



The JPC Monthly

November 2025

THOUGHTS FROM PASTOR JAY

Real Thankfulness

It is hard to believe that it is November. I guess it is official, the holidays are upon us. November often feels like a short month to me. I know you are saying to yourself, "It does only have 30 days," but that's not what I mean. I mean that time just seems to fly by. We start the month with Generosity. It is my hope that this will be another blessed year for the church. In the middle of the month, we shift gears to Christmas and welcome vendors from the community to the Holiday Market. We also welcome the Twum – Barimah family from Orange Feather Community School. We end the month with Thanksgiving and the 1st Sunday of Advent. Over the Thanksgiving weekend there is also an opportunity to travel to the Operation Christmas Child Processing Center in Charlotte, too.



When things get hectic it is easy to forget to be thankful. Or if we are thankful, it is just an automatic response with little real value or meaning. We should be thankful for the ways our church serves those in need around us. We should be thankful for the great music we enjoy each Sunday. But sadly, we sometimes forget. When children make noise in worship, we should be thankful they are there, but we get annoyed. I Thessalonians calls for us to be thankful in all circumstances. Strive for that this month!

I also think that Thanksgiving has kind of lost its meaning as well. While we still gather with family it seems like football games, shopping, and other things have replaced true thankfulness. Do you remember the story of the original Thanksgiving feast? The pilgrims had a feast to celebrate the harvest after a difficult first year. Now this is just the Pastor Jay history but still they endured a horrible trip across the Atlantic. They arrived in December, so they couldn't grow any crops. They were not prepared for a harsh winter. They didn't build adequate shelter. They got sick. They had very little food. If I remember correctly, right around half of the 100 or so died that first year.

They had been through a battle. Fortunately, the Wampanoag tribe showed them growing tips and showed them how to live in their new land. After a successful harvest they held that first feast to celebrate. About 50 Pilgrims and 90 natives sat down to eat. They came expecting a new land and opportunity and religious freedom. They found hardship. When they sat down to that first feast it was a time of thanks to God that they had even survived. It was about praise and repentance and renewal. Maybe we would be more thankful if we came from a perspective as real as theirs?

I think Psalms are a good way to remember to be thankful. David, even in his darkest moments, praises the Lord. Here is a Psalm to help you along your way this month. Psalm 100 says,

"Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

2 Worship the Lord with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.

3 Know that the Lord is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.

5 For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

A spirit of thankfulness often takes work. Make an effort this month to find something to be thankful for each day. Remember to turn in your pledge card as soon as you can. Support the work of Orange Feather Community School. Support that ministries of the church this month that help others. Consider donating food or delivering a food box. But in all things give thanks!



Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes Due November 9th

Declare His glory among the nations....

Psalm 96:3 NIV

It's time to bring your Samaritan's Purse boxes to JPC!

The due date for all boxes is Sunday, November 9th.

If you would like to know what country your box was sent to, you can go online to the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox website and print off a shipping label for \$10 that will allow them to scan the box when it arrives at its destination and email you the results. It's fun to know where your box was sent!

Since 1993 over 232 million children in 170 countries and territories have felt God's love through the simple gift of a shoebox filled with gifts. Let's keep the love flowing! Remembering the words of Jesus, "It is more blessed to give than to receive". Acts 20:35 (NIV)

If you have any questions, contact Anne Wright at 336-210-3270 or Betty McCray at 336-906-9958.

~CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SAVE THE DATES~

NOV 30

Polywogs and FROGS meeting @ 3pm in the Children's Room

DEC 6

Santa Breakfast @ 8 am

DEC 7

Christmas Parade - kids can join the fun and ride on the float

DEC 10

Children's Christmas Program and Hot Dog Dinner @ 5:30 pm



JPC COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS



We are still harvesting lots of greens that will continue through the winter including: spinach, kale, collards and Swiss chard. We were able to pick beans, eggplant and okra until frost started. We also have onions, garlic, potatoes and carrots to look forward to. We are glad that we were able to share several large baskets of produce with the congregation this year.

We encourage everyone to eat healthy!

CHANGES IN FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES AT JPC

Your JPC Resource Ministry Team is making some changes in the way our finances are handled here at JPC.

First off, we will no longer employ a Financial Secretary. Instead, JPC has contracted with a Winston-Salem accounting firm, TaxWorksCPA (TWC). The firm is operated by a CPA, Stephen Anderson along with his wife, Lauren (a Methodist minister) and four associates. Currently, they service 26 churches in the area, most are Methodist, but there is one Moravian and one Presbyterian. (They are in the process of on-boarding two more churches in addition to JPC). TWC also has regular business clients in addition to non-profits and churches.

TWC will take over the payroll, bill-pay and financial reporting functions which were handled in-house using Church Windows software. TWC will use Quick Books Online and Quick Books Payroll for these applications. Going forward, JPC will not pay any bills or cut any checks from the church office unless there is an immediate need that cannot be delayed.

For the time being, JPC will continue to use Church Windows for membership and donation records. The Resource Team will be responsible for recording all donations and making the subsequent bank deposits. The Resource Team plans to begin using a remote deposit capture device for transmitting checks to the bank electronically instead of making a weekly trip to the bank. Cash will be deposited when it accumulates to a reasonable amount for a trip to the bank – probably about once a month.

Once the accounts payable and payroll functions are converted over to Quick Books, TWC will cost JPC about the same amount that the Church had budgeted for a Financial Secretary in 2025.

Also, we will be using some new color-coded forms for expense reimbursements and credit card expense approvals. This should be a marked improvement over our present process. More to come as we transition to the new processes. See photos of Steve and Lauren below so you recognize them if you bump into them in the office.



Steve



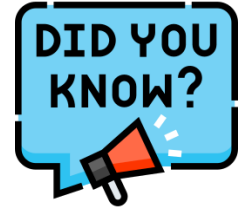
Lauren



Hodgin Weekend Coming in 2026



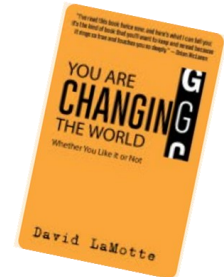
The Worship Ministry Team in coordination with Christian Education is excited to announce a special Hodgin Weekend Event coming **February 21st and 22nd, 2026**. We are excited to welcome singer, songwriter, musician and author, **DAVID LAMOTTE** to JPC for two special opportunities.



Saturday, February 21st at 7:00 pm, David LaMotte will entertain us with an evening of music and storytelling. Over the years, David LaMotte has performed in over 3500 concerts touring in all fifty states, as well as on five of the seven continents. He has performed in such festivals as MerleFest and the Australian National Folk Festival. He has released 13 full length albums, including *Still*, which was in the top 20 on Folk Radio for six months. His music can be heard on all online streaming services including Spotify, Apple Music, Pandora, and Amazon Music. BBC Radio Belfast describes his music as “charm, stories, humour, insightful songs, sweet voice, and dazzling guitar ability.”

Then on **Sunday, February 22nd at 2:00 pm**, David LaMotte will return to JPC for a speaking engagement centered around his book, “*You are Changing the World Whether You Like it or Not*”. A published author of four books, including two children’s books, his latest book is an engaging and practical look at how large-scale change happens, how it doesn’t, and how to understand our own roles within that effort for positive change.

In anticipation of David LaMotte’s visit, we will be engaging in a church-wide study centered around his book beginning in early January. Be on the lookout for more details to come. If you would like to learn more about David LaMotte, I encourage you to visit his website, davidlamotte.com. There you can hear a sampling of his music, read articles from his blog, as well as hear his TEDx Talks, one of which was chosen by TED International as an Editor’s Pick and went viral to tens of thousands of people in just a few short days.



David LaMotte and his family leave in Montreat, North Carolina. In fact, our youth drive right past his house each summer when they attend Montreat Youth Camp. Several of our church members have already heard him in person before and say David LaMotte provides enjoyable and inspiring messages during his engagements. And the very best part of all, is that both events at JPC are free! Thanks to JPC’s Hodgin Endowment Fund, the concert and the book talk are free for everyone.

We are opening this event up to our community as well as other churches in the Salem Presbytery, so you will want to be sure to register for your concert ticket as soon as possible. (Ticket registration is to help us ensure we are creating the best environment and seating for Saturday’s concert.) Please scan the QR code below for the link to secure your tickets.



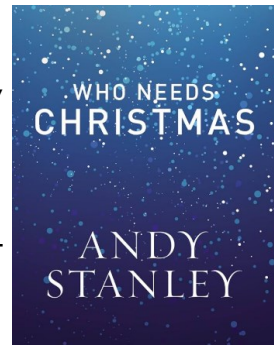
We are excited to host another Hodgin event and appreciate your help in not only saving the dates but also spreading the word to your friends and family. **See you on Feb. 21st and 22nd!**

~ Becky Robinson

ALL LADIES ARE INVITED...

The Ladies Thursday Morning Bible Study will begin their 4 week Christmas study "Who Needs Christmas" by Andy Stanley on November 6th at 9:30 am in Room 222. Books do not need to be purchased for this study.

Following our study, we will head to McAlister's (5870 Samet Drive, High Point—in The Palladium) for our **FIRST THURSDAY LUNCH**. We hope you will join us! As a reminder, **ALL** ladies are invited to join the Bible study and/or lunch!



THANKSGIVING FOOD BOXES

This year we anticipate a substantial increase in the number of Thanksgiving and Christmas food boxes that we provide. When you go to the grocery store, kindly consider picking up a few items off of the following list (NO green beans or corn please):

Spaghetti
Spaghetti Sauce
Canned Fruit / Apple Sauce
Bagged Rice
Canned Tuna or Chicken
Pancake Mix
Syrup
Family Sized Cookies
Family Sized Cereal
Soup
Canned Pasta
Canned Sweet Potatoes
Pop-Tarts
Peanut Butter
Jelly

Thank you so much for helping to keep our hungry friends fed this holiday season!



DONATIONS

Donation has been made in loving memory of
Roy Johnston by,
Peter Anderson

Donation has been made in loving memory of
Roy Johnston by,
Samuel and Linda Chororos

Donation has been made in loving memory of
Roy Johnston by,
Trena Williams

Donation has been made in loving memory of
Roy Johnston by,
Walter and Joanne Mascherin

Donation has been made in loving memory of
Roy Johnston by,
Charles and Betty LaBella

Donation has been made in loving memory of
Roy Johnston by,
The Johnston, Wells and Woods Families

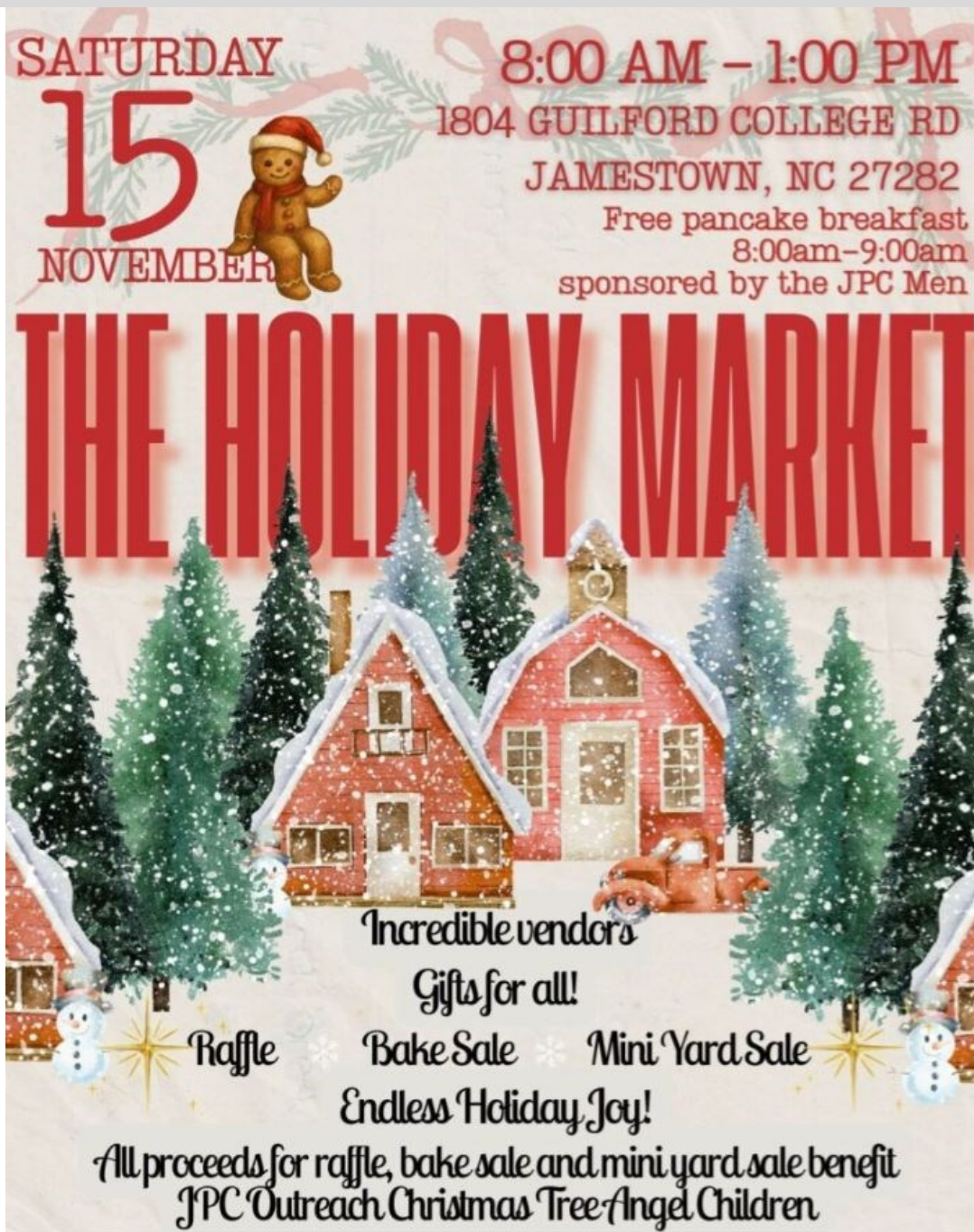
Donation has been made to the Avery Snead Scholarship
Fund in loving memory of Gary Whitley by,
Marilyn Bell



HANGING OF THE GREENS- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2025

It's time!! Advent begins the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 30th and Christmas Day is not far behind, which means it is time to decorate our church for the Advent Season. Mark your calendars and join us after the 11:00 am service on Sunday, November 23rd for the "Hanging of the Greens" throughout our building! We will begin with a very light lunch in Fellowship Hall compliments of Congregational Care and from there the work will begin. We hope you will come and "give us a hand" for many hands make light work.





~Volunteers Needed~

We are still in need of volunteers to help us make this Holiday Market a success! Please click on the links below to volunteer by donating baked goods for the bake sale or to work at the event. If you have any questions, contact Jen McNamara. THANK YOU!

[VOLUNTEER SIGN UP](#)

[BAKE SALE](#)

~Raffle Items Needed~

Do you have an unused gift card or new items around the house that could be used as a raffle item? Have a craft you can donate? A small business you would like to promote with a gift card/certificate? All donated items will show the donor's information so credit is given (unless you choose not to have your info provided). If you would like to donate, please contact Jen! Thank you!!!

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Visit us on the Web
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JPC SESSION

Class of 2025

Mike Bryant
Bill Carter
Charles Graham
Angelin Ham
Linda Honeycutt
Becky Robinson

Class of 2026

David Bean
Becky Brown
Nancy Seay
Anne Wright

Class of 2027

Jim Gonsiewski
Kirk Lesley
Peggy Maynard
Kerry Miller
Jenny Rathjen
Dick Whitt