

Parkside Nazarene Church

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## NOVEMBER MESSENGER

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### PASTOR'S PONDERINGS:

#### WITH GOD, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!!

We say this, and I'm certain that every time we say it, we honestly believe it. That said, I think I can safely say that there have been times when I've made this statement, and if totally honest, in my heart I've said it more as a "hope" than a declaration of faith. Anyone else willing to admit that with me? When staring at something that seems to be impossible, faith is critically important, but when faith is hard to fully embrace, I think it's OK to hold on to hope as a pathway to faith. In fact, knowing how gracious God is, in my heart I must believe that God views our feelings of hope as declarations of faith. And then as hope finds new evidence in God's faithfulness, full faith rises.

On October 13<sup>th</sup>, at the end of our service, the question was asked, "What are some of the barriers or limitations preventing us from becoming all God wants us to be at Parkside Church of the Nazarene?" In a time of great honesty, fourteen items were mentioned. Among them were things like, "we're too small" or "we're too old" or "we're too financially strapped." Others were things like "our work force is just too small" or "those who are working hard are feeling burnt out." Other critical items mentioned were conditions of "apathy" or "fear" or... here it is: "weak faith." (The full list is available in the foyer.)

So, let me begin with this: every one of the items mentioned by different attenders are true. We are small...for now. We are older as a congregation...but we can become younger. We are a bit more strapped financially than we've been in the past...but God is still providing. Our work force is limited...but more people can step up if they will. Our workers are tired...and what would help is if reinforcements would get involved. There are feelings of

great concern: there is fear. All of these things are true, but they are not the final word!!

As your pastor, there are two items on the list that stand out. The first is apathy. Apathy by definition is "a lack of interest, enthusiasm, or concern." Simply put, it's not caring. My prayer is that God will help us as a church to see what is happening and care deeply, passionately, actively. This is why there is a call to prayer; it's saying to God that we see what is happening and we need His help. God wants us to care deeply!

The second is "weak faith." As our leadership team met this past Sunday, we spent a good amount of time looking over the list of limitations and making comments. In the end, this is where your leadership landed: We need to determine that the list created by the congregation is not a list of limitations, BUT RATHER, a list of 14 arenas where God can perform miracles. I believe that what your leadership collectively did on Sunday was to turn our focus from limitations to FAITH!! Fourteen items listed, and every one of them arenas for God to do the miraculous!

**WITH GOD, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!** Collectively, let us embrace this with faith...or at the very least, hope as the pathway to faith. God help us. Miracles are on the way!!!

**Matthew 19:26**

**Weekly Services:** (services: in person & online)

Sundays at 10:00 a.m. Go to: [www.facebook.com/parknaz/](http://www.facebook.com/parknaz/)  
[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) Parkside Nazarene Church

**Life Groups are weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays!**

Go to: <https://parknaz.org/ministry-news/> for details

# The November Messenger Continued..

## SIGNIFICANT NOVEMBER DATES:

03: Communion

03: Daylight Savings Time Ends



03: Finance Committee Meeting

10: Church Board Meeting



19: Gals w/Grace

28: Thanksgiving



## NOVEMBER!

November is here, and we are excited to enjoy the cooler weather and the beautiful fall leaves!



We look forward to our Thanksgiving Lunch on Monday, November 25—stay tuned for more details! Plus, Picture Day is on Friday, November 22, so we're getting our smiles ready!



Please note that we will be CLOSED on Thursday, November 28, and Friday, November 29 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

As we reflect on this season of gratitude, we want to express how thankful we are for our amazing families who trust us with their children and for the incredible staff who bring learning and nurturing to life every single day. ❤️

If you have any questions regarding the Child Care Center, please contact Cheryl Sczcepanski or Nancy Lain in the school office.

## November Birthdays

Miranda Cornett	08
Julie Long	10
Melanie DeMeo	14
Marty Adams	19
Phyllis Long	20
Barbara Flack	20

## November Anniversaries

Joanne & Mike Kolpien	03
Melanie & Romeo DeMeo	11

## Weekly Prayer

The Sanctuary is open every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. to pray for the God's leading of Parkside. See Lucy Adams w/questions.



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Every year, Samaritan's Purse collects shoeboxes in churches like ours, to spread the love of Jesus to children all over the world!



Boxes are available in the church foyer, along with very specific directions and what to fill in the box. They also ask for \$10/box to be placed in the envelopes inside the completed shoebox.

Please return completed shoeboxes NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24.

Please see Frances Cooney or Joanne Murphy with questions.

## ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Once again we will be blessing a Westlake family in need at Christmas. Watch for details to be coming soon. All gifts will need to be returned to Parkside no later than Sunday, December 8. Once we receive the details from the Westlake Community Services Dept, Joanne will communicate it to the Congregation through the Monday morning emails, and Sunday Slides.

