

November 26, 2020

GIVE THANKS IN ALL SITUATIONS

Charles Dickens said that we are somewhat mixed up here in America. He told an audience that instead of having one Thanksgiving Day each year we should have 364. Then we should "Use that one day just for complaining and griping." He then said we could "Use the other 364 days to thank God each day for the many blessings He has showered upon you." I feel that Dickens is somewhat right. We like to spend the year complaining often, then when the time comes for Thanksgiving, we are usually too busy complaining about the rest of the year to actually give thanks on that one day. This year is particularly a tough one on most all of us, which makes Thanksgiving this year a little bit different as well. Some of you may have a very traditional Thanksgiving, but most are probably having to change plans or cancel altogether. Others may be saddened by the loss of a loved one this past year and may find it hard to celebrate Thanksgiving. Whatever the situation may be, Thanksgiving is a challenge this year.

Then there is **1 Thessalonians 5:16-19**. The passage says, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit." These verses are interesting, not only because it tells us to give thanks in all situations, but also that it is the Will of God in Jesus that we do so. Does God really expect us to be thankful during challenging times in our lives? We should be thankful when we cannot do what we are used to doing, when our friends and family are sick or have passed away, or when we lose our job and struggle making ends meet? The answer is yes.

When I think of being thankful in bad situations, I am reminded of Daniel. When King Darius signed a decree that said if anyone were to pray to any other god but the king for the following thirty days, they would be cast into a den of lions. In **Daniel 6:10**, we see what Daniel did. It reads, "When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously." Daniel had just received news that a law had been established and made it illegal to pray and Daniel gives thanks to God. Because of this, he was sentenced to be cast into a

lions' den, but because he trusted in God, the lions did not touch him. In the end Daniel had a lot to be thankful for. Because of what happened, King Darius wrote a new decree. **Daniel 6:26-27** says, "I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion, people are to tremble and fear before the God of Daniel, for he is the living God, enduring forever; his kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion shall be to the end. He delivers and rescues; he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth, he who has saved Daniel from the power of the lions."

Daniel did not know what all was going to happen. For all that he knew, the nation was on a path to get rid of God altogether, but Daniel gave thanks just the same. Because of that prayer of thanks, the entire nation learned of the Power of the living God. **Daniel 6:28** closes the chapter by saying, "So this Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian." God did not leave Daniel. Even when times were scary and it looked like Daniel had met his end, God was there. That was why Daniel was able to give thanks even in terrible times, and that is why we should be able to do the same. **Philippians 4:6-7** says, "do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Just as God never left Daniel, God will never leave us. So be thankful, for God has blessed you with another day and He promises that through Him, we can prosper. **Hebrews 13:5-6** tells us, "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"

Let us remember to give thanks to God for all that He has blessed us with. Not only during the Thanksgiving holiday, but all year long, when times are good and when times are bad. Most importantly, we must thank God for sending His own son to save us from being lost and giving us the opportunity to be united with Him once again.

Andrew Spivey

Our Love and Prayers for the family of Robert Williamson who passed away on Tuesday November 24th. No other details at this time.

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday: Read – Luke 1:39-80

Wednesday: Read – Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 2:1-20

FALL QUARTER BIBLE STUDY #12

Questions for the Reading of week #11; Matthew 1:1-17 & Luke 3:23-38; Luke 1:1-38.

1. With whom did Matthew start his genealogy of Jesus and why?
2. With whom did Luke start his genealogy of Jesus and why?
3. Name the four women in Jesus' genealogy?
4. What was the angel's name who appeared to Zacharias and Mary?
5. What was John's job when he grew up?

SYMPATHY

Our Love and Prayers to the **Sheppard Family** on the passing of **Winford**, a former member, on November 19th. Winford is the husband of Sherri, father to Samantha and grandfather to Mattie and Tyler. Funeral services were held Monday, November 23rd in Gallatin.

WE CAN ALWAYS DO OUR BEST

Are you putting forth effort to make your life the best that it can be? We say we want to accomplish things, yet we choose to be less than we can be. People die much younger than they have to, many times because of bad habits. People go to work and do a halfway job and wonder why they don't get promoted. People have great ability, but do only a small percentage of what they could do. People choose to earn less than they could earn. People choose to live in filth and to destroy the environment. People choose to contribute very little to their marriage or family. We can do much better in life and it all begins with putting God first. " But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow; for tomorrow shall be anxious for its own things. Sufficient to the day is the evil of it." (Matthew 6:33-34). Put God first and you will do your best. Then you will not have to worry about tomorrow. I know we cannot be the best at everything, but we can always do our best.

Bulletin Digest/ Walnut Street Church of Christ

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

November 29, 2020

9:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....Jim Cherry
 Song Leader.....Carl Newby
 Opening Prayer.....David Johnson
 Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
 Lord's Supper.....Tim Cummins
 Closing Prayer.....Jim Huffman

11:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....Charlie Seals
 Song Leader.....Jerry Watson
 Opening Prayer.....David Thompson
 Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
 Lord's Supper.....Jonathan Senn
 Closing Prayer.....Chuck Norton

5:00 P.M. SERVICE

Welcome.....Charlie Seals
 Song Leader.....Jerry Watson
 Opening Prayer.....Tim Strickland
 Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
 Lord's Supper.....Adam Williamson
 Closing Prayer.....Ken Veale

WEDNESDAY,

December 2, 7:00 P.M.

Welcome.....Jim Cherry
 Song Leader.....Carl Newby
 Opening Prayer.....Tony Butler
 Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
 Closing Prayer.....Brent Smith

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL

Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935
 Church Office.....615-452-3431

We have two Sunday morning services. The first service begins at 9:00 am and the other at 11:00 am. You may now choose which service you would like to attend. We still need to follow the guidelines for social distancing.

Nashville Road Church of Christ
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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sun. Morning Worship 9:00 a.m. & Sun. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Wed. Evening Bible Class 7:00

SICK LIST

Shelby Ross is home now after short stay at hospital. **Andy Boner** is home with Covid-19. **Helen Milliken** is in the hospital with Covid. **Gerald Miles** is now at the Waters, Room 214. **Bob Harris** has been placed on Hospice care. **Grace Bracey** is having significant health issues. **Jim Sweeney** is home now on home health. **Beth Smith**, wife of Kenneth Smith and sister-in-law to Bernice, Frances, Jean & Mary Ann, has been placed on Hospice Care. **Terry Thompson**, brother of David Thompson, is in ICU with Covid. **Steven Burgess**, step-son of Pauletta Hood, is recovering from injuries from a car accident. **Cora Mayes-Barron**, daughter of Barry & Rachel Mayes has been diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. She has finished her second round of chemo. **Craig Sweeney**, son of James & Doris Sweeney, has been accepted into a new drug trial clinic. **John Arnold**, father of Brenda Veale is homebound and dealing with serious health issues.

CARE LINE: 615-452-2464



PRAYER LIST

Jan Fulford; Bob Harris; J.H & Frances Catron; Melba Hill; William Dunn; Jean Deaton; Ron & Anna Radish; Donna Holmes, daughter of Eva Petty; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Will Flowers**, brother-in-law of Grace Bracey. **Dana Loveless**, friend of Jim & Linda Cherry; **Danny Lowe** cousin of Linda Cherry; **Zachery Simmons**, grandson of Charles & Fay Simmons; **Elias Benjamin Simmons**, great grandson of Charles & Fay Simmons; **Debbie Sparks**, sister of Rachel Mayes; **Lawrence Redding**, son-in-law of Betty Melcher; **Taylor Lackford**, niece of Brenda Veale; **Dustin Lackford**, nephew of Brenda Veale; **Janice Haskins**, sister of Jim Cherry; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **Wayne Holt**, nephew of Grace Bracey; **John Gregory**, brother of Bob Gregory; **Pam Flory**, friend of Sherry Sever; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson; **Betty Billingsley**, sister of Wanda Proctor; **Walter Wooten**, brother of Wanda Sherrill. We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

SHUT-INS

Ilene Kinney; Jane Hughes, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; **Bill & Jane Dunn; Cathy Henderson; Penny Campbell**, The Village of Bellevue, Room 417, 8118 B Sawyer Brown Road, Nashville, TN 37221; **Dorothy Sullivan**, Front Porch Senior Living 115 Sunset Pl. Portland TN, 37148; **Jean Thurman**, mother-in-law of Myra Rasnick, Brookdale, Hendersonville.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	N/A
Morning Worship 9am.....	66
Morning Worship 11am.....	62
Sunday Evening.....	47
Wednesday Evening.....	N/A
Contributions.....	\$6,750.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$9,359.13

Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621
Jerry Watson.....	615-461-8137

Deacons

Carl Newby Brent Smith
 Ken Veale Adam Williamson



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ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister
 TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister