

Connect

With Sunny Place Church of God

November, 2017

INVESTMENT — Gifted for Christ

INVESTMENT

This fall, we walked into the oversized three car garage and there it was! Bushels and bushels of fruit and vegetables that Dave Decker grew on his family farm in Wautoma, WI. A rainbow of peppers, red, orange, green, purple. Every size of red tomato from huge beefsteak to billions of cherry tomatoes. Yellow summer squash, green striped zucchini, shiny purple eggplant, kohlrabi and melons. It was an overwhelming selection and we had to decide what to purchase.

Every winter, Dave has to invest in seed to produce the crops he has in his mind to grow in the spring. He has to invest to produce a crop. When we surrender to Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, accepting His gift of salvation, Jesus will invest in us, giving precious spiritual gifts. Like the farmer's seeds, these spiritual gifts are given to us to use to produce a crop, as we invest the God-given gifts in our families, Sunny Place Church and reaching out to non-believers. As we exercise our spiritual gifts, these are our spiritual acts of obedience to Him.

When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, submitting our will to His perfect plan, the Apostle Paul explains the transformation. **“to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires, to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”** Ephesians 4: 22-24

Spiritual gifts as an investment

When we put on the new self, the Spiritual gifts come from the Father, through the Son by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Trinity invests in us. The gifts can be preaching the word, administration of the church, healing, encouraging, prophesying, contributing to the needs of others, leadership, hospitality, wisdom, discernment, or showing mercy. Our beloved Apostle Paul lists the spiritual gifts in three Bible books; 1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12, and Ephesians 4. We have different gifts given to us according to the grace given us. Recognizing these spiritual gifts in ourselves and others greatly helps us learn what He desires for us to do. The gifts enhance our teamwork at church. Now each of us also have talents and natural abilities, or aptitudes given to us at birth, but spiritual gifts differ as these are given when we have accepted Jesus as our Lord as Savior.

The greatest of these

Jesus is the divine example of the spiritual gifts. His life is true holiness and Paul explains the greatest of these gifts; **“If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.”** 1 Corinthians 13:2

Love is a spiritual gift from our Lord and a commandment to obey.

“One of these, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ‘Teacher which is

(Continued on next page)

the greatest commandment in the Law?’ Jesus replied, ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”’ Matthew 22: 35-40

Our motivation for relationships with Jesus, neighbors, friends must be sincere and authentic love. When we encounter a person who seems absolutely unlovable, the answer is prayer. Asking Jesus to change our heart to love a person, who just crawls under our skin, will enable us to grow love for this person.

Now that we are gifted, what to do?

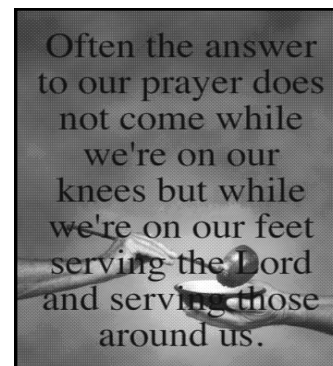
Let’s look at why Jesus has invested in us or why not. He hasn’t invested in us for our own use, ambitions or purposes. His investment in us is given for His use; for the common good of Sunny Place Church, our families and the outreach to non-believers. When we actively use our spiritual gifts for others, for Sunny Place, we are investing in others, which are His purposes. We are called by the Holy Spirit to serve Him and each other. In this calling, we can be assured He will equip us for each assignment. The Holy Spirit’s empowerment will enable us to do His work, even when we are unsure of our abilities or the desired result. At times, we may think our work is not of great value, particularly if we compare our lives to others. This is untrue, a lie from the



deceitful one. His work is accomplished through our unselfish, loving service to His calling. Using the gifts, investing in His work is our spiritual act of obedience.

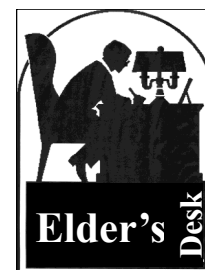
1 Peter 4:10-11 “Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen”

He invests spiritual gifts in us and we invest these precious spiritual gifts in His service to produce a crop, to be fruitful in our spirit-led journey on earth. “Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.” Let us never lose our spiritual fervor and be ready to express His love through us always and forever. There is great peace and a sense of community in Christ when investing ourselves in others according to His will and power within us.



Praise our Lord for Tyler’s Bible study on Spiritual Gifts which provided insight for this article.

In His service,
Nona



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	Senior Pastor: Peter Weber Treasurer: Glenda Kasza Elders: Sam Jacob, President Tim Kasza, Vice President Ted Gehman, Director Nona Koivula, Director

TLC

Together Loving Christ

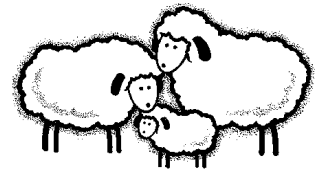
Are you sharing in the exciting and spiritual blessings of studying God's Word and discovering how it applies to your contemporary life?

Join with us in our Adult Study Group at Sunny Place every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Grow in the Word!

Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.

Kid's Rock available
for children ages five to nine
Nursery Services Provided



Harvest Dinner

at Sunny Place Church
Sunday, November 19th
12:30 p.m.

Bring family and friends,
and your favorite side dish
to share.



Visit us at: www.SunnyPlaceChurch.org



901 E. Oak Street, Addison, IL 60101

Connecting Families With The Love Of Christ

Minutes of the Elder's Meeting October 4, 2017

Attendees: Attendees; Pastor Pete Weber, Tim Kasza, Glenda Kasza, Ted Gehman, Sam Jacob, Nona Koivula

Devotion and prayer: 2 Corinthians 4:13-18 It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." With that same spirit of faith we also believe and therefore speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you in his presence. All this is for your benefit so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, what is unseen is eternal."

Ministry Reports

Treasurer: Budgeted book balance is \$545.70.

Worship: Meeting scheduled for Saturday, Oct 28th .

Christian Education: Tyler Martin is completing a six week adult bible study on Spiritual Gifts and will lead the same study with the youth in two weeks. John Gryparis leads the adult study on Difficult Texts.

Hospitality & Encouragement: This team is planning the Baby Shower for Sabra Martin on Sunday, Oct 22nd.

Prayer and Devotion: Sweet Hour of Prayer immediately following worship on Oct. 15th.

Stewardship & Support Services: Meeting scheduled for Oct. 18th.

Ladies Ministry: An outing at a local restaurant is planned for Friday, Oct. 20th.

Evangelism and Outreach: The next senior luncheon will be Saturday, Oct 14. The team has made a commitment to serve the community with a senior luncheon on the second Saturday of every month for 2018. .

Fellowship: The team is planning a trip to Noah's Ark in 2018, further details will be made available.

Pastoral Counseling: Continuing on schedule .

Old and New Business:

- Pastor Pete will attend the Illinois Church of God General Assembly Nov. 3-4 to be held in Charleston, IL.
- "Hands of Service, Hearts of Love" The Capital Fundraising Campaign is drawing to the end of the three year campaign. To celebrate this milestone for the Body of Christ, Jim Walters, Director of Vision Ministries, will be here on Dec. 3rd for a moving spiritual message on God's immeasurable power at work within us.

Ministry Reminders:

Note to team leaders: the 2018 budget is due Nov. 1st, and the annual team reports are due to the church office by Dec. 1st. There will be a 2018 calendar meeting Nov. 11th, please attend and bring planned events and dates for the 2018 year.

The next Elder's meeting will be on Wednesday, November 3rd.



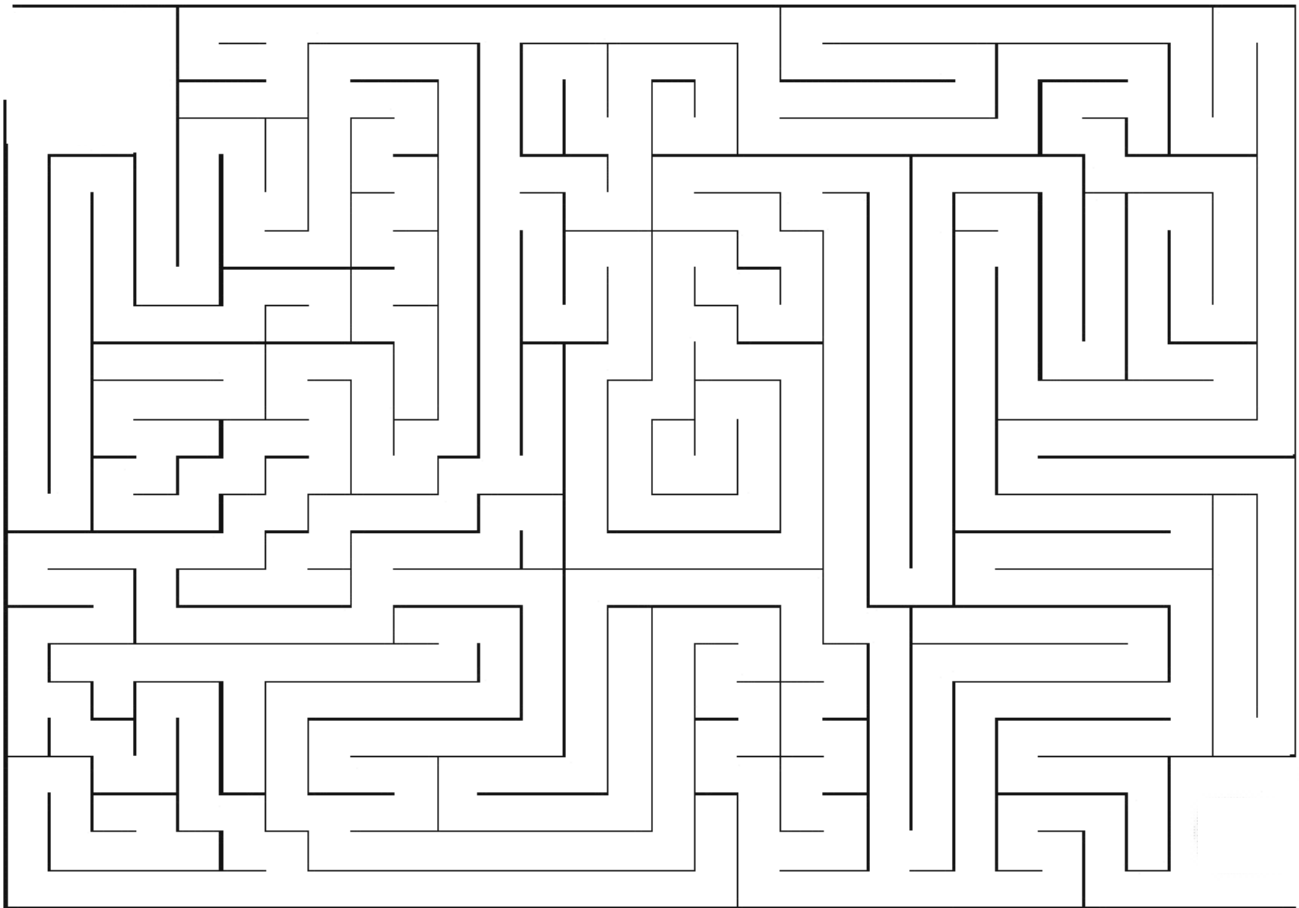
Kid's

Connection



Give thanks
to the Lord, call on
His name.
Make known His
deeds among the
peoples;
Isaiah 12:4 NASB

Start



End

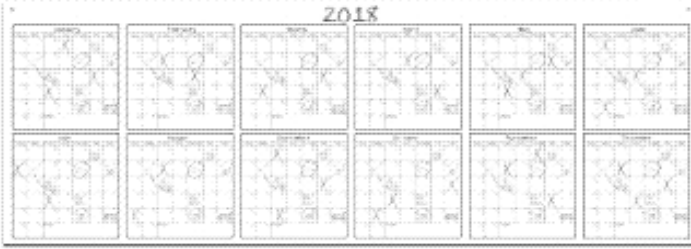


**Thanksgiving
Maze**

**WHERE YOU INVEST YOUR LOVE,
YOU INVEST YOUR LIFE.**

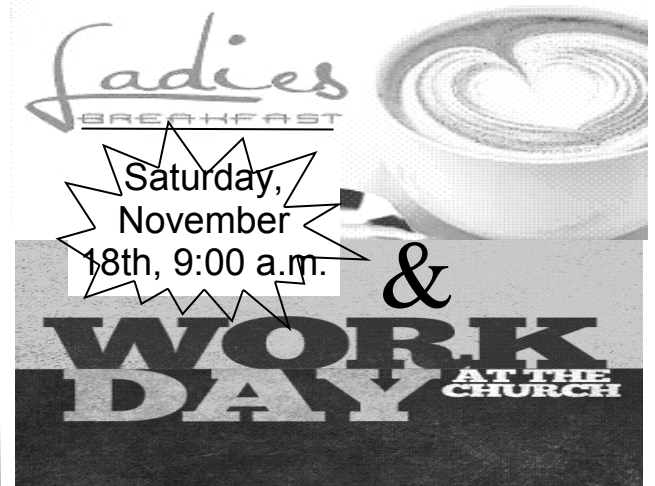
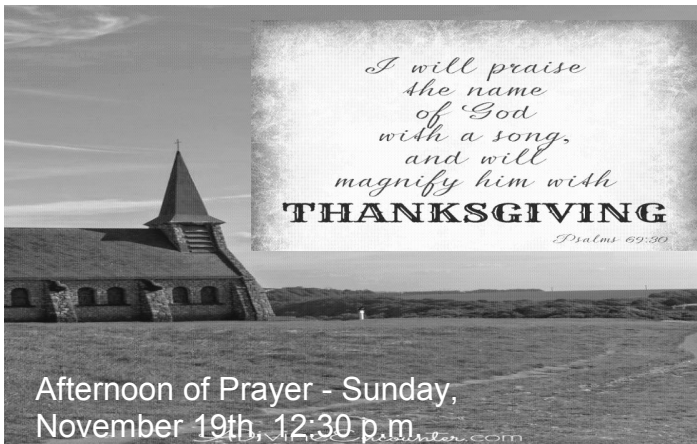


**TO INVEST YOUR LIFE SUCCESSFULLY,
DEPOSIT IT WITH JESUS**



**Ministry Teams -
 "2018 Calendar Planning"
 Saturday, November 4th
 10:00 a.m. at Sunny Place Church**

Saturday, November 11th,
 11:30-1:30 p.m.
 at Sunny Place Church
 Please phone 630/398-2314
 to reserve a place.



Sunday School Line-Up
 Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

Adult
 Bible
 Study

"Difficult Texts"

The Scriptures that
 you may have
 wondered about, or
 wrestled with.



Led by John Gryparis

Children's Classes

Grades 4-7 led by Carla Weber

Youth 8-12 led by Sabra Martin

Nursery services are provided

**Thursday Evenings
 7:00 p.m.
 at Sunny Place**



**"Persistent Faith
 and Love"**




A Bible Study through
 1st & 2nd Thessalonians

Led by Pastor Pete



November

2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Ministry Teams Budgets due Elder's Meeting 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	2 Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	3	4 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS  Set Clocks back 1 hour
5  Holy Communion	6	7	8	9 Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	10	11 Calendar Planning 10:00 a.m. Senior Luncheon 11:30 a.m. at Sunny Place
12 Outreach Meeting 12:30 p.m. At Sunny Place	13	14	15 Christian Education Meeting 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	16 Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place	17	18 Ladies Breakfast & Church Work Day 9:00 a.m. at Sunny Place
19 Afternoon of Prayer After Worship  Harvest Dinner 12:30 p.m. at Sunny Place	20	21	22	23  Thanksgiving	24	25
26 Worship Team Get-together 12:30 p.m. at Sunny Place	27	28	29	30 Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. at Sunny Place		