

# INTO THE FOLD November 2019

visit our website at [www.umcrp.org](http://www.umcrp.org)

## Ponderings by Pastor JoEllyn....

### Shake It Off.....Press On

There are times in life when another's circumstances are not understood, that age old expression: "Walk a Mile in My shoes", had to be said. We are quick to judge without knowing someone else's story. Today let's focus on stuffing our size 8's into another's size 6 footwear. Let's walk with them, not in front of them showing them what we believe, but by their side in solidarity.

Scripture talks to us about goals:

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup> Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly, call of God in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> Let those of us then who are mature be of the same mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you. <sup>16</sup> Only let us hold fast to what we

have attained.....Philippians 3: 12-16

There was a farmer who discovered that his donkey had fallen into a dry well. The animal cried pitifully for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do for his poor donkey. Finally, he concluded that the well was too deep, and it really needed to be covered up anyway. Besides, the donkey was old, and it would be a lot of trouble to get him out of the pit. The farmer decided that it was not worth trying to retrieve the animal, so he asked his neighbors



to help him fill in the well and bury the donkey.

They all grabbed shovels and began to toss dirt into the well. The donkey immediately realized what was happening, and he began to bray horribly. Crying would be our normal response if somebody was mistreating us this badly, so this donkey was responding the same way we would at first, but then he got real quiet. A few shovel loads of dirt later, the farmer looked down the well and was astonished at what

he saw. With every shovel of dirt that hit the donkey's back, the donkey would shake it off and step on top of it.

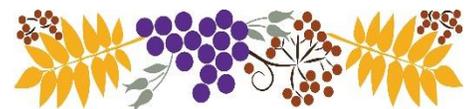
As the neighbors and farmer continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he continued to shake it off and take a step up. Pretty soon the donkey shook off the last shovel full of dirt, took a step up, and walked right out of the well.

We can learn from this story. When trouble comes, if we will get still and listen, God will tell us what to do. By the grace and the mercy of God, we are able to shake off a lot of things in our lives: a lot of hurt feelings, a lot of mistreatment, a lot of abuse, a lot of unfair..unjust..unkind things. Just like the donkey, in order to keep pressing on and have victory in our lives, we are going to have to learn to shake off the troubles that come our way.

Blessings and love,

Always Praying You Through,

Pastor JoEllyn





Thank you, so much for the

thoughts, gifts and hugs during Pastor Appreciation month. It's hard to believe that two years have passed since I was first assigned as your Pastor. I want you all to know how welcomed and appreciated, I always feel. Know how much I care about each of you every day. You are my blessings.

Pastor JoEllyn and Lester

**Bette's Pen:**

In looking for something for Kid's Korner I came across this Thanksgiving Top Ten List and as I read the things on the list, I realized these are all things I am most thankful for.. You can imagine my surprise that the names of family were the same as my families'.. Just kidding, 😊 I added my family names.. # 10 on their list was Jesus, and they said He was # 1 so it only made sense to have Him #1 not #10..So I took the liberty of re-arranging the order of the list and I added one more to list to make it eleven ..

Thanksgiving Top Eleven List  
<https://sermons4kids.com/>

Scripture: Psalms 100:4 (NIV)

*"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name."*

1. Jesus –Jesus is number one on the list of things for which

I am thankful. No one ever loved me like Jesus. He loved me so much that he was willing to die on a cross so that I can have everlasting life. Thank you, Jesus.

2. Parents – I am thankful that God blessed me with wonderful parents, Joe & Marian Watnick, who loved me, cared for me, and taught me about Jesus and his love.
3. Family – I am thankful for my family. God has given me a wonderful husband, Dave, daughter, Roseann, and grandson, Cj, son-in-law, Chris My daughter 2, Tammie, her hubby Alan, and their children Aly & Riley, my sister Deb and her hubby Mike, & son Denny/Courtney, my brother Joey, (yes I still call him Joey) his wife Jackie, their children, Ken/Cristina, Chris, Darin/Katie, and their children; Dreydyn, Emma, Kayhj, Kara, Levi, & Lucas... My home church family and all the great church family here at RPUMC...
4. Friends – I am thankful for my many friends. In times of trouble, I have always had friends who were there to help me.
5. Health – I am thankful that I am blessed with good health. Many people have a serious illness which keeps them from enjoying a full and happy life.
6. My house – that has air conditioning in summer and warm, wonderful heat in winter. There are many people in this world today who have no place to live. Many of them sleep on park benches and under bridges.

7. Food - we always have plenty to eat at our house. Many people don't. Driving, I see people standing beside the road holding a sign that says, "Will work for food."
8. Clothes – I don't worry about whether there will be clothes in my closet for me to put on each day. Of course, I may worry if the closet gremlins have got in there & taken in the seams to make them just a bit snug.. Many people only have the clothes that they are wearing.
9. My country – I am thankful that I live in a country where I enjoy great freedom. In many countries you don't have much freedom. In some countries you can be put in prison, or even put to death, for telling others about Jesus.
10. Teachers – I am thankful for the teachers that I have had in school and in church who have taught me the things I needed to know to live a happy and successful life.
11. Lastly, and most importantly, I am thankful for **Grace** — for love that cannot be explained and a hope that there is more to the story than we see.

Well, that is my top eleven list. I have been given much. The Bible says that God blesses us and gives us much so that we may show our thanks by sharing it with others. I hope that this Thanksgiving, we will share what God has given us with those who do not have as much as we do.

Dear Lord, thank you for all of your rich blessings. Help us to share what you have given us with those who are less fortunate than we are. Amen.

I wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving.. May only your turkey be stuffed..

“Hakuna Mattata”!

Blessings & Peace be yours, *Bette*



### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are going to be taking a look at angels in Judith MacNutt’s book, Encountering Angels..

#### Angels Are Among Us

Have you ever noticed, just for a moment, the fragrance of flowers Or felt a comforting presence even though no one was near?

**You may have just encountered an angel.**, Judith MacNutt shares true-life stories of angelic encounters from people around the world.

Through these accounts and biblical passages, you will discover the gifts and guidance God offers through these heavenly beings--and the truth about their roles in your life as bringers of peace, comfort, warning, protection and love.

Excerpted from

<https://www.goodreads.com>

Please come & join us. class meets at 10:30 right after fellowship hour

### CHILDRENS CHURCH:

Loving God, Loving Neighbor, continues. The children will imagine what it may have been like to be Moses in Community Foundations. Sessions for October will be: Call to Freedom, The Exodus, Community in the Wilderness, & Ten Commandments.



**The October meeting** of Best Years met at the Blacksmith Shoppe hosted by Ben & Karen Rison. They had festive Halloween napkins & candy corn. Iva said grace. November birthdays are Bobette Elkins, 11/3, Rose Lenig, 11/11, & Ben Rison, 11/25. No Anniversaries Harold Carlson is still in the hospital as is Kathy Crass. Iva reported on a visit with Helen Bennitt at Settlers House & Helen says “HELLO” to everyone & would welcome visitors. Attendance gifts were won by, Joe Knowlton, Sharon Campos, Jim Williamson, Lester Chadwick, Linda Everingham & Steve Everingham Others present were Connie Reynolds, Deannie Ebanks, Marguerite Schroeder, Joann & Terry Nickerson, Myrna Everill, Evelin Hamilton, Bette Schaefer, Pastor JoEllyn, Bob Russell, Bob Swanson. The next meeting will be our Thanksgiving meal at the church on Wed, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>, Noon.



- 10 Tim & Paula Wheatbrook
- 21 Kent & Angie Porter



- 02 Albert F. Davis Jr.
- 02 Penny Derucki
- 03 Bobette Elkins
- 04 Rita Chadwick
- 04 Brian Williamson
- 06 Ginger Lenig
- 07 Joshua Goodspeed
- 08 Grace Krivak
- 08 Angie Koch
- 08 Adrienne McCarty
- 09 Molly Lenig
- 09 Lisa Thresh
- 11 Rose Lenig
- 12 Jessica Chadwick
- 13 Cheryl Pumroy

- 13 Brian Phillips
- 13 Judy Wordinger
- 14 Seth McClelland
- 15 Joe F. Watnick
- 20 Macy Wheatbrook
- 21 Christy Brashear
- 22 Kristin Black
- 25 Ben Rison
- 26 Kodey Coffinger
- 27 Barry Pumroy
- 30 Brian Wasielewski



If you have a need or you know someone that needs prayers, Call Pastor JoEllyn and she will relay to the next person to activate the Prayer Chain. Pastor JoEllyn’s Cell phone # for After Hours Emergency & Prayer Chain Request **(219)-363-5061**

### Mark Your Calendars!!

#### EVENTS & MEETING

#### Christmas Choir Practice every

Thursday 7 p.m

leading up to Christmas....

#### November

**UMW** on the road to Oakwood Manor Tuesday Nov 12, 9:30 a.m.

Meet at church 9 am to carpool..  
**Board/Council Meeting** Tuesday Nov 12, 6 p.m.

**BEST YEARS** Thanksgiving Luncheon, Wednesday, Nov 20 here @ Church  
**Worship Team Prep for Hanging of the Greens**

Wednesday, Nov 20, 6 p.m.

**Hanging of the Greens** Sunday, Nov 24 after Church – Stay & give a hand decorating the Church for the Advent Season... Potluck – Bring a dish to share

**Nov 28 Thanksgiving Day Office will be Closed**

**Happenings in the Community**  
**NOV 10**, RP Fire Dept. Pancake Breakfast 7 a.m – 12 p.m.

### Coming in December

December 7 - Journey to Bethlehem details soon

**December 8<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m.** A combined service at the Christian Church for a special presentation of Journey to Bethlehem..

**No Church here at RPUMC that Sunday**



**November**  
**FOOD**  
**PANTRY**  
**Requests**

**In Need of plastic bags**

**Crushed Pineapple**

**Canned Pasta, (beef-a-roni, spaghetti -O's etc.)**

**Any kind of soup**



By Penny Derucki

The October 8, 2019 meeting of the United Methodist Women was called to order by our President Barbara Parker, with seventeen members present. We enjoyed breakfast casserole, apple crisp, cheese and fresh cut vegetables, provided by our hostesses, Cheryl Lenig and Barbara Parker. We begin our meeting by reading together our Purpose. Myrna Everill read from our Prayer Calendar. Our Mission Witness, testimonies and prayers contributed by people in mission across the globe, comes from Emma Cantor, United Methodist regional Missionary, *Asia-I have seen and talked to children who are forced to work in factories, in restaurants and bars, in construction, agriculture, and victims of trafficking. Millions of children all around the world need*

*our deepest love and attention.* The mission Focus, projects supported by United Methodist Women and the General Board of Global Ministries, this week takes us to The Wesley Community Centers in Corpus Christi, Texas and in Dayton, Ohio, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, the Philippines and Nigeria.

Our October meeting is a business meeting when we put together our budget for the new year and elect officers. Our officers for 2020 will be: Penny Derucki, President - Barbara Parker, Vice-President - Cheryl Lenig, Secretary - Debbie Harris, Treasurer - Rose Lenig, Nominations - Myrna Everill, Prayer Calendar Coordinator - Donna Cain, cards & flowers - Support Community - Karen Rison, Ann Riedstra, Bobette Elkins, Debbie Harris (caller).

### **Mission Giving Makes Mission Possible-the World Thank Offering.**

The World Thank Offering comes from spontaneous contributions given out of gratitude for God's love, The United Methodist women bring in our **Thank banks** each November. This year with YOUR help we collected \$266.00. Thank you for sharing your Blessings and contributing to our **Thank banks**. Your support was greatly appreciated. UMW raise about \$1 million dollars through the World thank Offering each year. These funds are used to fund mission and advocacy nationally and internationally. **Let us give thanks to God.**

We are planning a **Your Treasures Market** for June 6, 2020 from 8am-2pm in our church parking lot. Come have your garage sale with us. We are inviting vendors and crafters as well. More info to follow.

One of the ways that we support the school children in our community is by donating to the **Angel Fund**. The **Angel Fund** ensures ALL NPUSC students receive lunch when their student funds are unavailable and prevents lunch shaming. The **NEW PRAIRIE BOOGIE**-a fundraiser for the NPUSC Nutritional Services Angel Fund will be held 11-9-19 from 7pm-Midnight(cst) at the LaPorte County Fairgrounds Community Building, 2581 W. State Rd. 2 in La Porte. There will be music, silent auction, beverages and food. This is an Age 21 and over event. Tickets will be available at the door, suggested donation will be \$20.00 which will pay for 4 meals. United Methodist Women on the road - we will be traveling to Oak Woods Manor, 1211 Longwood Dr. in La Porte, for our November 12, 2019 meeting to visit with our friend and longtime member, Mary Eddy-9:30 am, our normal meeting time and don't forget your baby picture or you as a small child picture to share. Just a reminder as winter weather approaches - if the New Prairie schools are on a 2hr delay or are closed due to weather, there will be no meeting. Come join us.... We'll be saving you a seat...

The United Methodist women are reviving a mission. With the congregation's help we like to take meals to fellow members who have been discharged from hospital, sick, had a baby, ect. We are looking for volunteers, who when called upon, will make meals (or purchase) and deliver to those in need. If you would like to help or have more questions please call Barbara Parker at 219-851-3026

Dear Ladies of Rolling Prairie United Methodist Church;



Thank you for the recent donation of various needed school supplies for our students and the \$250 gift card

to Walmart. This is such an enormous help to those who will benefit from your generosity. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and are quite aware that we couldn't meet the needs of all of our students without the community support you, and others provide.. Sincerely Becky Barlett, Principal Rolling Prairie Elementary



Dear Members of R.P. United Methodist Church, Thank you for your generous donation to the Community Food

Pantry. The need is great. The Pantry is now serving 204 families. We are grateful for your support. Sincerely, Phyllis Austin, Food Pantry Board Member..

The memorial garden is ready for the winter.

Thank you, Marilyn, Barbara, Donna, Chris Rick...



*With Deepest  
Sympathy*

*Jesus stretched out His loving hands and welcomed these friends & family members onto the shore of heaven...*

*Charles VanSchoyck, husband of Sharon, father of Steve/Kayla Vogel...*



Donna Cain (health issue) Scott Thieme (home after stay in hospital), Dave

Schaefer (hospital high white counts) Margaret Rimmer (health, mother of Shirley Novak, Janice Stroud) Harold Carlson (home after Pneumonia,) Joe & Susan Knowlton (health issues) Jeanette Wideman (health issues, mother Cheryl Lenig), Sara Rustboldt (cancer set-back, friend Shirl Sater), Dale Kettring (pneumonia & health issues-Rose Lenig), Doris Kettring health issues, moved to Hamilton Grove to get stronger-Rose Lenig), Kathy Crass (home after bout of pneumonia, Donna Cain niece), Ray McVay (home after triple bypass, June Lenig brother) Bruce Melton (home recovering after back surgery, Penny Melton hubby) Connie Kibbe(complications of infection due to MS, Barbara Parker family), Nina Fitzgerald (unspoken request Karen Fitzgerald daughter) Joe Jones (Hospice, brother-in-law Art Shuck) Bob Lenters (heart issues, Ann Riedstra brother) Pat Majot (home after valve replacement, friend Dave & Bette Schaefer), Brenda Loggins, (depression, Kathy Crass daughter) Nancy Vale (Cancer- wife of Pastor Bob @FUMC LP. Pastor JoEllyn) Bill Dare (Cancer, Chemo), Michelle (cancer, friend of Pam Dixon), Carrie Chadwick (healing from foot surgery, Pastor JoEllyn daughter) Marlene & Bob Baughman (health issues) Baby Girl Depoy (born early 1 ½ lbs, hole in heart, holding her own, family Bobette/Jeff ) Jerry Hicks (Rehab knee surgery friend Jeff Elkins),

Jim Poole(Alzheimers & lungs,brother Karen Fitzgerald & Steve Poole) Abigail Smith (21 yr old granddaughter Susan & Joe Knowlton, suffered a stroke) Brad Nimitz (health, Sherry & Paul Iwaszewski son-in-law) William Budig (cancer, friend Mason Phillips) David Bays (renal failure, Melissa Kessler F.P. volunteer) David Jandrisovits (continued complications from heart surgery, Rose Lenig), Barry Pumroy (healing, foot surgery, Cheryl's hubby, Virginia Bradford (home recovering back surgery)Continue to lift

up those in our church family that are struggling with various health concerns who

wish to not be named. Please keep their UNSPOKEN REQUESTS lifted in prayer, as God knows who each of them are and what it is they need. Give them strength Oh Lord, to deal with whatever their struggle... Let them feel your arms embracing them with your warm, wonderful, love.. Bless them with your Peace. Thank You, God....

**If you want someone to remain on or add please fill out new request card or call Pastor JoEllyn or Bette 219-778-2910**



Garrett Obenchain US Air Force Reserves Son of Jeremy & Stefanie Grandson Art & Rose Lenig  
Jacob Adams US Army- States grandson Chris Adams

Craig Carlson, (pilot) US

Air Force son Harold & Carrie Carlson  
Matthew Chadwick US Army - son Lester & JoEllyn Chadwick

Michael Showalter Marines, grandson Wayne & Shirley Kirkham  
Matthew Rompca Air Force nephew Shirley & Wayne Kirkham

Katelyn Williamson

U S Marines

Daughter of Al and granddaughter of Jim Williamson

If you have someone serving and would like on our prayer list please let Bette know...

Please lift all those serving our country, who are struggling, for whatever the reason; being alone, illness, divorce, loss of job, loss of loved ones, going through the firsts after death of loved one.

Give thanks for everything....

Hear our Prayers, Oh Lord!



### **Kings Club Offerings for the month of October**

**A donation was given to honor Shirley Novak's Birthday.**



### **Sorry No Health letter this Month**

**Will return next month.....**



Excerpted from sermons4kids.com

## **Giving God our all**

Scripture: Mark 12:43 – 44 (NIV)

*Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything--all she had to live on."*

Every week we take an offering during the worship service. As you know, the ushers walk up and down the aisles and pass the offering plate down each and

every row. People place their offerings to God in the plate. When they have finished passing the offering plate, it may have checks, twenty dollars bills, tens, fives, and one dollar bills. Down in the bottom of the plate there are even some coins nickles, dimes, quarters and even some pennies...

Who do you think gave the most? Was it the person who put in the twenty dollar bill? The ten? The five? We can be sure it wasn't the one who put in the pennies, can't we?

One day, Jesus went to the synagogue. He sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the people as they put their money in the treasury. Many of them were very rich and put in large sums of money. A poor widow came by and put in two small copper coins which were worth a penny. Jesus called his disciples to him and said to them, "This poor widow has put in more than all those who are giving to the treasury. They gave out of their wealth, but she gave all that she had."

There is a story about a little boy who went into a church one Sunday morning to get out of the cold. He had been trying to sell newspapers, but not a single customer had passed by. He entered the church, hoping to pass an hour unnoticed on the back row. The preacher delivered a powerful sermon about Jesus and his love for us. At the end of the service, they took an offering.

The ushers went from row to row until, finally, one came near to the little newspaper boy. He stopped right in front of the little boy and held out the offering plate. The boy stared at the offering plate, and after a long pause, he asked the usher to place the offering plate on the floor. Then the little boy did something very unusual. He stepped into the offering plate -- first one foot and then the other. He slowly looked up with tears streaming down his cheeks and said, "Mister, I don't have any money; I haven't sold a single newspaper today, but if Jesus did all that preacher said he did just for me, I will gladly give my life to Him." "I don't know if that story is true, but I do know that God

wants us to give him our all -- our hands, our feet, our hearts, our voices, our silver and our gold. Remember these pennies in the offering plate? Maybe they were the greatest gift given after all.

Dear Father, like the widow, we desire to give all that we have to you. For all that we have comes from you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

GIDEONS, INT'L was here Sept 8, 2019 to tell us what the Gideons are all about and give testimony of the recent works they have done. Tom Lambert, from Porter Co. Camp, delivered the message. After the service, a collection of was taken and because you generously gave, \$126.00 was collected so the Gideons could buy more bibles to hand out.. The money collected will provide approximately 25 Bible or



106 New Testaments with Psalms & Proverbs.

Pastor JoEllyn, Lester & I attended a Pastor appreciation luncheon, given by the Gideons.. We listened to a testimony by Bill Sayes, who was directly affected and changed from this book of scriptures. He was hurt badly at 6 years of age.. He thought everyone hated him and he hated everyone as well... At the ripe age of 8 he was arrested for attempted murder, and so began his downward spiral.. He broke every law that could be broken, committed any crime he could think of.. During the 1970s, Bill Saye ran the largest drug operation in the US. He escaped five attempts on his life, unfortunately his wife was not as fortunate, as she was murdered, his son was kidnapped, and his daughter was severely beaten, all because of him..

Eventually he was arrested and sentenced to prison.. Awaiting death by electric chair, he heard God speak to him. "Bill, you've had everything this world has to offer and look where it got you."

Never had he went to the prison chapel, but after hearing God, he had the urge to go to the chapel.. He went to the library and there on the table laid, a Gideon New Testament Bible.. He knew nothing about the bible, except John 3:16 & that was only because he saw some guy holding a sign up with that scripture, by the goal post of football game he was watching. He went immediately to that scripture reading and read, " For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." He took that Gideon testament and it became his life... He gave his life over to Jesus and for 33 years he has preached His

Gospel, told of His love & forgiveness. Because of the little Gideon New Testament his hatred was squelched and was replaced with love because of Jesus Christ... If you would like to listen to Bill Sayes 10-minute testimony and hear what happened when he came face to face with the man who put the hit out on his wife, google Gideon Testimony of Bill Sayes.. It is worth the listen...

Some of the above article was excerpted from Gideons website of the testimony of Bill Sayes...

## Give Thanks



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"

**Give thanks with a grateful heart**

**Give thanks to the Holy One**

Give thanks because He's given

Jesus Christ, His Son....

We give thanks to You

**The Story Behind The Song**

**Give Thanks**

**Excerpted from**

[www.praisecharts.com/blog/the-story-behind-the-song-give-thanks/](http://www.praisecharts.com/blog/the-story-behind-the-song-give-thanks/)

In 1978, a young seminary graduate named Henry Smith was struggling to find work and coming to terms with a degenerative eye condition that would eventually leave him

legally blind. Despite those hardships, Henry found hope in 2 Corinthians 8:9 and penned "Give Thanks," one of the most beloved songs of our time. And now let the weak say, 'I am strong'; Let the poor say, 'I am rich' because of what the Lord has done. The song was his only published worship song out of 300 unpublished compositions. Years later, a young worship leader named Don Moen would record Henry's song, helping to carry it around the world. Today, you can hum "Give Thanks" at almost any church in the world, no matter the country or the language, and someone will recognize this simple song of thanksgiving and trust.

We must be contented for what we have. Realize even when we are in hard times, we can do things because God is always here to gives us strength. We should be thankful for our daily lives, for the blessings that He showers on us, for the good health and for making us strong. Be thankful for his spirit and for His unconditional love, for the good and bad times. Be thankful for His limitless forgiveness to us in spite of our countless mistakes that we have done everyday. Be thankful to God for not ignoring and still loving us. Be thankful for sending his son to save us from the sins and present of evil.

<https://christiansongmeaning.wordpress.com/2016/05/04/give-thanks/>

There are many scripture verses that tell of Giving Thanks to God..

Below is a few....

2 Corinthians 8:9 King James Version (KJV)

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)

**Psalm 126:2-3** – *“Then our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with joyful shouting; then they said among the nations, ‘The Lord has done great things for them.’ The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad.”*

**~Ephesians 5:20** *“Give thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.”*

**Psalm 136:2-3** - Give thanks to the God of gods. His faithful love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords. His faithful love endures forever.

**1 Chronicles 16:8-9** - Give thanks to the LORD and proclaim his greatness. Let the whole world know what he has done. Sing to him; yes, sing his praises. Tell everyone about his miracles.

**Give thanks to God and what He has done:**

**Psalm 136:4-9** - Give thanks to him who alone does mighty miracles. His faithful love endures forever. Give thanks to him who made the heavens so skillfully. His faithful love endures forever. Give thanks to him who placed the earth on the water. His faithful love endures forever. Give thanks to him who made the heavenly lights -- His faithful love endures forever. The sun to rule the day, His faithful love endures forever and the moon and stars to rule the night. His faithful love endures forever.

A simple children’s prayer  
Of thanks goes like this:  
*Thank you God for all that grows,  
Thank you for the sky's rainbows,  
Thank you for the stars that shine,  
Thank you for these friends of mine,  
Thank you for the moon and sun,  
Thank you God for all you've done!*



#### A few Thanksgiving Facts

- The history of U.S. presidents pardoning turkeys is patchy. Harry Truman is often credited with being the first president to pardon a turkey, but that’s not quite true. He was the first to receive a ceremonial turkey from the National Turkey Federation – and he had it for dinner. John F. Kennedy was the first to let a Thanksgiving turkey go, followed by Richard Nixon who sent his turkey to a petting zoo. George H.W. Bush is the president who formalized the turkey pardoning tradition in 1989.
- There are four towns in the United States named “Turkey.” They can be found in Arizona, Texas, Louisiana, and North Carolina.
- The average number of calories consumed on Thanksgiving is 4,500.
- Butterball answers more than 100,000 turkey-cooking questions via their Butterball Turkey Hotline each November and December.
- The tradition of football on Thanksgiving began in 1876

with a game between Yale and Princeton. The first NFL games were played on Thanksgiving in 1920.

- More than 54 million Americans are expected to travel during the Thanksgiving holiday this year.

## **Ode to Thanksgiving**

May your stuffing be tasty  
May your turkey plump,  
May your potatoes and gravy  
Have nary a lump.  
May your yams be delicious  
And your pies take the prize,  
And may your  
Thanksgiving dinner  
Stay off your thighs!

## **Thought To Ponder**

If you want to be miserable,  
look within;  
If you want to be distracted,  
look around;  
If you want to be peaceful  
and happy, look up - look off  
unto Jesus.

