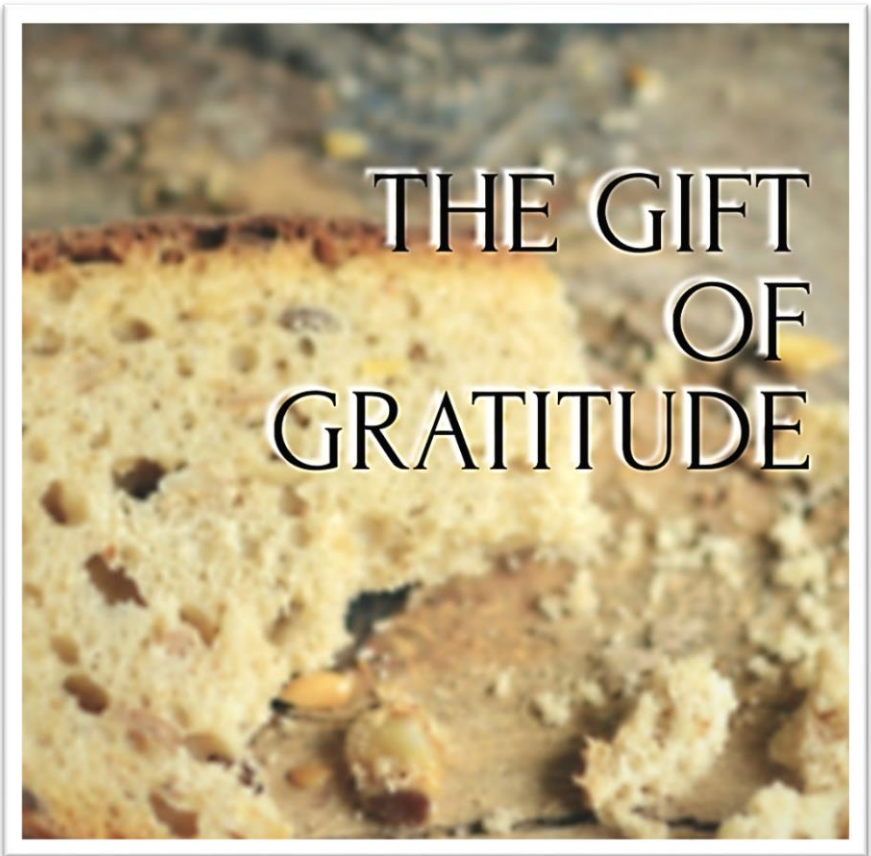




# *"The Gift of Gratitude"*

Pastor Roger



18 November 2018

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**Good Morning and Welcome!** You had lots of choices this Sunday, and we are so glad that you are here with us! We want to connect with you at your speed and in your way. Please take a moment to complete a Connect Card from the seatback in front of you, and bring it by the info center to receive a special gift.



**About Us** ~ We follow Jesus Christ, believing that he not only provided a way for us to have peace with God, but gave us an example of how we should live. Our doors and arms are open humbly and joyfully to anyone who wants to learn with us how to follow Jesus Christ as Lord. As we say, "Grace happens here."

**Kids & Babies** ~ During our Modern Worship service, our nursery is fully staffed to care for children from birth through 3 years old, while kids in pre-k through grade 5 are encouraged to join **Little Eden Kids Church** for a special worship time of their own. Parents can register children in the **Kids Courtyard** beginning at 10:30am. Pickup is immediately after the service.

**Courtyard Café** ~ offers coffee, tea, hot chocolate, juice, and water from 8:30 –11:15 am each Sunday. Please stop by and enjoy a cup o' joe and catch up with friends. Refreshments & hugs are always free.



***Did you know on this day in history, 18 November 1928...***

The first successful sound-synchronized animated cartoon premiered in New York. It was Walt Disney's "Steamboat Willie," starring Mickey Mouse. OH-BOY!!

## **This Week @ Sarasota Community Church**

### **Sunday, November 18**

9:00am – Traditional Worship Service

10:05–10:45am – The Jesus Study– Room 6

10:05–10:50am – Bible Class en Español – Mod 18

Faith Issues – Mod 17

Practical Living – Green Room

United – Room 9

*Remembering the Forgotten God* Book Study – Mod 1

10:30am - Kids Church -Room 11 off Kid's Courtyard

10:30am - Nursery - Room 8 off Kid's Courtyard

11:00am – Modern Worship Service

3:00pm – 5:00 pm Jenn Shenk Baby Shower – Green Room

4:00pm – 6:00 pm GriefShare – Mod 17

6:00pm - High School Community Group

### **Monday, November 19**

5:00pm-6:30pm Overseers Mtg – Green Room

6:30-7:30pm Coffee with Leaders – Green Room

### **Tuesday, November 20**

6:30am – Men’s Faith & Life Group – Der Dutchman

6:30pm – 7:30pm – Open Prayer Time – Green Room

7:00pm – The Gathering

### **Wednesday, November 21**

8am – Men’s Breakfast – Der Dutchman

### **Thursday, November 22**

6:30pm – Worship Team Practice – Auditorium

*We are here for you....*

If you or your family are in need of pastoral care or visitation please be in touch with Shirley Good, Pastoral Care Minister at 941.254.1653 or 361.739.232



### **From the Pastor's desk...**

Whenever a person receives a gift, it's natural to show gratitude. But when the gifts flow freely everyday it's just as natural to forget to show that gratitude. It's just human nature. We live with so many blessings from God. It's easy to forget to say thanks. But we can choose to build gratitude into our lives in three very practical ways, which we're talking about in this series, "The Gift of Gratitude." One of those areas is financial.

Some churches and ministries promise that if you give them your money, God will make you rich. We don't say that at Sarasota Community Church. In fact, some of us live sacrificially in order to support the things God cares about, and we believe that by doing so we are storing up treasure in heaven. This is a joy to us. We give not to get rich, but to be rich -- in good deeds. And we believe God will continue to take care of us, giving us wisdom to be good stewards of what we receive.

Most people feel an emotional reward when they are generous. There are many good causes to support in this world. I believe every Christian should have a good local church at the top of their list. Here at Sarasota Community Church we take up weekly offerings, and many of us give a percentage of our weekly income to it. But we also collect two special "Generosity Offerings" every year as a way of giving special thanks to God with an offering over and above that weekly gift.

Our fall **Generosity Offering** will be collected next week, on November 25th. Ask God what he'd like you to give, and be open to whatever you sense him telling you in your heart. Then give it joyfully because you have decided to give it willingly. We will collect it as a gift of gratitude, while we also take communion together.

**~Pastor Roger**

**"The Gift of Gratitude"**

Pastor Roger

*(a little room for big ideas...)*



A series of horizontal lines for writing, consisting of 18 lines spaced evenly down the page.

***You can stop by the Info Center & order a DVD or CD for \$3***



(The only way to get to know someone intimately is to spend time with them)

## **FOR FURTHER STUDY**

The stories we tell about our problems are often the problem. There is so much power in the stories we tell. Some insist that our words have creative power. Others say positive thinking can change the course of your life. Haven't we all heard that you can think and imagine your way to a great life?

There's some truth to that, but only if it's submitted to Jesus, the creator, redeemer, and sustainer of all things. Only God has the power to create something from nothing.

But your attitude about what comes your way can turn "something" into something else, either better or worse. So, in that sense, your words do have creative power. And the stories you tell can give power to good and bad in your life. Your words can create order or disorder. They can foster good will or ill will. They can speak faith or doubt, blessing or cursing, peace or violence, yes or no. And yet, most of us spend hardly any time thinking about the words coming out of our hearts.

Would you do that this week?

## FOR FURTHER STUDY (Cont..)

Listen to three kinds of stories: What you tell yourself, what you tell others, and what you tell God (yes, your prayers). Ask yourself: Am I giving praise to God? Am I considering the bigger picture? Am I acknowledging the difficulties? Am I declaring hope in God's deliverance? Am I anticipating a reason for celebration?

While those five questions won't show up overtly, in scripture it does give us good examples of the principle of choosing gratitude in the stories we tell. As you read the following four stories, asking those five questions:

- Psalm 71:1-24
- Acts 20:17-38
- 1 Thessalonians 2:1-3:13
- 1 Peter 1:1-2:3

Then, in prayer, write down the things you're talking about most these days. When someone asks how your week was, how do you answer? Or if they ask how you're doing, what do you say? What stories dominate your prayers, or keep you up at night? Those are the stories flowing through your being right now. Are they filled with gratitude or grumbling? Dare to ask the questions and make the adjustments you need to. To choose a new way of telling the story doesn't make it fake. To the contrary, the choice to honor God in your stories makes your faith all the more genuine!

So, receive the gifts that God is putting in front of you. Give praise to him, consider the bigger picture, acknowledge the difficulties, declare your hope in his deliverance, and then anticipate reason to celebrate. If you adjust your stories to include these elements as a way of honoring God, it would help to redeem even the worst that life throws at you. Every story can begin and end with "Hallelujah." Amen.





# Living Generously

➤ **Giving at SCC** There are three convenient & safe ways to give at SCC

TEXT TO GIVE	GIVE ONLINE	IN SERVICE
Any amount to	Click "Give" @	Leave your gift in
941.877.5090	<a href="http://www.sarasotacommunitychurch.org">www.sarasotacommunitychurch.org</a>	baskets

➤ **Change for a Dollar** isn't where we help our own, or where we support missions programs. This is where we bring a one-time tangible gift of help and hope to people who are "one arm's length away" from us. And the cost? Just **ONE DOLLAR**. Who has God brought to your attention?

## ➤ Last Week

Attendance.....350  
 Offerings & Contributions.....\$10,183  
 Hurricane Michael Relief.....\$2150  
 Change for a Dollar      \$248/ \$12,980 YTD / \$123,959 Since 12.14.2011

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# Prayers



➤ **UPDATE ON BERNIE** ~ He got his voice back and is so happy to be talking. He got to eat and chose a hamburger and rootbeer with ice. He has received amazing care from his RNs, please keep your prayers coming.

➤ **PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR** ~ Paul Bobbette, Doug Carlson, Bernie Christner, Cydrus Family, Roy Davidson, Jenna Detweiler, Ann Eichelberger, Billy Gentilman, Jan Graber, Nelson Graber, Bryan Gray, Marilyn Guenther, Verda Hershberger, Betty Kauffman, Ada Kennedy, Peggy Kilmer, Glenn King, Debra Kuykendall, Maggie Latham, Lorraine Maust, Dan Miller, Dorothy J. Miller, Roman Miller, Victoria Nussbaum, Shannon Osborn, Queena Phu, the people of Puerto Rico, Emma Rauschenberger, Rhonda Royer, Barbara Schlegel, Jake & Leah Schwartz, John Schwartz, Milton & Carol Yoder.

➤ **REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS** ~ who are part of our congregation but cannot worship with us on an ongoing basis because of health issues. This includes: Betty Beachy, Leo Cummings, Helen Cydrus, Dave Gerber, Ed Helmuth, Sandra Jamieson, Vi Kauffman, Emma Mullet, Atlee Schlabach, Del Serrano, and Dave & Catherine Schrock.

➤ **SHOW GRATITUDE** ☺ Thanksgiving for God's faithfulness in loving us in His most loving merciful way! Grateful that Pastor Roger and Wendy were able to be in Oregon to meet and love on their grandson, Titus Miller Shenk, son of Josiah and Anna Shenk. Who are you grateful for?



### ➤ **JENN SHENK~ BABY SHOWER**

Everyone is welcome to a Baby Shower Open House for Jenn Shenk on Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup> @ 3:00 - 5pm in the Green Room. She is registered at Target and Amazon. Please come and shower some love to Jenn.

### ➤ **GRIEFSHARE Surviving the Holidays ~ Sunday, Nov 18<sup>th</sup> @ 4pm - 6pm**

Are you wondering how you will survive the holidays? GriefShare is a coping seminar especially for people who are grieving a loved one's death. Please join us in mod-17 at SCC and RSVP @ [www.Griefshare.org](http://www.Griefshare.org) or call Shirley 941-254-1653.



### ➤ **DITCHFIELD FAMILY SINGERS ~ Saturday, Dec. 8th @ 2:00 p.m**

Christmas is coming! We will again travel to the Sarasota Opera House to enjoy the Ditchfield Family Singers. Bus transportation will be provided from SCC, with the bus departure at 1:00 p.m. After the concert we will return and enjoy an evening dinner together at the Der Dutchman Restaurant. Please sign up at the Info Center today because we have limited tickets. The total cost is \$60.00 p.p. All seats are on the ground floor.

### ➤ **DORCAS CIRCLE DONATIONS**

Can you please help Dorcas Circle Ministry? They need hand towels, finger nail clippers, 4 ounce bars of hand soap etc. They could also use school supplies and 70 page spiral notebooks to make school kits. Picking up a few items at the Dollar Store would mean so much in helping this ministry provide supplies around the world. You can bring them in Sunday and place them in the collection bin by the Info Center. Call Marlene Beachy at 941.371.1092 for more info.

### ➤ **EVERENCE FINANCIAL CONFERENCES ~ Call today to RSVP!**

The workshops will be held at Der Dutchman Restaurant in the Conference Rm. RSVP by Nov 30<sup>th</sup> (941) 953-6655 or [ina.hostetler@everence.com](mailto:ina.hostetler@everence.com).

#### **Tuesday, Dec 4<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm**

**Social Security:** Conference will cover the best time to start taking Social Security; converting your retirement *savings* into retirement *income*; and strategies to help your income last throughout retirement.

#### **Wednesday, Dec 5<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00**

#### **Maximize your charitable giving:**

Conference will give you tools to maximize your giving to church; charity and family; strategies to minimize your tax bite; how planning *now* can keep you in control of who gets what; plus estate planning and end-of-life decisions.

➤ **6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT ~ Sunday, Dec 9<sup>th</sup> 12:00-5:00pm** Hey parents! You won't want to miss this unbelievable all-in-one day Christmas Pageant! Why go to weeks of rehearsals when you can drop off your kids and have the afternoon free to shop? Then come back and enjoy an AWESOME Christmas Pageant all in one day?! There will be hot cocoa and treats after the show so make a plan to join us! Registration is required, you can grab a form at the Info Center or online at SCC.org

➤ **SUNNYSIDE CAROLING Wed December 12<sup>th</sup> @ 6:15** Come join us caroling! This is open to all ages so bring your kids! We meet at the chapel entrance at 6:15 and walk around singing holiday songs. A trolley will be provided for those who need assistance. Hot cocoa and refreshments will be served on the SCC Veranda after caroling about 8:15.



## **FORGIVEN MUCH**

*“Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, “Look at this woman kneeling here. When I entered your home, you didn’t offer me water to wash the dust from my feet, but she has washed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You didn’t greet me with a kiss, but from the time I first came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet. You neglected the courtesy of olive oil to anoint my head, but she has anointed my feet with rare perfume. I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love.”*

**Luke 7:44-47**

## Staff/Volunteers

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### **Seniors' Minister**

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### **Creative Director**

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### **Facilities Director & Executive Asst.**

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### **Administrative Assistant**

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### **Prayer Team Leaders**

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Gilberto & Elizabeth Perez  
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### **Church Office Hours**

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Tue, Wed & Thu | 9a-3p or by appointment

## Save the Date

### **November 2018**

18 Jenn Shenk Baby Shower  
18 GriefShare ~ Surviving the Holidays  
19 Overseers Meeting  
19 Coffee with the Leaders  
22 Happy Thanksgiving!  
22 Office Closed

### **December 2018**

2 Annual Church Family Meeting  
6 Seniors Ministry Team Meeting  
8 Ditchfield Family Singers  
12 Christmas Caroling @ Pine Ridge  
13 Living Joyfully  
23 BP Checks  
25 Merry Christmas!

### **January 2019**

10 Living Joyfully  
11 Senior Carry-in Meal  
24 Living Joyfully  
26 Caring Sisters Tea  
27 Blood Pressure Checks  
28 Coffee with Leaders  
28 Overseers Meeting

Bulletin submission deadline is every Wednesday @ 10am. Send your requests to the church office for consideration.

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