table with loved ones, give thanks for our blessings, and awkwardly pretend we like cranberry sauce. For Christians, though, it's more than just turkey and football — it's a reminder that gratitude is not just seasonal, it's spiritual.

Sure, there's the chaos of cooking, the annual debate over who gets the turkey leg, and the mystery of how one family can produce seven different types of pie. But underneath the stuffing and sweet potatoes lies a deeper truth: Thanksgiving is a chance to pause and recognize God's faithfulness in our lives — even if the mashed potatoes are lumpy.

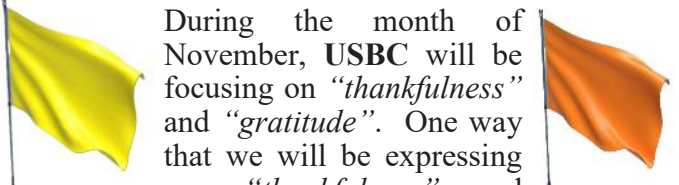
Christians know that giving thanks isn't just a once-a-year event. Scripture is filled with reminders to live with a heart of gratitude. Paul told the Thessalonians to "*give thanks in all circumstances*," which is easy to say until you're stuck in traffic with a thawing turkey in the backseat and a pie that slid off the passenger seat. Still, we try.

Thanksgiving is a time to remember that everything we have — from the roof over our heads to the rolls on the table — is a gift from God. It's a time to reflect on His provision, His grace, and yes, even His sense of humor, which is clearly on display when Uncle Bob tries to deep-fry a turkey in the driveway. It's also a time for family, even the ones who show up three hours late and bring a "creative" version of a green bean casserole.

But through the burnt rolls, the overcooked bird, and the inevitable political debate that somehow breaks out over dessert, Thanksgiving remains a beautiful opportunity to gather, laugh, and give thanks to the One who makes it all possible.

So, this Thanksgiving, as you sit around the table and try to remember what you're thankful for (besides stretchy pants), take a moment to thank God for His goodness and His love. Because in the end, Thanksgiving isn't just about the food — it's about our faith and trust in God.

THANKSGIVING FLAGS



During the month of November, USBC will be focusing on “thankfulness” and “gratitude”. One way that we will be expressing our “thankfulness” and “gratitude” is with **Thanksgiving Flags**. Starting on Sunday, November 2nd, orange and yellow flags will be placed in the church foyer. The purpose of the flags is to give you an opportunity to express your “thankfulness” to someone or for something by writing your message on the flags. Once you write your message on the flag, you can place it in the designated arrangement. Later, we will dedicate these blessings of thanksgiving to the Lord.

THANKSGIVING GATHERING



On Tuesday, November 25th at 6:30 p.m., USBC will be having a special **Thanksgiving Gathering**. We will gather around the table and share our thankfulness in an enjoyable and creative way. The **Thanksgiving Gathering** is for young and old alike to come together and celebrate the Thanksgiving season.

CHURCH DECORATING



It is that special time of year again – **CHRISTMAS!** As we prepare for the all the Christmas activities at the church, we will be decorating our church building for this festive season. On Saturday, November 29th at 10 a.m., we need your help in putting up our Christmas decorations. If you can help with our Christmas decorating, please sign up in the foyer.



On behalf of my family and myself, I want to express a big **THANK YOU** to my wonderful and caring church family. The cards, the gifts, and the encouraging words were heartfelt and uplifting as you expressed your appreciation during **Pastor Appreciation Month**. It is a joy being your Pastor.

Ministry Teams

The following **Ministry Teams** will be meeting in the month of November for about 15 minutes following the 11 a.m. worship services.

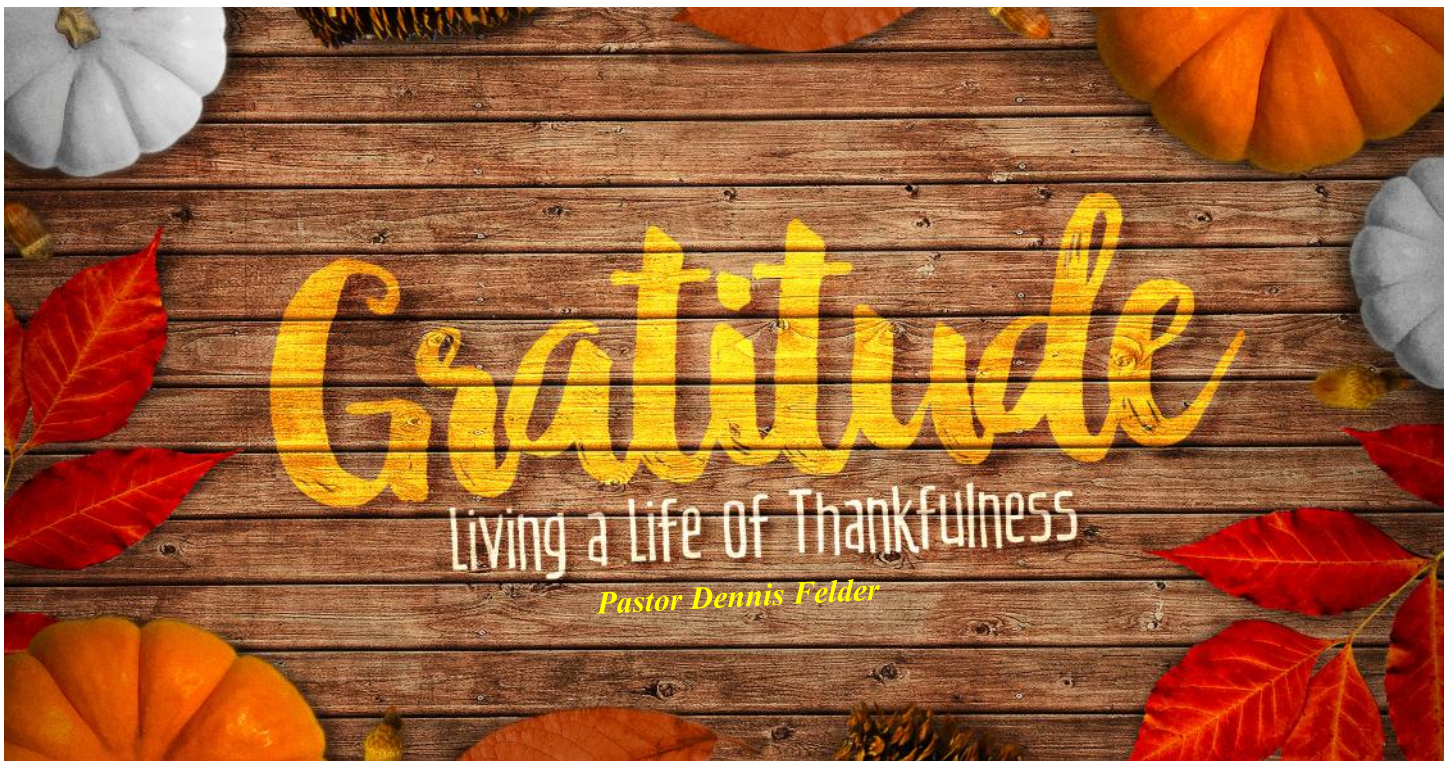
Young Adult Ministry Team – Nov. 2nd

Security Ministry Team – Nov. 9th

AV and Website Ministry Team – Nov. 16th



Operation Christmas Child delivers great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes. Each box packed full of quality toys, school supplies, and personal care items becomes a tangible expression of God’s immense love for the child. For many, it is their first gift ever! Delivered by our local church partners, shoebox gifts provide an opportunity to present the Gospel to boys and girls in a clear, child-friendly way. All packed shoeboxes must be returned to the church no later than Sunday, November 23rd. At the conclusion of our worship service on November 23rd, we will finish packing all shoeboxes that still need to be completed.



Starting on November 2nd, I will be sharing a 5-part sermon series entitled, “*Gratitude – Living a Life of Thankfulness*”.

Gratitude is a fundamental ingredient to a deep and meaningful life. To grumble and complain is to reject the grace of God. What if we focused on the things that unite us as much as the things that divide us? Imagine your life, your relationships, your home, your mental health ... if you choose gratitude.

This sermon series will affirm that gratitude is living a life of thankfulness.

Nov. 2nd

Sermon Title: “*Fundamental Gratitude*”

Scripture: Genesis 8:15-20, Exodus 12:24-27

Synopsis: Gratitude is a fundamental ingredient to a deep and meaningful life.

Nov. 9th

Sermon Title: “*Gratitude’s Nemesis: The Grumble*”

Scripture: Exodus 16, Numbers 11, James 1

Synopsis: Grumbling and complaining undermine the grace of God and poison the heart.

Nov. 16th

Sermon Title: “*What Unites Us*”

Scripture: Acts 2:44-47, Romans 3:20-24

Synopsis: There is so much that divides us – but gratitude can unite us.

Nov. 23rd

Sermon Title: “*Fullness of Life*”

Scripture: Luke 17:11-19, Romans 1:20-32

Synopsis: Gratitude is an essential ingredient on the journey to fullness of life, to the abundant life promised in Christ.

Nov. 30th

Sermon Title: “*Don’t Serve God Your Leftovers*”

Scripture: Deuteronomy 26:1-10

Synopsis: Although we may enjoy leftovers, it is very obvious that God does not. I am not talking about food, but rather our time, our resources, and our life that we are called to give to God. Our Lord and Savior does not want our seconds, but our firsts.

USBC NEWS

Upper Seneca Baptist Church

23401 Davis Mill Rd.

Germantown, MD 20876



Next Newsletter Deadline

November 16, 2025

God's Plan Of Salvation

Trust Jesus Christ today! Here's what you must do:

1. Admit you are a sinner.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" (Romans 3:23)

2. Be willing to turn from sin (repent).

Jesus said: "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:5)

3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you, was buried, and rose from the dead.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

4. Through prayer, invite Jesus into your life to become your personal Savior.

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13)

What to pray:

Dear God, I am a sinner and need forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ shed His **precious blood** and died for my sin. I am willing to turn from sin. I now invite Christ to come into my heart and life as my personal Savior.

Weather Policy

If the church cancels or postpones any service or activity due to inclement weather or wintery conditions, a cancellation notice will appear on the church's Facebook page, church's website, through church email, and on the church's voice recorder. To access the church's voice recorder, please dial (301) 972-3686. The church will only post a cancellation message if a service or activity is canceled or postponed.

Also, if you have something to be included in the newsletter, an announcement, an article, a birthday, we are always looking for information and new ideas!

Church Office: 301-972-3686

E-mail: Church@USBChurch.org

Web Site: www.USBChurch.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/usbchurch/



I love a good **Christmas Party** and USBC will be having such a celebration. We invite all to attend the church's **Christmas Party** on Saturday, December 13, 2025 at 4 p.m. This festive celebration will take place at the Golden Corral (5621 Spectrum Drive, Frederick, MD 21703). During our time together we will have some fun activities and prizes.

Everyone is invited and if you are planning to attend the **Christmas Party** at the Golden Corral, please sign-up in the foyer. The cost is \$17.99, plus the cost of a drink. Children's cost will be based upon their age, it will range from \$8.99 to \$9.99. Each one will be responsible for the purchase of their meal and tip.



On Sunday, November 9th, I ask that you prepare your heart as we celebrate **communion** during our Sunday morning worship service. Let this be a

special time of self-reflection and change as you recall the great sacrifice that Christ made for you. He gave His all so that you could experience the true meaning of life.



USBC has opened its doors for the start of the **Agape Childcare and Preschool**. The daycare center is under the direction and

proprietorship of Ruth D'Monte (one of our faithful church members). If you would like more information about the daycare center or about enrolling your children, please see Ruth.

ACTIVITIES CANCELED

The following activities will be canceled in November.

After the Sermon Bible Study (Nov. 25th)

Prayer Meeting (Nov. 25th)

Thursday Night Women's Bible Study (Nov. 27th)

Church Office Closed (Nov. 27th – Nov. 30th)

Dive Deeper Bible Study (Nov. 30th)



Anna Schultze came forward during our Anniversary Service and made a decision for Christ. We as a church family are exceedingly excited to rejoice with Anna as she invited Jesus into her heart.

Attention all members! Please join us in welcoming our newest members to our church family, **Carlos and Yve Navarrete**. Carlos and Yve have been part of our USBC family for some time. However, on Oct. 19th, Carlos and Yve officially joined our church. Welcome them with open arms if you have not yet done so.



If you enjoy sleep, then Sunday, November 2nd is a day made especially for you. November 2nd at 2 a.m. is when **Daylight Savings Time** ends. So, don't forget to set your

clock back by one hour on Saturday night so that you can be at church on time.



The **Forever Young Luncheon** will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 11th at 12:30 p.m. We will be meeting at the **Golden Corral** in Frederick, MD. Remember, anyone is welcome.



PART-TIME ASSOCIATE PASTOR/OUTREACH MINISTER



Upper Seneca Baptist Church is seeking a dedicated and spiritually driven individual to serve as a **Part-Time Associate Pastor/Outreach Minister**. This role is ideal for someone who is passionate about sharing the Gospel, building community relationships, and supporting the spiritual growth of our congregation.

Responsibilities include:

- Assisting the Senior Pastor with preaching, teaching, and pastoral care duties
- Leading and coordinating outreach ministries and evangelism efforts

- Developing new initiatives to engage the local community and grow the church's presence
- Facilitating small groups, Bible studies, and service projects
- Supporting worship services and church events as needed

Qualifications:

- A mature and growing relationship with Jesus Christ
- Experience in pastoral ministry, outreach, or a related field
- Strong communication, leadership, and organizational skills
- A heart for community engagement and building relationships
- Formal theological education or ministry training is preferred

Hours and Compensation:

This is a part-time position, approximately 15-20 hours per week. Compensation will be commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Application Process:

Interested candidates should submit a resume, a brief statement of faith, and references to our church office via email at Church@usbchurch.org or by mail to Upper Seneca Baptist Church, 23401 Davis Mill Road, Germantown, MD 20876.

We are prayerfully seeking the right person to join our ministry team and help fulfill our mission of making disciples and reaching our community with the love of Christ. Applications will be reviewed as received. We look forward to hearing from you.



Judith Namme
B co, 2-13th IN REGT
4380 Century Division Ave
Fort Jackson, SC 29208-6809



Brian & Kate Alman
543 Terra Springs Circle
Volo, IL 60020



HARVEST FESTIVAL

By Pastor Dennis Felder

On Saturday, October 11th, USBC hosted our annual *Harvest Festival* at the church. It was great success and a lot of fun. Enjoy the pictures.



From October 26th to November 16th, USBC will be having a *Thanksgiving Food Drive* to help families in need during the Thanksgiving season. Please make certain that the non-perishable food you donate has not expired. A list of items needed are on the table in the back of the sanctuary. These items can be dropped off in the church's foyer and will be distributed at a later date.

USBC 220th CELEBRATION

On October 19, 2025, **Upper Seneca Baptist Church** celebrated its **220th anniversary**. The entire service, from start to finish, was a joyous occasion worshipping our Lord and Savior for the many blessings. The old-time hymns were powerful and uplifting as were seeing people dressed in period clothing to reflect upon the many years the church has spanned. To top it all off, the celebration concluded with a wonderful lunch with plenty of food and good-old conversations. Oh yeah, let's not forget to thank President George Washington for showing up and congratulating **USBC** on 220 years of faithful service.

Below is a collection of pictures so that you can reflect upon the church's history and this special day of celebration. If you would like to watch this Anniversary Service, you can find it on the church's website under the heading, "*Sermons – Video*".

