

FIRST THINGS

A Newsletter of the First Baptist
Church of Trenton

Reverend C Nadir Powell,
Pastor Interim

November 2014

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Emily Davis,
Minister

Now That's Thanksgiving. Pastor Interim Rev. Powell



Here we are about to celebrate another Thanksgiving Holiday. A holiday that many believe started with the Pilgrims when they came to the New World in 1621. Some look at 1863 being the day that Thanksgiving Day was officially inaugurated when President Abraham Lincoln made it a national holiday on every fourth Thursday of November. No matter what day we look at as being official, it is a day that we celebrate where families and friends gather together in good spirits. There's normally food, fellowship, and fun. It seems that the attitudes of people change for the better. It seems that people are in a more giving mood. People seem to be a little nicer. Isn't it amazing what a holiday that only comes around once a year can do? That being the case, maybe we should try to legislate to make Thanksgiving a holiday every day. Do you think that's a good idea? We can write a letter asking the President to

make Thanksgiving a national everyday versus a national holiday. If we do this, there's a good chance that people won't wait to November to be kinder. Truthfully, if we look at each day that God blesses us to see and the meals He allows us to have; we should look at each day as a holiday and every meal as thanksgiving. I do understand that Thanksgiving is a special day, but every day you wake up is a special day. We don't have to wait for one day to celebrate what God has done for us. He deserves the praise every day. He is the One who provides us with the necessities of life and He sustains us daily. In fact, when it comes to looking at the day that Thanksgiving was officially inaugurated, I think they got the date wrong. Thanksgiving happened a long time ago way back on Calvary when God gave us His only begotten Son who gave His life as a ransom for us. God gave us the greatest Thanksgiving that we could ever have in life because this giving will allow us to gain eternal life. He gave us Jesus

Trustees Corner

Tom Johnson

A few months ago this article focused on giving to the church in order to support the organization, cover expenses and encourage programs for Sunday school and youth. Internet Searches in this area reveal a variety of thoughts, biblical references and recommendations. The following was lifted from Archdiocese of Atlanta. It sums up the topic of giving in a way that explains why we make stewardship a part of our lives. It is not too soon to start thinking about what we will be giving in the New Year as we plan for budgeting both at home and in our Church.

Today we invite people to be more than members of our Church. We call them to be disciples and good stewards. We teach them to live a way of life based on the understanding that all is a gift from God; everything we are and have is freely given for our good. So we should return a portion of our gifts to God in gratitude for God's abundant generosity. This is the basis for stewardship. Stewardship of time, talent and treasure is another way of worshipping, praising and thanking God."

the Christ so we could have a more abundant life. Now, that's what I call Thanksgiving.

There's not a turkey in the world that can compare to that. So as Thanksgiving approaches, don't wait to celebrate what God has done for you, make it part of your daily life. Thank God each day for loving you so and take that same love and share it with someone. There's someone out there that needs you to give them a kind word, a smile, a hand shake, a hug, some encouragement, some hope, some prayer, some help and the list goes on. Somebody needs you to be a blessing to them. Mostly show them the love of Christ who gave His life for our sake. Now, that's Thanksgiving.

Gratitude and Joy

By Emily Davis

God calls Christians to be thankful and to have gratitude. 1 Timothy 4:4 says that we should view and accept everything as a gracious gift from God: "For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected, provided it is received with thanksgiving." Nothing is to be rejected, not even the small things. Gratitude for the small things plants a seed for God to work in us in big ways. When we give thanks for all of the gifts God has given to us, even the small, daily things that we see, touch, hear, smell and taste, we make space for God

to graciously work in our lives.

1 Corinthians 2:7 reads, "We speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory." God's plan for us is to bring us to our full glory. Our full glory involves joy. When we give thanks for everything that God has given to us, God gives us the gift of joy. Author Ann Voskamp describes it this way: "Joy is the realest reality, the fullest life, and joy is always given, never grasped. God gives gifts and I give thanks and I unwrap the gift given: joy."

It is a spiritual practice to pay attention and to have gratitude for all of the gifts that God has given to us. Maybe we notice the way the sunlight shines through the window or the way a child laughs, and we think of God and express our gratitude. Maybe it is a friend's smile or a favorite song that leads us to thank God. Maybe it is the job or money that came in a time of need, or maybe it is comfort and care after a loss. All of these are gifts that God has given to us, and we are to receive them with thanksgiving, whether small and mundane or great and surprising.



ESL and Tutoring

At English as a Second Language and Tutoring, we come together as a community of learners to practice English, grow in our studies, and learn our school subjects. Tutoring and ESL meets on Saturdays from 10am-12pm. This program is free and is for children and youth of all ages. Adults are also welcome. ESL and Tutoring is a place for you to practice speaking and writing English with other people. We will have ESL books available for you to work on English grammar, spelling, sentence structure, and paragraph formation. ESL and Tutoring is also a place for you to bring your homework. Teachers will be available to help with reading, science, math, and all assignments from school. Bring your homework, and a teacher will help you to complete your assignments and learn the material. Tutoring and ESL is followed by a free lunch. We would love to see you there!



Chess for Kids

NEWSLETTER

Newsletter information is due the 15th of each month. Please make sure to have information to the church secretary by the due date. This is to make sure the newsletter is received by all members and friends prior to the Month of the newsletter. Thank you.
fbctsecy@yahoo.com

The Reason of Thanksgiving by Rev. Powell

Like an unchanged melody that plays over and over again
Many gather again to celebrate Thanksgiving
For all kinds of mouthwatering food will fill the table on display
Like seeing our favorite actors on stage of a Broadway play

For the aroma from the food will be permeating the air
Being inhaled by family and friends from all who are there
Unfortunately this won't be the experience of someone somewhere
Because there will still be some who think people don't care

For Thanksgiving is bigger than food and laughter
The hungry, the hurt, and the stranger we should go after
We need to stop thinking about ourselves as if no one else matters
We're called to give to someone whose situation is sadder

Thanksgiving is to give to those who are less fortunate and in need
There are so many out there that we need to help and feed
If we just take a moment to do our part they'll be relieved
And remember it's not just about eating and filling our greed

So go to a stranger and shake a hand or give a hug
Because no matter what day it is everyone deserve to be loved
For Thanksgiving goes beyond one day of the year
It's something that should be done daily holding all dear

So know that giving is something that comes from the heart
To all that's in need make sure to give a part
For this is a reflection of the God in you
Giving to the needy is what God has called us to do

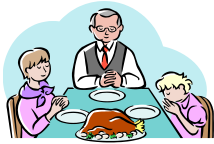
So just don't get caught up with just one part of the season
Go to those who thinks to live, there's no reason
Let them know you care about their whole being
For that's the true reason for Thanksgiving



Half the Sky Documentary
On Sunday, November 9 immediately following worship, we will be watching and discussing the documentary Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide. All men and women are welcome, 16 years and older. There will be activities for any children whose parents are attending. Food will be provided. This event will end around 2:15pm.

Join Us

November 2, 2014 at 4:30 pm there will be a time of prayer and fund raising for victims of Ebola in Liberia. The service will be held at Freedom Christian Worship Center located at 135 Perry St, Trenton. The theme is Power of Caring.



We will be having a pre-thanksgiving breakfast on Novemeber 16th at 10:00am. Please bring a dish to share for this joyous pot luck.

Senior Ministry

The next service at Hamilton Grove will be held on the 21st of December. Reverend Powell will be leading the service.

November Sermons

- Nov 2-The Evidence of Love/ John 21:15-17 Rev. Powell
- Nov 9 The God of Leah and Rachel Genesis 29:15-30 Emily Davis
- Nov 16- Give Thanks/ Colossians 3:17 Rev. Powell
- Nov 23-The Power of Foolishness 1 Corinthians 1:18-21
- Nov 30



Art All Day

On November 8, 2014 at 12 pm- 5 pm, Art All Day will be at TASK, 72 1/2 Esher Street, Trenton. It will be a free day filled with original art, poetry, and music from TASK's Performing Arts Program, The SHARE Project, and A-Team Artists of Trenton. For more info, visit <http://artworkstrenton.org/art-all-day>



Psalms 23

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comfort	mercy	still
death	oil	table
dwelt	pasture	valley
enemies	path	water
evil	restore	
forever	righteousness	
goodness	rod	
house	shadow	
lead	Shepherd	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 2014						
2 9:00 Karen Praise & Prayer 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:15 Fellowship Christian Ed Meeting	3 5:00 STSK	4 5:00 STSK	5 5:00 STSK	6	7	8 10:00 ESL and Tutoring 12:00 Youth Bible Study and Choir
9 9:00 Karen Praise & Prayer 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:15 Fellowship	10 5:00 STSK	11 5:00 STSK	12 5:00 STSK 6:30 Poetry in Motion and Women's Ministry NEWSLETTER INFO DUE	13 6:30 Choir Practice	14	15 10:00 ESL and Tutoring 12:00 Youth Bible Study and Choir
16 9:00 Karen Praise & Prayer 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:15 Fellowship Trustees Meeting	17 5:00 STSK	18 5:00 STSK	19 5:00 STSK	20 6:30 Choir Practice	21	22 10:00 ESL and Tutoring 12:00 Youth Bible Study and Choir
23 and 30 9:00 Karen Praise & Prayer 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:15 Fellowship Deacons Meeting 3:00 Chess for kids	24 5:00 STSK	25 5:00 STSK	26 5:00 STSK	27 6:30 Choir Practice	28	29

Bible Quiz

1. Who said: "If it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it?"
2. To whom did God say: "I AM THAT I AM?"
3. Who uttered these beautiful words: "The heavens declare the glory of God"
4. To Whom, and how, did Jesus say we should pray?
5. With whom are these words associated: "Thou God seest me?"

- a. Hagar (Genesis 16:13)
- b. David (Psalm 19:1)
- c. Gamaliel (Acts 5:39)
- d. Moses (Exodus 3:14)
- e. To our Father in heaven, "Enter into thy closet" (Matthew 6:6)

(answers: 1.c, 2.d, 3.b, 4.e, 5.a)

November 2014

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