

Bethany Lutheran Church

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October 2022



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I Thank My God Every Time I Remember You

³ *I thank my God every time I remember you,* ⁴ *constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you,* ⁵ *because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.*
Philippians 1:3-5

When the Apostle Paul was writing his letter to the church in Philippi from a prison cell in Rome, he was sharing words of elation and joy for the group of people that he deeply loved. Paul loved them because they accepted him into their homes and hearts while he was sharing with them the Gospel of Christ Jesus. As a direct result of Paul's ministry to and for the Philippians, they in turn developed a love and loyalty for him. It was this love and loyalty, or what Paul calls "*his partnership in the gospel,*" that helped propel Paul forward in other aspects of his faith and ministry. The direct encouragement, prayer, and financial support by the Philippians for Paul, and their faithfulness in sharing the good news of Jesus with others helped move Paul forward, even in the troubling days of his incarceration.

As Paul prayed, his heart was moved with intense joy over what God was doing through his friends in Philippi and the impact they are having in his life and ministry. It was at the end of his letter, in Philippians 4:14-16, that Paul wrote the following:

"It was kind of you to share my distress. You Philippians indeed know that in the early days of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you alone. For even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me help for my needs more than once.

Even when everyone else had bailed on the Apostle Paul, his faithful friends in Philippi stood by him. They shared in his trouble and continually supported him in his time in prison. They were true partners in the Gospel.

As I was putting a few ideas together for this newsletter article, my thoughts went to the many partners in the Gospel that I have experienced just in this last month. My thoughts went to the beginning of this month, when a number of members of both Faith and Bethany step forward to help with our Rally Sunday service. Cheryl Koll, Tina Maros, Kerry Lindgren, Steve Sing, Elizabeth and Alexander Oberton, my wife Carol, and numerous others all gave a helping hand in making our kickoff of the new Sunday School year a successful one.

I thought about Pastor Chris, Tyler, Jerry Reck, and Wendy Richmond who almost every day stop in my office or give me a call to asks if there is anything they can do to lighten my load. Asking if they can help, even though I know that they each have a full work load themselves.

I thought about my three brothers, who weekly give me a call and let me know how things are going with my parents. They know that I can't physically visit my mom and dad like they can, so

they call and assure me that my parents are doing well and that their needs are being taken care of.

And my thoughts are with many of my friends, past and present, who remind me to take life one day at a time, that better days are ahead, and that the gospel assures that Christ continues to walk with each of us through our trying times.

As I was writing this article, I also thought about so many of you who continue to move forward in faith, sharing the gospel in the way you live, work, and show compassion for your neighbor. It is in your sharing of your selves, your time and talents, that I am continually reminded that I am blessed to be a part of the wonderful Faith and Bethany congregations. So, how about if we each step back and take a few minutes each week in October and think about the people in our lives that we love and appreciate because of the many things that they do in their lives to share the Gospel and give thanks for them.

*I thank my God every time I remember you,
Pastor Carl*

October 2022

Team Richmond: Wendy Richmond, Mike LuConic, Chuck & Char Stockman, Randy & Janet Beinhorn, Joanie Miller, Steve Ahlrich & Barb Anderson, Bob Miller & Becky Wetch, Dorothy Radke, Synde Dehmer

November 2022

Team Oberton: Gary & Susan Oberton, Marilyn Mueller, David & Maggie Petersen, Dave & Sharon Cina, Kathy Wray, Doug & Jackie Wiherski, Gary & Tracy Statema



Oct 6 th	Charlie & Anna Hansen
Oct 12 th	Andy & Kourtney Frank
Oct 23 rd	Randy & Janet Beinhorn

Oct 6 th	Gary Bellamy
Oct 7 th	Levi Sandbakken
Oct 12 th	Alexander Oberton
Oct 12 th	Don Flicek
Oct 22 nd	Dennis Bramstedt
Oct 28 th	LaRaine Blomker
Oct 29 th	Lynn Bushinger

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