David's Song of Thanksgiving! 1 Chronicles 16:8-12

Oh give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name. Make known His deeds among the peoples! Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; talk of all His wondrous works! Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the Lord! Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face evermore! Remember His marvelous works which He has done, His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth.

God's creation is singing praises with burst of beautiful colors of fall. By the way fall is my favorite season. We all see the radiant golden, red, orange and brown leaves flowing down from the trees. We have to take notice of marvelous works our Creator God has given us. We too can give praises to GOD as His servant David did so long ago. We thank God for His good earth which He has provided to all of mankind and for all animals. We give thanks to Him for the more than 5,467 divine promises He has revealed in His particular eternal purposes. Therefore we know without a doubt what God has promised is true and He is unchangeable and committed to His creation. With these promises comes humanity's commitment to obedience to our Holy Father.

So what comes to the fore front of your mind as we enter the month of November? (Harvest time, Christmas shopping on Black Friday, college football season in high gear and of course the amazing holiday we celebrate the fourth Thursday of November, Thanksgiving)! On this special day million of people, families, friends, soup kitchens and USA military personnel who are serving around the world come together to share a wonderful meal together. Growing up on our farm in Georgia was a special time of year for our family. We indeed have many things to be thankful for. A successful growing season, loving parents and older siblings who worked hard securing the harvest, food and money from the harvest for new farm equipment, donations to help others and savings. Mom prepared the best Thanksgiving dinner that I've tasted to this day.

So, as we gather together Thanksgiving 2019, please remember who has provided you with everything you see that's good and beautiful all around you came from the Living God our Father and His Son, Jesus Christ!

(Message from the editor. (The high cost of mailing our newsletter is becoming more than we can afford. You can read the Spire by going to our website @www.fccmiddletown.net).

Happy Thanksgiving! DMC
NOVEMBER 3, 2019 AT 2:00 PM

A Veteran's Day Prayer

Good morning Dear God:
Oh, it seems like just yesterday was 9/11. I remember weeping all day as many others did also. When one thinks of the brokenness and sadness, their hearts aches. Now, Dear Father, Veteran's Day. How do I even get through this one?
I am looking out the window and I see a battlefield, and I see these brave hearts that went to battle for each one of us, the brave men and women who sacrificed their lives while we slept in our warm beds, ate good food, and laughed and played with out kids. Somewhere on a hill, in a distant land, our military veterans was being shot at, or were hiding from the enemy, ducking bombs as we did fun things for the day or worshipping freely in a church of our choice.
There are some of you sitting in hospitals, riddled with pain, and I say never, never to leave the place, or maybe left blind, or unable to walk, and for us - you and me...
Oh, I know they say this is freedom of speech and expression, but Dear God, why would people burn the flag? When we think again of all the brave souls that went ahead and shed their blood to keep this country free. How can we go on? We see the weeping loved ones that were left behind (husbands, wives, dads, moms, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters and small kids) we weep today and thank you from the depths of our hearts for being the God of love and for the brave veterans and them loving us to the degree that they gave their lives for us.
There could never be enough thank you to express any of it. And never enough applause. God bless each one of you. Dear God thank you for being able to live in America, God bless America!

By Betty Jane Reilly

November 2019 Greeters:
3~ Charles & Sandra Jenkins
10~ Shirley Homan & Ruth Knospe
17~ Carolyn Kessinger & Alison Zavadi
24~ Daniel & Mary Kay Martin
If you are unable to serve, please call Vera (845)342-3531

November 2019 Ushers:
3~ Sharon Jarose & Marcella Lord
10~ Charles & Sandra Jenkins
17~ Shirley Homan & Michelle Richardson
24~ Kenneth Richardson & Catherine Woodruff
If you are unable to serve, please call Shirley (845)926-8550

Help Us Decorate!

ANNUAL HANGING OF THE GREENS 9/30/19
9:00 AM. COME AND HAVE A GREAT TIME!
PRAISES:
Catherine Woodruff - knee healed
Lillian - infection free and home with her parents
The truths of God’s word preached @ FCC
Pastor John & Laura recovery from colds & sinus infections
Fruitfulness of God’s hands working in His church

PRAYERS FOR HEALING FOR:
Bruce Hampshire - surgery scheduled 11/4
Arlene Stivers - continued recovery and improvement of her eyes
Barbara Chumard - continued prayers
Patrick Stivers - serious injury and surgery on his left hand
William Hoogstra Sr - recovering a fall at his home (Bill’s Father)
Betty & John Feldmann - overall wellness for both (Laura Velazquez parents)
Jeanne & Jerry Bricker - continued strength and comfort
Maria Pardini - recovering from surgery @ ORMC
Edward Corey - decline of mental health (Valerie Cossh’s Dad)
Todd Ragni - cancer has returned (Friend of Chick & Pat)
Eli Giangale - severe allergies
Janette Smith - continued strength and comfort
Cancer, depression, addiction and serious eye problems

PRAYERS FOR:
Visitor from South Africa
Persecuted Church & Christians world wide!
Be Kind and Love One Another
Mankind obedience to God’s call for the sanctity of life
Call for all of humanity to stop hating and start loving
Humanity’s call to answer the call to fulfill the ‘Great Commission”
Christ Give us Salvation to bring Glory to Him
All students, educators, bus drivers, administrators and parents as schools and colleges continue classes for the 2019-2020 school term
First responders, care givers, military personnel and service providers around the world

THANKS for your PRAYERS
Learning to give thanks
Last December I had my second knee replacement. Expecting this recovery to mimic the first, I went home to heal quickly. Instead, 10 days later one normal step led to the vertical splitting of my femur, an ambulance ride and surgery to insert screws and a long metal plate. I spent Christmas in the hospital and New Year’s in a rehab unit, feeling anything but thankful. Nearly a year later, the slow recovery continues.

Yet I see much to be thankful for: my caregiver cousin, who lengthened her stay considerably; my family; church friends who provided meals, prayers and love; and doctors and therapists, who put me back together and continue to encourage me.

As Thanksgiving approaches, I continue to work on patience but am learning — with God’s help — to “give thanks in all circumstances” (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

—Sandy Hyland

Missionaries of the First Congregational Church for 2019
ATLANTIC BRIDGE—John and Donna Oostdyks
BCM-Bible Center Ministry—Brian & Sarah Hampshire
CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP—Marianne Steenbur
MISSION AVIATION FELLOWSHIP—Mike Snodgrass
NAVIGATORS
WORLD VENTURE—The Columbines
WYCLIFFE BIBLE—(Krumbs)

Want to join these men for a great Saturday morning fellowship time and good food? See Peter Reilly for details.

Come out for an evening of Praise and Pie on Tuesday, November 26th, 7:00pm. Bring your favorite pie to share! We have hot coffee and tea as well as songs to sing as we share the bounty Our Great God has given us!