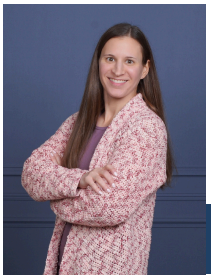
CEDAR
CHURCH

"We are on a journey, committed to share God's love and the hope of Christ with our community"



NOVEMBER 2026

A NOTE FROM PASTOR JEN

Sharing God's Grace: Go Where the Neighbors Are

Over the past two months, we've been reflecting on two words from Cedar's vision: **belong** and **grow**. We've talked about the gift of being a church where people know and care for one another, and about the ways God invites us to grow in Christ through the ordinary moments of our lives. This month, we come to the third word: **share**.

We envision Cedar as a welcoming church where people belong, grow in Christ, and share God's grace with our community.

When we hear the words "share God's grace with our community," we might naturally think about inviting people to church. And there is certainly a place for that. We want people to know that there is a place for them at Cedar, a community where they can belong and grow. But I wonder if sharing God's grace might also ask us to think beyond our walls. What if we don't always wait for our neighbors to come to us? What if we are willing to go to them?

Who is my neighbor?

Jesus gave us a pretty expansive answer to that question in the story of the Good Samaritan. A man is lying injured along the road. Two people see him and pass by. Then a Samaritan stops. He notices the man. He crosses the road. He gets involved. He cares for him and makes sure he has what he needs. The Samaritan doesn't wait for his neighbor to find him. He goes where his neighbor is. That seems like an important question for us as a church too: Where are our neighbors?

They are certainly here in our building. But they are also in our schools and neighborhoods, at community events and coffee shops, in local organizations and businesses. They are people who may never think to walk through the doors of a church. Some may be looking for a church community; others may not. Some may know exactly what they believe; others may have questions or doubts. Some may need a place to belong; others may simply need a helping hand, a listening ear, or someone to notice them. Sharing God's grace often begins with noticing.

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PASTOR JEN CONTINUED

Where is God already at work?

I don't think this means Cedar needs to create a long list of new programs or try to become everything to everyone. In fact, I wonder if it might be simpler than that. Where is God already at work in our community, and how might we join in?

We already have people at Cedar who are doing this in all kinds of ways. We have people who volunteer at NACE, serve with community organizations, care for neighbors, deliver food, visit people who are homebound, and lend a hand when someone needs help. Even our Trustees offer an example. The work of caring for our building may seem like an internal ministry, but some of our Trustees have also used their practical skills to help people in the community with small home projects. What if there are more opportunities like that waiting to be discovered?

Maybe sharing God's grace looks like fixing something for a neighbor. Maybe it looks like supporting a local school. Maybe it looks like showing up at a community event simply to listen and get to know people. Maybe it looks like partnering with an organization that is already doing good work. And maybe sometimes it looks like something much smaller: learning someone's name, noticing who is sitting alone, offering encouragement, or being willing to cross the street – or the room – to meet someone where they are.

Grace that moves outward

The movement from **belong** to **grow** to **share** feels important to me. We belong to a community where we experience God's love. We grow as we become deeply rooted in Christ. And then, naturally, that love begins to move outward. Grace is not something we receive and keep to ourselves. It is something we carry with us. So perhaps a spiritual practice for this month is simply to pay attention. As you go about your ordinary routines, look around. Who are the people God has placed in your path? What needs do you notice? Where do you see goodness already happening? Where might you be able to offer a little time, a particular skill, encouragement, or simply your presence?

And ask yourself: Who is my neighbor? Where is my neighbor? And what might it look like for me to go there?

My hope is that Cedar will continue to be a place where people are always welcome to come through our doors. But I also hope we will become a church that is increasingly willing to walk through our doors and go out into the community – to notice, to listen, to serve, and to share the grace we have received. Because perhaps sharing God's grace isn't about getting more people to come to Cedar. Perhaps it's about helping more people experience God's love where they already are. And when we do that, we become the church we envision: a place where people belong, grow, and share.

In Christ,
Pastor Jen Anderson

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HAPPENING AT CEDAR UMC

NOVEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 All Saints Sunday 10:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday school	2 6:00 pm Caring & Sharing	3	4 3:15 pm ECC Meeting 7:00 pm Choir	5	6	7
8 7:30 am Book Study 8:30 am Confirmation 10:00 am Worship No Sunday school 11:35 RJ Book Study 2:00 pm Charge Conference	9	10 6:30 pm Book Study	11 Veterans Day 6:00 pm Bells	12 6:00 pm Piecemakers	13	14
15 7:30 am Book Study 10:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday school 11:00 am Favorite Dish Potluck	16 6:00 pm Caring & Sharing	17 6:30 pm Book Study	18 7:00 pm Choir	19 7:00 pm Ad Council Meeting	20	21
22 7:30 am Book Study 8:30 am Confirmation 10:00 am Worship Stewardship Sunday No Sunday school	23 6:00 pm Caring & Sharing	24 6:30 pm Book Study	25	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29 10:00 Worship 10:00 am Sunday school Noisy Sunday	30					

CEDAR
CHURCH

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



11/4 Larry Podany
11/9 Dyann Sheffield
11/11 Lauryn Johnson
11/12 Bev Nye
11/22 Elizabeth Neitzel
11/28 Elizabeth Anderson

HANGING OF THE GREENS

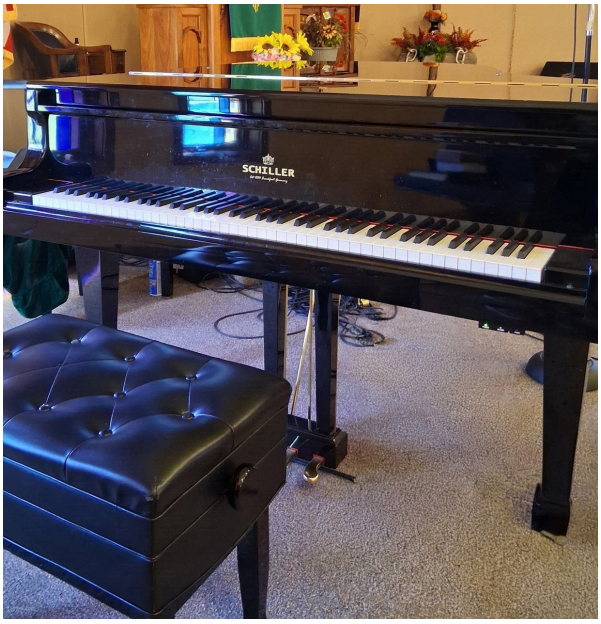
Please join us on Saturday Nov. 28 at 9:30 am
for a simple breakfast and then get started decorating the church at approximately 10:00 am.
We are hoping to have the garland up on Friday the 27th if Doug is available.
We need Christmas totes brought in before the 28th, including the large tree, smaller trees, black tote of large poinsettias, manger & outdoor nativity & large star hanging up in garage.
Along with the indoor nativity and wooden shed, in big boxes. The large wreath will need to be hung when it arrives.
PLEASE RSVP to Lorraine by Thurs. Nov. 26th so I know how much to make for breakfast.
Kids are certainly welcome, they enjoy decorating trees.
Questions please call Lorraine at 763-564-2305.
Many thanks for all of your help, Lorraine.

MEMORIALS

DID YOU KNOW.....

The beautiful grand piano in our sanctuary was donated by Rich and Glenda Powers. It was dedicated to Stuart M Johnson the grandfather of Rich. What a blessing the church was given. We are so grateful for this gift.

We cherish and respect every gift.
The Memorial Committee



FAVORIT DISH POTLUCK



CEDAR CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2026 GRATITUDE EVERY DAY

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THU	FRI	SAT
1 A small thing I am thankful for	2 A color I am thankful for	3 A family member I am thankful for	4 A song I am thankful for	5 A memory I am thankful for	6 A freedom I am thankful for	7 A game I am thankful for
8 A book I am thankful for	9 A friend I am thankful for	10 An animal I am thankful for	11 A goal I am thankful for	12 A food I am thankful for	13 A dream I am thankful for	14 A teacher I am thankful for
15 A smell I am thankful for	16 A treasure I am thankful for	17 A season I am thankful for	18 A thing in nature I am thankful for	19 A possession I am thankful for	20 A promise I am thankful for	21 A time of day I am thankful for
22 An act of kindness I am thankful for	23 A piece of advice I am thankful for	24 A talent I am thankful for	25 A mystery I am thankful for	26 A tradition I am thankful for	27 A memory from yesterday I am thankful for	28 A word I am thankful for
29 A lesson I am thankful for	30 A place I am thankful for					



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FIVE SIMPLE WAYS TO USE THIS CALENDAR

1. **Make it a small daily ritual.** Whether you reflect on the prompt alone over a cup of coffee or discuss it with your family before bed, choose a time that works for you.
2. **Respond however you like.** Write your answers, draw a picture, say them aloud, or keep a note on your phone.
3. **Cross off the days you do the exercise.** Gratitude is a habit. See how many days in a row you remember.
4. **Be flexible and return.** It's okay if you miss a day or two. Pick up where you left off!
5. **Share with others.** If your whole community is using this calendar, text, call, or email each other with your shared answers.



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