

Ponderings From the Pastor

By Brad Taylor, Pastor

What did the first Americans who started the custom of setting aside a day of Thanksgiving to God, have to be thankful for? They had only primitive, quickly built log homes, little food and it was severe winter. They had no means of transportation but their legs. They had started from scratch in the wilderness that was North America in 1620. The first winter, one-half of them died from the cold and starvation.

Then a miracle occurred. An American Indian named Squanto came into their lives. Captain George Weymouth who was exploring the New England for the Plymouth Company abducted Squanto and some other Indians in 1605. Weymouth took Squanto and

other Indians back to England to show the owner of the company what they were like. Squanto returned to New England in 1614



with an expedition led by Captain John Smith. On his way back to Pawtuxet, Englishman Thomas Hunt, one of Smith's lieutenants, abducted Squanto. Hunt sold America fish, corn, and captured natives in Spain. There, Hunt sold Squanto and a number of other Native Americans into slavery.

However, some local friars who opposed what

Hunt was doing, purchased the American Indians, including Squanto, in order to instruct them in the Christian faith. Squanto convinced

the friars to let him try to return home. In 1617, the friars arranged for Squanto to go to London, where he worked for a shipbuilder for a few years. To get to New England, Squanto tried to take part in an expedition to that part of the North American east coast. Unfortunately, Squanto returned to London in 1618 to ask for permission about the

trip to Squanto's homeland. At last, in 1619 Squanto returned to his homeland aboard John Smith's ship, having joined an exploratory expedition along the New England coast as an interpreter. Squanto soon discovered that his tribe, as well as a majority of coastal New England tribes, died in an epidemic the year before. Squanto had spent 14 years learning to speak English, Spanish and the Bible.

Squanto decided to live where his old village had been. Then, in the winter of 1620 - 1621, Squanto heard of Plymouth Colony. He went here and on March 22, 1621, Squanto walked

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Give Thanks With A Grateful Heart



Submitted by Mindy Taylor

Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son, Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son, And now let the weak say, "I am strong," Let the poor say, "I am rich," Because of what the Lord has done for us, And now let the weak say, "I am strong," Let the poor say, "I am rich," Because of what the Lord has done for us, Give thanks, We give thanks (give thanks) We give thanks.

This worship song was written in 1978 by Henry Smith. The young seminary graduate penned it during a difficult time in his life when he was struggling to find work and coming to terms with a degenerative eye condition that would eventually leave him legally blind. Smith's inspiration was the scripture, "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he be-

came poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich." Finding hope in 2 Corinthians 8:9's description of God becoming human to save man, he penned this simple song of trust and giving thanks.

We will be having the "Give Thanks" holiday tree again this year for the month of November. Please take a moment to write the things you are thankful for on the leaf provided. An example of a leaf from the Give Thanks tree last year was written with these words: Family, Friends and a God that forgives.

Let us not become ungrateful to the Lord for His blessings that He bestows on us. Hebrews 12:28-29 Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, and offer to God pleasing service and acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for our God is [indeed] a consuming fire.

November Van Schedule

Nov. 2 — Toney Robbins, Keith Hardison, Sharon Lee, Mike Mayfield, Gail Mayfield

Nov. 9 — Brittaney Day, Keith Hardison, Sharon Lee, Mike Mayfield, Gail Mayfield

Nov. 16 — Toney Robbins, Keith Hardison, Sharon Lee, Mike Mayfield, Gail Mayfield

Nov. 23 — Thanksgiving Holiday

Nov. 30 — Dawn Benson, Keith Hardison, Sharon Lee, Mike Mayfield, Gail Mayfield

November Sermon Calendar

Nov. 6 — The First Table, Exodus 20:1-17

Nov. 13 — God's Faithfulness Past, Present, and Future, Ephesians 2:11-12

Nov. 20 — Thanksgiving

Nov. 27 — God's Mission, Jonah 4

Welcome New Members!

Wade Metzinger

John Pugh

November 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2 Jim McEntire bday	3	4 Adult Game Day 11am	5 Canvas neighborhood 8:30am; Welcome Center reserved
6 Children's Crafts & Activities following worship; Abby Jines bday	7 Sue Pierce bday	8	9 Lisa Lee bday	10 Crafty Christians 10am; Randy Brannon, Jim Collins & Searra Story bdays	11	12
13	14	15 Eric Treesh bday	16 Philip Ballard bday	17	18 Katie Curtis & John Moss bdays	19 Josh Story bday
20 Church Thanksgiving dinner noon; Allen Tittle bday	21 Sissy Edmundson bday	22	23 Lois Gerhard bday	24 Thanksgiving Day; No Crafty Christians	25	26 Decorate for Christmas; Mike Nottingham bday
27 Helen Blankenship bday	28	29	30			

into the town and in English said, "I am Squanto." Squanto went on to teach the pilgrims how to grow American crops, how dig clams, oysters, where to fish and catch other seafood. Squanto also made peace between the nearby Indians, the ones who celebrated that first Thanksgiving with the colonist. It was from the abundance from Squanto teaching and the colonist labor with which all celebrated the first Thanksgiving.

Both Squanto and the Pilgrims considered this a miracle, a miracle like Joseph in the Bible. Remember in the Book of Genesis that Joseph, the 11th of Jacob's 12 sons and Rachel's firstborn, came to be sold into slavery by his jealous brothers and rose to become the second most powerful man in Egypt next to Pharaoh. When famine struck Egypt, Jacob

(Joseph's father) and Joseph's brothers went to Egypt. Joseph saved his family from starvation, and Pharaoh gave them his best land, the land of Goshen, for their land. God preformed that same miracle for the colony through Squanto.

Thanksgiving Day is a distinctive American holiday. It does not commemorate a battle or anyone's birthday or anniversary. It is simply a day set aside to express our nation's thanks to God.

In 1789, George Washington made this public proclamation, "By the President of the United States of America, a proclamation: Whereas, it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor, and whereas, both Houses of Congress have by their joint com-

mittee requested me 'to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God.' Now, therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be."

This month our nation will pause once again to celebrate Thanksgiving Day. Because of the example of our ancestors, and because today we have so much, we will give thanks. We as a church family will also come together immediately following morning worship on Sunday, Nov. 20 to celebrate a meal of Thanksgiving together. Please sign up at the welcome center desk if you plan to attend.



Set your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday, Nov. 5. Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, Nov. 6.

November Daily Bible Reading Plan To Read The Bible Through In 2022

The book-at-a-time Bible reading plan provides two readings for each day. The first reading alternates between Old and New Testament books, giving you three or four chapters a day. The Gospels are spread throughout the year. The second reading takes you through a chapter or so of the wisdom literature and Isaiah. Combined, these readings will take you through the entire Bible in one year. To prevent the frustration of falling behind and to provide some reflection time, each month consists of only 25 readings. You'll have several days each month to meditate more deeply on something that was significant to you in the past week, to catch up on missed readings, or to revisit favorite passages.

November Bible Reading Plan	Nov. 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 24-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 125-126	Nov. 21 <input type="checkbox"/> 7-9	<input type="checkbox"/> 138	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 Peter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Isaiah	Nov. 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 27-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 127	Nov. 22 <input type="checkbox"/> 10-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 139
Nov. 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3	<input type="checkbox"/> 33	Nov. 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 31-34	<input type="checkbox"/> 128-129	Nov. 23 ----- Reflection -----	
Nov. 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 4-5	<input type="checkbox"/> 34	Nov. 13 ----- Reflection -----		Nov. 24 <input type="checkbox"/> 13-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 140
Ezekiel		Nov. 14 <input type="checkbox"/> 35-38	<input type="checkbox"/> 130-131	Nov. 25 <input type="checkbox"/> 16-18	<input type="checkbox"/> 141
Nov. 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 1-4	<input type="checkbox"/> 35	Nov. 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 39-42	<input type="checkbox"/> 132	Nov. 26 <input type="checkbox"/> 19-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 142
Nov. 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5-7	<input type="checkbox"/> 36	Nov. 16 <input type="checkbox"/> 43-45	<input type="checkbox"/> 133-134	Nov. 27 ----- Reflection -----	
Nov. 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 8-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 37	Nov. 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 46-48	<input type="checkbox"/> 135	Daniel	
Nov. 6 ----- Reflection -----		John		Nov. 28 <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3	<input type="checkbox"/> 143
Nov. 7 <input type="checkbox"/> 12-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 38	Nov. 18 <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3	<input type="checkbox"/> 136	Nov. 29 <input type="checkbox"/> 4-6	<input type="checkbox"/> 144
Nov. 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 16-19	<input type="checkbox"/> 39	Nov. 19 <input type="checkbox"/> 4-6	<input type="checkbox"/> 137	Nov. 30 <input type="checkbox"/> 7-9	<input type="checkbox"/> 145
Nov. 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 20-23	<input type="checkbox"/> 123-124	Nov. 20 ----- Reflection -----			

News Briefs

OGBC Thanksgiving Dinner

The church's annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be noon, Sunday, Nov. 20. The church will provide the turkeys, ham and rolls, and those attending are asked to bring side dishes and sign up at the Welcome Desk

Ewomen 2023

Deadline to sign up for 2023 Ewomen conference is Nov. 30. Conference is March 3-4, 2023. Speakers are Lisa Bevere, Lisa Terkeurst, Margaret Feinburg, Jennifer Rothschild and Alli Worthington, and concert with Brandon Lake. See Vicki Albright for more

info and cost. Sign up at Welcome Desk.

OGBC Pictorial Directory

OGBC will have pictorial directory photos made Dec. 6 and 7. Information and sign-up sheet are located on table in front of the sanctuary doors. For more information, see Paula Shepard.

Neighborhood Outreach

Beginning at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 5, breakfast will be served before breaking into groups to knock on neighborhood doors. If there is no answer, we will leave an information card about our church. Please sign up at the information desk.

OGBC Youth News

Submitted by Matt Shepard, Youth Leader

October was a great opportunity of service for our church. We served the football team dinner a couple of times (total of four the past couple months). We actually had about 20-30 youth and a few coaches come check out the youth room as well! Thank you to all who were involved and helped!

The next youth event will be noon Sunday, Nov. 6. We will be doing a Youths-giving feast following service! If you would like to donate anything towards the feast, please let Matt know!

If you have any other questions or concerns, please email me at: ogbc.mshepard@gmail.com.



OGBC fed the Catoosa High School football team several times during the season.

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