

November at a Glance

See You at the Pole 2022



Before school, on September 28, 2022, students from the Sibley-Ocheyedan Middle and High Schools were invited to a time of prayer around the flag pole.



This event gives students an opportunity to lift up their friends, families, teachers, school, and nation to God. Students were also offered donuts and milk/orange juice by the Osceola County Ministerial Association.



- 9: 6:00 pm Spaghetti Supper sponsored by the Remnant Youth
- 7:00 pm Congregational Meeting
- (no Bible Classes/Youth Group)
- 14: 6:00 pm Elder/Deacon Meetings
- 7:00 pm Full Consistory will meet
- 16: 2:00 pm FRC is in charge of Nursing Home Services
- 6:30-8:30 Food Find (see picture on back of newsletter)
- 20: Communion Sunday
- 21: 9:30am Faith Bible Study will meet
- 3:00pm Patience Bible Study will meet
- 23: 6:30pm Thanksgiving Eve service
- Christmas decorating will follow (no Bible Classes/Youth Group)
- 24: Happy Thanksgiving!!

***Sundays:**

- 9:00 am Praise & Worship Service
- 10:10 am Sunday School for 3yrs-Adult
- 10:10 am Coffee Fellowship Time
- 6:30 pm Fellowship Bible Studies

***Tuesdays:**

- 8:30 am Quilting Chicks will meet

***Wednesday Evenings:**

- 6:30-7:30pm 1st-5th gr. Bible Classes
- 6:30-7:30pm MS Remnant will meet
- 7:30-8:30 pm HS Remnant will meet
- 7:30 pm Joyful Voices Choir Practice

CONTACT INFORMATION:
712-754-2783

sibleyfrcoffice@gmail.com



View our Website at: sibleyfrc.org



Stewardship & Giving

Offering Summary through October 29:

- **General Fund: \$268,455.38**
Budget: \$315,827.88; 85% of budget
- **Benevolent Fund: \$33,704.37**
Budget: \$70,626.12; 48% of budget
- **Building Fund offerings to date: \$1355**

Special Offering for November

Sharing Christmas Families



Faith In Action for November:



**Share the love of Jesus, through
the power of a simple gift, with
children around the world.**

Shoebboxes are due back to church by:
November 13

If you have an address or phone number change or would like a new picture in the directory please let the office know by the end of November.



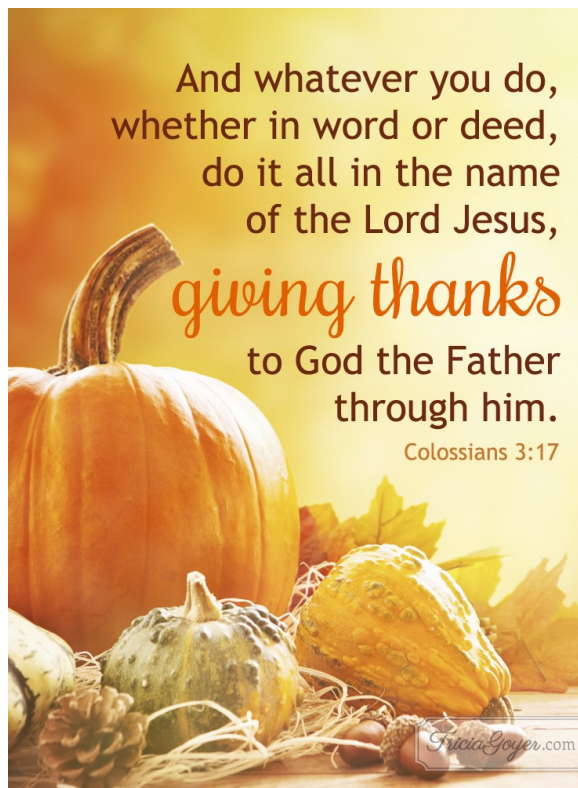
If you would like a new picture taken, please contact either the office or LaDonn Hartzell to make arrangements to have this taken care of. Thanks!

And whatever you do,
whether in word or deed,
do it all in the name
of the Lord Jesus,

giving thanks

to God the Father
through him.

Colossians 3:17



Jocia Goyer.com



GLADYS HUNT
WOMEN OF THE
OLD TESTAMENT



Faith Bible Study, will meet on **Monday, November 21 at 9:30 am**. We will be studying Lesson #7, "Hannah" based on 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11 in our book *Women of the Old Testament* by Gladys Hunt. Luella Eggink will be leader and Jan Harskamp will serve as hostess. Hope to see you there!

BIBELIJK CONINKLIIK
SEVEN LETTERS TO
SEVEN CHURCHES



Patience Bible Study, will meet on **Monday, November 21 at 3:00 pm**. We will be studying Lesson #2: John's letter to the church at Ephesus, "Lost Love" based on Revelation 2:1-7, in our new book, *Seven Letters to Seven Churches*. Barb will lead and Jen will serve as hostess. You are invited to join us as we dive into this new study.

Fellowship Bible Study Opportunities at 6:30pm:

1. **Message Discussion and Application** *Clayton and Jodi Wagenaar's home & *FRC Fellowship Hall
2. **Digging into God's Word: Ecclesiastes** *Kevin and Laurel Klaassen's home

All ages, singles and couples are invited to attend. Childcare can be arranged. Come, join a group and let's grow together!

Trivia Time!!

1. Joash was told to shoot an arrow from the window. What was the arrow called?
2. God gave Hezekiah a sign that he would live longer. What was the sign?
3. Name the king who had the longest reign in the Bible?
4. Which of the Prophets was thrown into a dungeon?
5. When a certain king tried to take the place of the priest at the altar, he was struck with leprosy. Who was this king?
6. How was Naaman healed of his leprosy?
7. While _____ was hanging in a tree, he was killed by three darts from Joab.
8. Nicodemus put how many pounds of myrrh and aloes on the body of Jesus?
9. What was the name of the person who became king while he was a little child?
10. Job's friends sat in silence with Job and mourned with him for how many days?



From the Pastor's

Desk

A Greasy Parable

Farmer Brown owned an old combine that had been bringing in the harvest on his little farm for 108 years. Every year he would buy two cases of grease and go over the old combine from top to bottom greasing every zerk (for those who don't know a grease zerk is, it's a lubrication fitting used in mechanical systems to add grease with a grease gun). He had the locations memorized, and he could tell you how many pumps each zerk would take and how many hours he could run the old girl before greasing her again.

There were occasions however when greasing a zerk was not enough. Sometimes a broken straw walker block needed to be replaced so that the grease squirted into the zerk would do its job lubricating the joint. Farmer Brown knew that you could not continue to apply grease to a broken joint. The only result would be that his two cases of grease would not last the season. He would run out of grease long before the harvest was finished. Some joints could be run broken for a while but not forever. It was necessary to fix the problem areas before applying the grease if you wanted a smooth harvest.

The Body of Christ is a lot like Farmer Brown's combine. Scripture tells us the fields are white with harvest, and that we are to make disciples. Each member at First is like a zerk that has had the love of Christ applied to our lives and we dispense that love to our area of ministry so that others are able to enter and receive the Reign of God.

What kind of zerk are you? Are you able to receive the love of Christ in proportion to how God has gifted you in order to allow the church to make disciples? Or do you require more than your share?

If you find that you require more grease than provided and you are starting to squeak, I would encourage you to do a little self examination to find out where the "grease" is going. Let the "Farmer" fix you so that the "combine" can continue to bring in the harvest.



~~Birthday's~~

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1 Matthew McDougall | 14 Paul Doorenbos
Karla Crichton | 24 Jen Schram
Braelyn Hurlburt |
| 2 Melissa De Boer | 15 Bobby Baker | 25 Carter Brouwer
Teddy Van Gelder |
| 3 Jennifer Bruxvoort
Lincoln McDyer | 16 Dalten Bremer
Jaeger Ackerman | 26 Mitch Ackerman |
| 4 Rodney Hulstein
Sami Fox | 17 Dwayne Heikes | 27 Geneva Wissink
Junior Rasmussen
Jagger Johnson
Alyssa Jacobsma
Kristen Beyer |
| 5 Scott Hulstein
Jamie Hulstein
Hudson Feldkamp | 18 Derek Heronimus
Jenny Timmer
A.J. Weg | 28 Carl Berkenpas
Dave Kleinwolterink |
| 6 Parker Loerts | 20 Marvella Harberts
Amy Dykstra
Amelia Heilman | 29 Kevin Heemstra |
| 7 Wyatt Dykstra
Haley Klaassen | 21 Roger Iedema
Addysen Langstraat | 30 Kaitlyn Mulder |
| 9 Bennett Hulstein | 22 Nathan Buysman | |
| 11 Dan Heilman
Kavan Beyer | 23 Maverick Elser
Kody Wills | |
| 13 Julie Janssen
Anne Maxwell
Marlin Roelfs
Steve Van Kley
Tiffany Wynia | | |

~~Anniversaries~~

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| 3 Lawrence & Ruth Ann Wiersma | 44 yrs. |
| 3 Mitch & Angie Ackerman | 15 yrs. |
| 6 Paul & Phyllis Vander Linden | 58 yrs. |
| 6 Josh and Brittany Wagenaar | 1 yr. |
| 13 Merlyn & Julie Janssen | 46 yrs. |
| 14 Charlie & Brenda Ackerman | 30 yrs. |
| 16 Jacob and Alecia Juelfs | 3 yrs. |
| 17 Kevin & Nancy Soat | 33 yrs. |
| 19 Scott & Marlys Dykstra | 40 yrs. |
| 24 Dave & JoAnn Calsbeek | 55 yrs. |
| 25 Dale & Amy Carda | 5 yrs. |
| 26 Harold & Mim Ernst | 62 yrs. |



Praise and Worship Greeters

- 6: E: LeRoy Stevenson
C: Verlyn and Donna Smidt
W: Dave and Lesa Stofferan
- 13: E: Robert Tiedeman
C: Greg and Tami Tracy/family
W: Chad and Megan Travaille/family
- 20: E: Randy Van De Berg
C: Duane and Pam Vande Hoef
W: Ger and Barb Van Diepen
- 23: **Thanksgiving Eve Service (6:30pm)**
E: Paul and Phyllis Vander Linden
C: Darcy Martinez
W: Jim and Pauline Van Engen
- 27: E: Joel and Angie Van Gelder
C: Curt and Peg Van Kley
W: Steve and Leanne Van Kley



Nursery

Nursery Volunteers needed. Please contact any member of the Worship Team to Volunteer. Worship Team members are listed in your church directory.



Fellowship Coffee Servers

- 6: Burt and Jan Henrichs
13: Bill and LaDonn Hartzell
20: Dwayne and Janice Heikes
27: Ed and Jan Harskamp

Children & Worship during the service



- 6: Leader: Deb Kusters
Helper:
- 13: Leader: Deb Kusters
Helper:
- 20: Leader: Deb Kusters
Helper:
- 27: Leader: Deb Kusters
Helper:

Willing Hands Group



Willing Hands Group #5

will be responsible for services during the month.

Co-chairpersons are:

- Dar/Dennis Jurgens
- Deb/Greg Kusters
- Shelia/Harold Van Der Sloot

Library Volunteers



- 6: Jeannette Juffer
13: Leona Meendering
20: Janice Runia
27: Jen Schram

Sportsmen's Devotional



Bible Study Verse

Proverbs 27:23-24

Know well the condition of your flocks, and pay attention to your herds; for riches are not forever, nor does a crown endure to all generations.

(NASB)

Thoughts

It is a great time to review our life, both the physical and the spiritual. The Bible warns us in many places that we need to be diligent with all that we have, and, of course, this includes our finances. In Bible times, a person's flocks were the source of his wealth. It was the equivalent of having money in the bank. When Solomon tells us to know well the condition of our flocks, he is telling us to know our financial condition.

We are also told that we are to be generous. Knowing our financial condition can allow us to be generous. I say can, because generosity is still more a matter of the condition of our heart than our pocketbook.

Action Point

Everyone needs to have a budget and learn to live on that budget. This is a wonderful time to sit down with your family and develop a budget for the holidays right around the corner and next year.

Making the budget a family planning event will do wonders. You will, of course, include your hunting and fishing trips in the budget. The family can see how much it will cost for your outdoor trips so they won't be surprised by it when the time comes. Don't try to hide it from them. Include them! Plan the family vacation around the hunt.

When you develop your budget, be sure to include your gifts to the Lord in it. The Bible tells us to plan on what we are going to give to the Lord. Don't make it a last-minute, haphazard thing. Making a plan on how much you will give to the Lord is another way of showing praise and honor to Him.

Sportsmen's Tip of the Day

Not only is this a great time to plan the family budget, it is also a great time to go through your equipment so that you can see what will need to be replaced before next season. That way you can look for sales throughout the year. You can also save money by buying it used. There are many great values to be had on the used gear.

Trivia Time Answers!!!

1. The arrow of the Lord's deliverance (2 Kings 13:15-17)
2. The shadow on the sundial went backward ten degrees (Isa 38:8)
3. Manasseh--55 yrs (2 Chron 33:1)
4. Jeremiah (Jer. 37:16)
5. Uzziah (2 Chron 26:18-21)
6. He dipped seven times in the Jordan River (2 Kings 5:1,10,14)
7. Absalom (2 Sam 18:14)
8. One hundred pounds (John 19:39)
9. Josiah (2 Kings 22:1)
10. Seven Days (Job 2:11,13)



Shoeboxes are due on Monday, November 13

You may bring back your completed boxes at any time.

It's Operation Christmas Child SHOEBOX time again!!

This year our church was blessed with FREE BOXES to pack our shoebox gifts in. They will be available on the table in the narthex. Please take one and start thinking about what you'd like to pack this year.

There are a few completed boxes on the table to give you some ideas.

Visit our website: <https://www.sibleyfrc.org/missions/operation-christmas-child.cfm> for more information about shoeboxes.

The shipping and handling cost for *each box* remains at \$9.

There are several ways you can pay this.

1. You may make out a check in the envelope attached to the **How to Pack a Shoebox** brochure (available on the narthex table) and **place them in the box provided on the table.**
2. You can use a self-sticking **FOLLOW YOUR BOX LABEL** (available on the narthex table) and follow the instructions to pay online.
3. You can go to: [samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/follow-your-box/](https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/follow-your-box/) to pay for your box(es) and print out labels that you can affix to your finished boxes.



Sailors Brave Difficult Seas to Deliver Shoebox Gifts in the Pacific

A team of seven recently set sail on a 57-foot boat named Cloud Nine with cartons of Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts on board. Their destination? An isolated part of Kwajalein Atoll. Home to some 11,000 people scattered across 100 small islands, Kwajalein Atoll is a part of the Marshall Islands, a nation located in the Pacific Ocean between Hawaii and Indonesia.

Situated on a more than 1,000-square-mile coral reef and featuring one of the world's largest lagoons, the atoll is an isolated place at the ends of the earth that even boats find tricky to access. "We had a very rough sail there, and when we got inside the lagoon it was not great weather or anchorage, but we felt safe," said Katie, a missionary to the Marshall Islands who sailed together with her husband Scott, the captain of the ketch.

When they reached the island of Mejatto, another smaller boat shuttled them ashore with the cartons of shoeboxes. Here they held an outreach event in which they shared the Gospel in a child-friendly manner and distributed 96 gift-filled shoeboxes that were packed with care by people from around the world. Moved by these tangible expressions of God's love and the stories from Scripture, a total of 87 children accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior at the event! "It was an amazing outreach," said Katie, but while the team was ashore distributing the shoeboxes the weather turned in the lagoon. Thankfully, Captain Scott had stayed back on Cloud Nine to guide it through the huge squall that dragged their anchor 148 feet. "A little scary since the only thing behind us was reef," said Katie, "but he was able to reset the anchor and make our vessel secure for the night."

The next day, the team visited neighboring Ebadon, known as the forgotten island. The boat shuttle owner had warned them that they only had five hours to get in and out during high tide. Otherwise, the water level gets too low for even the shuttle to travel because the reef is so large. Undeterred by the time constraints, the team loaded the shoebox gifts onto the shuttle and set off to serve the island with a population of just 74. When they made it ashore, Ke-bot—who is the acting mayor, principal, and teacher all rolled into one—warmly welcomed them and escorted them to the school where the outreach event was to be held. There amid lots of singing and skits, the team presented the Gospel again and 47 children received fun-filled shoebox gifts. We praise God that 41 of these boys and girls also trusted in Christ as their Lord and Savior!





October 2022 Newsletter

Radiate Haiti Ministries

- Donations to Radiate Haiti supplied over 100 holiday meal kits for 2020 & 2021.
- In 2021, Radiate Haiti helped pay 20 kids school fees and 10 small business loans. School fee money for 2022 is on hold until the government makes the decision to open schools.
- Due to the current instability in Haiti, funds sent will be done in smaller amounts to help protect the team as they get the money from the bank.
- We are praying about ways Radiate can help support our brothers and sisters in Haiti during the current humanitarian crisis. We will update as we know more.
- Haiti continues to be in an unstable position both politically and economically. The lack of fuel has shut down markets, hospitals and recently the ability for clean water to be made and distributed throughout the country. Due to this, Cholera related deaths have begun. Without access to clean water and the inability for hospitals to open, they predict the Cholera related deaths to continue to steadily increase.
- Haitians continue to be resilient but the continued hardships wear on a person-even those who are accustomed to this type of trauma. It sounds cliché to ask for continued prayers but really, Haiti is in desperate need of prayer, now more than ever.

Thank you for your support,
Papito and Kelsey Joseph



Meeting
Minutes

Consistory Meeting Highlights

October 10, 2022

- MMSA to all Diane Langstraat to use the kitchen/fellowship hall on Thanksgiving Day.
- MMSA to approve the 2023 Sibley FRC Budget for the congregational meeting.

Let us give thanks

**Thanksgiving
Eve Service**

Wednesday, November 23 at 6:30 PM
All Are Welcome

PRAYER LIST

BE A
Prayer
WARRIOR
Luke 21:36

PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

1. Randy and Kelli Van De Berg
2. Duane and Pam Vande Hoef
3. Paul and Phyllis Vander Linden
4. Harold and Shelia Van Der Sloot
5. Pray for our College Students
6. Pray for our Church
7. Mark Van Der Sloot;
Damian, Jackson, Keegan
8. Helen Vander Veen
9. Collin and Alexis Van Diepen
10. Ger and Barb Van Diepen
11. John and Lois Van Diepen
12. Pray for our College Students
13. Pray for our Church
14. Janelle Van Drunen
15. Jim and Pauline Van Engen
16. Joel and Angie Van Gelder; Ted
17. Curt and Peg Van Kley
18. Steve and Leanne Van Kley
19. Pray for our College Students
20. Pray for our Church
21. Dean and Amy Van Marel
22. David Van Ruler; Kacee, Kelsey
23. Harvey and Marcia Van Ruler
24. Justin Van Tilburg
25. Bryan Verdoorn
26. Pray for our College Students
27. Pray for our Church
28. Joel and Kathy Verdoorn
29. Larry and Alfreda Verdoorn
30. Roger Verdoorn

College Students:

Mackenzie Beyer
Logan Bruxvoort
Kaden Maxwell
Teddy Van Gelder

Carter Brouwer
Andrea Leusink
Austin Wassman
Tyler Feldkamp

Dalten Bremer
Ashilyn Hulstein
Natalie Klaassen

Leah Ackerman
Grant Brouwer
Tanner Dykstra
Jaeger Johnson
Alex Mc Dougall

Ryan Van Marel



PRAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

Assisted Living

Trudy Dykstra
Ethel Jurgens
Geneva Wissink
Larry & Alfreda Verdoorn
Margaret Calsbeek

The Nursing Homes

Harold Schram
Marlys Brink
Donna Sterler

Our Missionaries

Dr. Bernadeth Kelly &
Adrian Bobb
Sayuri Kist—Okazaki
Brian & Donna Renes
J.J. & Tim TenClay
Rowland & Jan Van Es
Grace Covenant Ministries

Christian Retirement Home

Helen Vander Veen

PRAYER JOURNAL

Lined area for writing prayer journal entries.

MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

THE IMAGO DEI



In trying to understand the confusing ideas that confront us every day, I have heard more and more Christian theologians say that the Church needs to rediscover what it means to be created in God's image. They suggest that if we understand this, then we will know how to speak to one another and how to treat one another in a way that Jesus would approve.

If the Bible is true—and we claim to believe that it is—then Genesis 1:26-27 proclaims:

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

God created man differently than the other things he created—we are more than frogs, or evolutionary slime, because we are image bearers. We have souls, we have propositional language, we have purpose, we are moral creatures...we are different and we are special. Even though we are fallen, we still are image bearers and we have souls that will never die. We are so valuable to God that even when we rebelled against Him, he provided salvation for us through Jesus Christ.

This distinction applies to so many issues of our day, so let's look at a couple very, very, very quickly.

1. **How should we treat people who are different from ourselves?** We are to love them, serve them, and call them to faith because as R. C. Sproul once said, *It matters how we treat white people and black people, Jewish people, any kind of people, because they're created in the image of God and they bear that image even in their sinfulness. We are called to love them as we love ourselves.*
2. **Why are we pro-life?** Because we believe that the *right to life* is a God given right. We may not discard any life without due process, and that includes the unborn children. The Bible repeatedly describes children as a *gift* from God. *Psalms 127:3, 113:9; Genesis 33:5, 48:9, Joshua 24:3*
3. **Why do we treat animals and the creation with respect, but not equality?** Nothing else in creation is made in the image of God. We do not 'have' the image of God, we *'are' the image of God*. Animals are not made in the image of God, and we are to have dominion over them. They are God's gift, and our responsibility before Him.
4. **Why do we reject gender fluidity and proclaim marriage as only between a man and a woman?** There is so much more than this in the scriptures, but in our Genesis passage we are created in God's image as *male and female*. In Genesis 2:18-25, the scriptures explain the dignity of marriage, and how the man and the woman are designed to glorify God in marriage. More needs to be said, but for now it is enough to establish the creation order.
5. **How do we help the crisis of self-worth and suicide, particularly with teens?** For decades we have taught in school, and in culture, that it is *up to us* to define our identity and our worth. It doesn't work! Your worth and value come not from yourself or from others, but from God himself. No one is worthless—you and I are made in His image, and He loves us.
6. **Why do we need to study God's word more diligently?** An easy answer, so we know the one whose image we bear. If we know God, then loving our neighbor as ourselves will become part of our everyday pattern of living and thinking. And, we will learn the deeper wisdom we need to answer the tough questions of our day.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

- APPLE PIE
- BEANS
- BREAD
- CORN
- CRANBERRY SAUCE
- GRAVY
- HAM
- MASHED POTATOES
- MILK
- PUMPKIN PIE
- ROLLS
- SQUASH
- STUFFING
- SWEET POTATOES
- TURKEY



Chicken Scratch NY

N S T U F F I N G I R L U N Y
 F G K D A E R B V G C A D Q E
 A B E A N S I L S O R Q G S K
 O G K E I P E L P P A P A E R
 N R O C M L W U Q D N G O O U
 U E J L X E S M S Y B Z O T T
 Z P U M P K I N P I E V N A Z
 H B O J I L C F A G R Y F T V
 N E M Y K U S L L O R Q K O X
 K S A B Y Q T Z H W Y P S P K
 T G H S A U Q S O R S J L T A
 G M A S H E D P O T A T O E S
 Z D L U C W F Z L M U K S E K
 C A K C G T H T T I C R N W B
 G J X S G R A V Y I E Q I S T

FIND YOUR WAY TO THE TURKEY HEART!



Thanksgiving Word Scramble

Unscramble the Thanksgiving words and then use the highlighted letters to form the secret message. You will have to unscramble the message as well.

ICUONROPCA



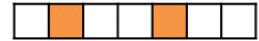
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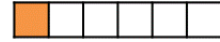
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ILIGPMR



KUTEYR



BCNERRRAY



YRAOMEFWL



TMOLPYUH



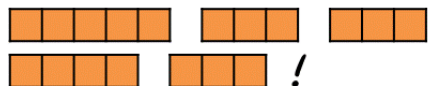
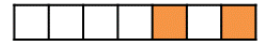
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GWNMPAAAO



INKPMUP





The Thanksgiving Story

Most stories of Thanksgiving history start with the harvest celebration of the pilgrims and the Native Americans that took place in the autumn of 1621. Although they did have a three-day feast in celebration of a good harvest, and the local natives did participate, this “first thanksgiving” was not a holiday, simply a gathering. There is little evidence that this

feast of thanks led directly to our modern Thanksgiving Day holiday. Thanksgiving can, however, be traced back to 1863 when Pres. Lincoln became the first president to proclaim Thanksgiving Day. The holiday has been a fixture of late November ever since.

However, since most school children are taught that the first Thanksgiving was held in 1621 with the Pilgrims and Indians, let us take a closer look at just what took place leading up to that event, and then what happened in the centuries afterward that finally gave us our modern Thanksgiving.

The Pilgrims who sailed to this country aboard the *Mayflower* were originally members of the English Separatist Church (a Puritan sect). They had earlier fled their home in England and sailed to Holland (The Netherlands) to escape religious persecution. There, they enjoyed more religious tolerance, but they eventually became disenchanted with the Dutch way of life, thinking it ungodly. Seeking a better life, the Separatists negotiated with a London stock company to finance a pilgrimage to America. Most of those making the trip aboard the *Mayflower* were non-Separatists, but were hired to protect the company’s interests. Only about one-third of the original colonists were Separatists.

The Pilgrims set ground at Plymouth Rock on December 11, 1620. Their first winter was devastating. At the beginning of the following fall, they had lost 46 of the original 102 who sailed on the *Mayflower*. But the harvest of 1621 was a bountiful one. And the remaining colonists decided to celebrate with a feast – including 91 natives who had helped the Pilgrims survive their first year. It is believed that the Pilgrims would not have made it through the year without the help of the natives. The feast was more of a traditional English harvest festival than a true “thanksgiving” observance. It lasted three days.

Governor William Bradford sent “four men fowling” after wild ducks and geese. It is not certain that wild turkey was part of their feast. However, it is certain that they had venison. The term “turkey” was used by the Pilgrims to mean any sort of wild fowl.

Another modern staple at almost every Thanksgiving table is pumpkin pie. But it is unlikely that the first feast included that treat. The supply of flour had been long diminished, so there was no bread or pastries of any kind. However, they did eat boiled pumpkin, and they produced a type of fried bread from their corn crop. There was also no milk, cider, potatoes, or butter. There was no domestic cattle for dairy products, and the newly-discovered potato was still considered by many Europeans to be poisonous. But the feast did include fish, berries, watercress, lobster, dried fruit, clams, venison, and plums.

This “thanksgiving” feast was not repeated the following year. Many years passed before the event was repeated. It wasn’t until June of 1676 that another Day of Thanksgiving was proclaimed. On June 20 of that year the governing council of Charlestown, Massachusetts, held a meeting to determine how best to express thanks for the good fortune that had seen their community securely established. By unanimous vote they instructed Edward Rawson, the clerk, to proclaim June 29 as a day of thanksgiving. It is notable that this thanksgiving celebration probably did not include Native Americans, as the celebration was meant partly to be in recognition of the colonists’ recent victory over the “heathen natives,” (see the proclamation). By then, it had become apparent to the settlers that the natives were a hindrance to their quest for more land, so the goodwill they shared at the first feast had long been lost.

A hundred years later, in October of 1777 all 13 colonies joined in a thanksgiving celebration. It also commemorated the patriotic victory over the British at Saratoga. But it was a one-time affair.

George Washington proclaimed a National Day of Thanksgiving in 1789, although some were opposed to it. There was discord among the colonies, many feeling the hardships of a few pilgrims did not warrant a national holiday. And later, President Thomas Jefferson opposed the idea of having a day of thanksgiving.

It was Sarah Josepha Hale, a magazine editor, whose efforts eventually led to what we recognize as Thanksgiving. Hale wrote many editorials championing her cause in her *Boston Ladies’ Magazine*, and later, in *Godey’s Lady’s Book*. Finally, after a 40-year campaign of writing editorials and letters to governors and presidents, Hale’s obsession became a reality when, in 1863, President Lincoln proclaimed the *last* Thursday in November as a national day of Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving was proclaimed by every president after Lincoln. The date was changed a couple of times, most recently by Franklin Roosevelt, who set it up one week to the next-to-last Thursday in order to create a longer Christmas shopping season. Public uproar against this decision caused the president to move Thanksgiving back to its original date two years later. And in 1941, Thanksgiving was finally sanctioned by Congress as a legal holiday, as the *fourth* Thursday in November.

Thanksgiving Bible Verses

- ◆ *"Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!" (Psalm 107:1)*
- ◆ *"I will give to the Lord the thanks due to his righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the Lord, the Most High." (Psalm 7:17)*
- ◆ *"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18)*
- ◆ *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." (Philippians 4:6)*
- ◆ *"And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful." (Colossians 3:15)*





Education Schedule:

Please remember the following Weather Cancellations Procedure:
If there is NO school, or school is released early due to inclement weather, there will be NO WEDNESDAY Night activities.

Sunday School 3 yr - Adult:

- November: All Classes as Scheduled

Wednesday Bible Classes (1st-5th grades):

- November 9: No Class due to Congregational Meeting
- November 23: No Class due to Thanksgiving Eve Service

MS and HS Remnant Youth Group:

- November 9: No Class due to Supper/Congregational Meeting
- November 16: Food Find Event (dress warm)
- November 23: No Class due to Thanksgiving Eve Service

College Addresses

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Worthington, MN 56187

MacKenzie Beyer

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Storm Lake, IA 50588

If your student will have a different address for the 2022-2023 school year please let the office know.

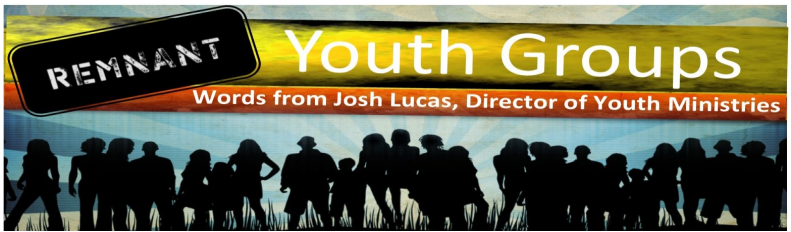
Hello First Reformed Church,

What a season it has been wouldn't you say? All kinds of things are changing all around us. From my understanding the farmers are getting close to being done with harvest, if they are not done already. Leaves are changing and

with some of those wind gusts the other day the leaves fell off of the trees and onto our lawns and sidewalks. We are changing sports seasons from cross country, football, volleyball, and band/color guard to basketball, wrestling, and cheerleading. We are also getting closer to mid-term elections and will be electing either new officials or keeping the same ones in office. There are so many things that are changing around us. Change. That's such a hard thing wouldn't you agree. Especially when you have been doing the same thing for a long period of time. I am a person that has a hard time with change. Not because of I can't handle things being different or anything like that, I have a hard time with it because I get comfortable. Once I keep doing something over and over again it becomes routine and when that routine gets disrupted, I don't really know what to do. However, I have come to accept change and be okay with things being different with understanding the doctrine of the sovereignty of God. As we read in Proverbs 16:9, "The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps." This is one of the most direct proofs of God being in control in this world. He is in control of our lives and there is nothing that is outside of His control. Once I came to know and understand this about God, I decided that instead of getting angry with change, I was going to embrace it. As long as it follows the will of God. How do we know what that is? We go back to Scripture. We test everything with Scripture. Change can be a scary thing, but we have to be willing to go where the Spirit takes us.

Another reason for change is that maybe there is something going on in your life that is unbiblical. There might be something happening in your life that is "toxic" and unhealthy for your mental and spiritual health. There is nothing wrong with walking away, you have to know what is best for you and your family. The Bible talks a lot about walking away or leaving certain situations, not because God wants us to be mean to people, but because He knows what is best for us. There are other times where He wants us to go to some dangerous places as well. Overall, we have to follow the Spirit's leading when it comes to change. This is one thing that we try very hard to do in youth group. We have a set lesson plan and schedule for the whole year. However, there have been moments where we have felt the Holy Spirit move us in a different direction with either a different study or a different event. Change is a good thing, but don't go looking for it. Always remember the amazing saying, "If it ain't broke don't fix it." Always ask yourself, "Is this what God wants? Or could this be better? These two questions can really help save yourself from a lot of heartache and even headaches as well. Change is scary but just remember God will handle the details. You just have to be willing to move. Thank you all for taking the time to read my newsletter article, and remember if you ever need a hug this big ole teddy bear has got one for you!

Blessings,
Josh Lucas



Dad Jokes With Josh:

Q: What happens if a frog parks illegally?

A: It gets toad!

From the library--

Tortured for Christ



Thank you for the donation of the first book we are feathering this month: **WURMBRAND: TORTURED FOR CHRIST.** "On February 29, 1948, Richard Wurmbrand was arrested by the secret police. His crimes? Leading Christian worship and witnessing—both of which were illegal under the atheistic Communist regime in Romania. Richard spent fourteen years in prison. He was tortured, beaten and locked into a solitary confinement cell. Sabina Wurmbrand spent three years in a labor camp nearly freezing to death as she and other prisoners worked on Danube Canal. She was repeatedly told her husband had died behind bars. But Richard and Sabina Wurmbrand had an unshakeable faith in Christ. Neither of them gave up hope and neither of them would stop talking about Jesus. Your faith will be inspired as you go deep inside the darkest prison cells to see how the light of Christ continues to shine from the hearts of those totally committed to him."

DAINGEROUS AFFIRMATION



M.D. PERKINS

There is a lot of talk about Homosexuality maybe this book by M.D. Perkins will answer some of your questions. M.D. Perkins is an elder at Lawndale Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Tupelo, Mississippi. **DANGEROUS AFFIRMATION** is an insightful analysis of the influence and spread of "gay Christianity." "The author exposes the way this movement handles theology, biblical interpretation, the church, personal and group identity, and political activism. While many Christians are being won over to this immoral cause, DANGEROUS AFFIRMATION serves as a sober-minded call to faithfulness in the midst of cultural and religious chaos."

OVER 13 MILLION SOLD

MY
UTMOST
FOR HIS
HIGHEST

OSWALD
CHAMBERS

MY UTMOST FOR HIS HIGHEST (An Updated Edition in Today's Language) by Oswald Chambers is one of the most enduring bestsellers and available in the language of our time. "This distinctive Christian classic, with its rich, spiritual insights and life-changing perspectives, has now been faithfully translated for a new generation. This completely revised edition of Oswald Chamber's best-known work uses up-to-date language and the clear and accurate New King James Version text."



Last, but not least, we have a fiction book for you **FALLING FOR THE COWGIRL, by Jodi Hedlund.** This book is the fourth in the "Colorado Cowboys" series. "As the only girl in her family, and with four older brothers, Ivy McQuaid can rope and ride with the roughest of ranchers. She's ready to have what she's always longed for—a home of her own. She's set her heart on a parcel of land south of Fairplay and is saving for it with her winnings from the cowhand competitions she sneaks into—but her dream is put in jeopardy when the man she once loved reappears in her life. After two years away Jericho Bliss is back in South Park as an undercover Pinkerton agent searching for a war criminal. He has no intention of involving a woman in the dangerous life he leads, but one look at Ivy is all it takes for him to question the path he's set out for himself. Even though Jericho tries to resist his longtime attraction to the beautiful and vivacious Ivy, he finds himself falling hard and fast for her. In the process, his worst fear comes true—he puts her smack-dab in the middle of danger. With Ivy's life in the balance, will Jericho give her up once again, or will he find a way back to her, this time forever?"

Checking out a book is easy! 1) Take out the card from the card pocket, 2) Write your name on it, 3) Also put the date due on the card by your name, (you have two weeks, there are calendars on the bulletin board above the desk for your convenience. 4) Place the card in the yellow card file, 5) Take the book with you, relax and enjoy some down time!

~~~Jeannette Juffer



It's another start to another academic year at St. Paul's University here in Limuru, Kenya. We closed one week early last semester for the national Presidential and parliamentary elections, but the school year started as usual on September 5.

In August, Rowland was able to visit one of his students on field practicum or internship and we made a short video describing some of what Stephen did and learned from his field work. If you can't access the video or want to read about Stephen, see his story below. Even if you watch the video please be sure to see our prayer requests after Stephen's story.

*Stephen is a diploma of theology student and a member of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa but chose to work with Rev. Osborne from a different church. Rev. Osborne is a police officer and chaplain of the Administration Police (AP) in Limuru. Stephen deliberately went out of his comfort zone to see a different kind of ministry and work with a different kind of congregation; poorer, more marginalized, and including many people in legal trouble forced to deal with the police.*

*Stephen was impressed with Rev. Osborne's humility and pastoral outreach to vulnerable people in their homes and in hospitals. He would always remind people of what they did have, not what they didn't have, and start there in helping them. During his internship Stephen also had the chance to put into practice much of what he learned at St Paul's. He had taken Rowland's preaching class and then he had the chance to preach in various settings: church and chapel, open air services, on-line services and even inside the four AP offices in the district.*

*Stephen was also able to do some pastoral counseling in the church vestry, in people's homes, in the hospital, or after revival meetings. He said he learned to be more spontaneous and to depend more on the Holy Spirit each day in ministry.*

This semester Rowland is teaching Preaching, Ethics, Chaplaincy (Gerontology), and supervising field internships (more students like Stephen going off to learn practical ministry skills). Jane is teaching Introduction to Psychology, Social Psychology and Stress Management. There are over 800 new students enrolled in the various programs at St. Paul's four campuses, so things are busy.

**Praise God for peaceful elections. Pray** for continued peace during the transition of power to a new political administration with a new president and a new parliament.

**Pray** for all of us (faculty, staff, and students) as we begin the new academic year here at St Paul's University. New students and new classes bring continued opportunities to not only provide a quality Christian education but also shape the next generation of leaders for both the church and society.

**Pray** for Kenyans who are feeling the impact of drought and inflation. Even though things look pretty green around St. Paul's, many areas of Kenya are experiencing severe drought. The price of maize meal (Kenya's staple food) has nearly doubled. Four million Kenyans face food insecurity.

**Pray** for RCA missionaries serving all over the world, especially those in Africa who we pray with every month: those in Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger, South Sudan, South Africa, and of course those of us in Kenya.

Thanks for your prayers and support for us and all our colleagues (SPU & RCA).

Jane and Rowland Van Es, Jr.  
RCA Global Mission Partners serving in Limuru, Kenya.







## Honoring All Veterans on Veterans Day

*We thank you for your service and sacrifices. We are forever grateful!*

Happy moments, **PRAISE GOD.**  
Difficult moments, **SEEK GOD.**  
Quiet moments, **WORSHIP GOD.**  
Painful moments, **TRUST GOD.**  
Every moment, **THANK GOD.**

-Rick Warren

**November 9, at 7:00pm**  
*congregational*  
**MEETING**

Let's find the  
**FOOD**

**Annual Remnant Youth Food Find**  
When: November 16 from 6:30-8:30pm  
All Non-Perishable foods needed.

**NO FROZEN ITEMS!!!!**

Please turn on your porch light if you want a student to stop.  
Donations can also be dropped off at church Monday-Wednesday.

**November 9, at 6:00pm**

*Spaghetti Supper*



Happy Thanksgiving to our loved ones who are in Heaven.

We will always love and miss you...

*Until we meet again.*

all-greatquotes.com

