

Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

"If the only prayer you said in your whole life was, 'thank you,' that would suffice."

- Meister Eckhart

Church News



Replace complaining with an attitude of gratitude

Gale and I went shopping for our family Thanksgiving turkey the other night. We wanted to buy it early enough so it would have time to thaw in the refrigerator, but I have to admit that after some of the things the media have been proclaiming lately I was not totally sure how expensive the bird would be - or if a suitable one would be available. When we got to the store she quickly spotted a freezer adequately stocked with the holiday birds so there was a good deal of optimism that we would find what we needed for our family. The turkeys we checked on were store brand and nothing fancy, but that was good enough for us. As I rummaged through the pile I found a twelve pounder just as I hoped. I had a bit of sticker shock, though, when I looked at the price tag attached: \$35.00! To my relief, it became apparent that that particular turkey was mispriced and the actual cost was less than half that much. Delighted with what we found, we made our purchase and are looking forward to a great day with our family.

As I look back at the past year and beyond, I am once again reminded that I have so much to be thankful for. I have to admit that I am sometimes



**Pastor
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**Donalsonville
Assembly of God**

prone to grumble, yet when I pause and take a serious look at life and consider God's abundant blessings I find that there should be no place for complaints. That does not mean that everything always goes in a way that is pleasing to me, for surely it does not. But on any given day the good things always outweigh the bad.

There is a statement in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 that is sometimes referred to this time of year: "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (New International Version). That might bring to our minds the challenge that we face of being thankful during the hard times of life, nevertheless, those are included in the "all circumstances" mentioned in that verse so even in the tough spots we are to give thanks. We would also do well to remind ourselves to be thankful in the little circumstances of life that can so easily pass by without us recognizing them as what they are - blessings from God.

Perhaps one of the privileges that we fail to be thankful for enough is the opportunity to communicate with God in prayer. In all our concerns in life, He invites us to turn to Him. We should take comfort as we remember the words that the Lord gave to the prophet Jeremiah centuries ago: "Call to Me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know" (Jeremiah 33:3).

Over the years I have knocked on many doors while out visiting the sick and needy. Sometimes a quick knock brings an immediate response as the door opens, but at other times there is a delay - sometimes for only a few minutes, but at other times I have to return another day and knock again. As we seek God in prayer, we have to bear in mind that sometimes in His great wisdom and plan there is an immediate answer, while at other times there is a delay. Yet, as His children, we can rest assured that He hears us, loves us, and will do what is best for us as we trust Him. That communication with Him is truly something to be thankful for!

As we go through this Thanksgiving season, let us remember that sincere thankfulness has a way of brightening even dreary days. Pay attention to those things - even little things - that might be right before your eyes that you previously failed to be thankful for. We are blessed, so "Give thanks in all circumstances" and let's all strive to replace our complaining with gratitude.

A weekly devotion from Alex Howell

"... and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice." John 10:4

I believe that all believers want to hear from God, which is essential to live in victory in today's world. Our lives can sometimes feel like there's constant noise from all directions, which can easily influence the way we think and feel. But many times when we are in the storms of life, there is one voice we need to hear loud and clear - God's.

So if we desire to hear from God, here is something very important that we must do "first and foremost". We

must check our "spiritual receiver". You probably realize that right this second where ever you are, there are radio and TV waves flowing everywhere. You can't see them or hear them unless you have a receiver. And having a receiver will still not help you unless it's turned on and tuned in.

It's so important to have our "spiritual receiver" turned on because God isn't going to scream, yell or demand that we pay attention. God speaks in "a still small voice" (1st Kings 19:12). That is why it is essential that we tune in and listen carefully.

So how do we know our "spiritual receiver" is turned on? The way to know your "spiritual receiver" is turned on is to answer this one question: Do you expect to hear from God?

Even if you don't think God speaks to you - He does. In fact He is speaking to you right now. But if you aren't expecting to hear from Him, you won't. Because you haven't turned on your receiver.

Turn your receiver on and turn it up loud and expect to hear from your loving Heavenly Father today.

He has the answer.

Ricky Coachman, the SCES Seminole Singers and the Chipola College Show Choir to perform December 2-4

Chipola College's talented Show Choir, music students and others will perform the sounds of the season in a beautiful holiday setting. A Chipola Christmas is a show guaranteed to entertain. Scheduled for December 2-4 at 7:00 p.m. at the Center for the Arts Theatre, tickets are \$10.00 and may be purchased

at the Box Office or online at www.chipola.edu/boxoffice.

Ricky Coachman, Jr. of Donalsonville, a student at Chipola College, will be performing all three nights and the SCES Seminole Singers will be featured in the Friday, December 3rd performance.

Church Briefs

We pray that you have a wonderful Thanksgiving. We would like to invite you to make **Corinth Free Will Baptist Church** a part of your Christmas celebrations with the Advent season. We are planning a Sunday afternoon of singing Christmas carols. We are Christ centered, caring people, and want to help people into true discipleship. If we can help you, let us know. Our Sunday worship is at 9:00 a.m. and we are located at 2543 Ash Crossing Rd., Iron City, Pastor, Darrell Newberry.

The Lord
has done
great things
for us,
and we are
filled with joy.

Psalm 126:3

Happy Thanksgiving

from



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ATTENTION

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MEMBERS

There will be a called Church Conference on December 5, 2021 in the church sanctuary at 1:00 pm. The business to be considered will be the disaffiliation of the church from the South Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church. Only members present at the meeting will be allowed to vote.

Rev. Glen Hancock
Pastor

Trinity United Methodist Church
Donalsonville, GA

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