

# Southwest

## *Church of the Nazarene*

CHURCH NEWSLETTER  
NOVEMBER 25, 2020 – VOLUME 36

### DON'T FORGET



Tis the time for giving thanks! Such a simple phrase but often goes unsaid. The mother giving much of her day to her family, fixing meals, cleaning dishes, folding laundry and coloring yet another picture with her little one, seldom hears a "thank you." The faithful worker who shows up on time, does their job well, and puts in the extra effort to make sure people and projects are taken care of, yet leaves most Friday's without an acknowledged appreciation. The devotion of a heavenly Father, watching over our lives, providing resources and strength, and blessing us with "gifts from above," not because He **has to** but because He **chooses to** out of love. I wonder, how often does He wait, hoping we would notice the blessing was from Him? How often does He long for us to look up to Him with a grateful heart and whisper the words "Thank you"?

So why do we struggle to say words of appreciation? Maybe because gratitude is humbling. It reveals that our lives are better because of another. That we are not "self-made" individuals. In reality, our lives have been blessed by many... we are the fruit of other's contributions and gifts. Giving thanks is important... for many reasons:

1. Giving Thanks – shows appreciation.

It reminds us to not take everything for granted. The sunny day, the care of a family member, the joy of a friendship, a healthy body, time together, and on and on it goes. These are gifts and should be received with appreciation.

2. Giving Thanks – curbs greed.

When thankful you find contentment. Your flesh may "want" things, but your heart says, I don't really "need" things. I am blessed, and I am content with what God allows me to have today.

3. Giving Thanks – controls complaining.

Mark Twain says, "Don't complain and talk about all your

problems — 80 percent of people don't care; the other 20 percent will think you deserve them." There may be more truth to this than we want to admit!

4. Giving Thanks – promotes the positive.

There is an old phrase I picked up years ago which says, "Beauty is all around for those who choose to see it." Another great saying comes from Hudson Taylor, Missionary to China. During an especially trying time in the work of the China Inland Mission, Taylor wrote to his wife, "We have twenty-five cents — and all the promises of God!" That's a great outlook!

Giving thanks is not something we learn once and move on, it is a lifetime endeavor. We must be mindful each day of the opportunities and make the extra effort to show appreciation for all the Father has given us. We are truly blessed. These blessings, however, are also to be shared. Abigail van Buren reminds us of this in her poem, "Prayer of Thanks."

#### Prayer of Thanks

"O, heavenly Father: We thank thee for food and remember the hungry.

We thank thee for health and remember the sick.  
We thank thee for friends and remember the friendless.  
We thank thee for freedom and remember the enslaved.

May these remembrances stir us to service,  
that thy gifts to us may be used for others. Amen."

So, it's probably past due for some "thanks."

Psalm 118:1

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. NIV

Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!

Pastor Scott and Cindy



# The Old-Fashioned Thanksgiving By Edgar Albert Guest (1881-1959)

It may be I am getting old and like too much to dwell  
Upon the days of bygone years, the days I loved so well;  
But thinking of them now I wish somehow that I could know  
A simple old Thanksgiving Day, like those of long ago,  
When all the family gathered round a table richly spread,  
With little Jamie at the foot and grandpa at the head,  
The youngest of us all to greet the oldest with a smile,  
With mother running in and out and laughing all the while.

It may be I'm old-fashioned, but it seems to me to-day  
We're too much bent on having fun to take the time to pray;  
Each little family grows up with fashions of its own;  
It lives within a world itself and wants to be alone.  
It has its special pleasures, its circle, too, of friends;  
There are no get-together days; each one his journey wends,  
Pursuing what he likes the best in his particular way,  
Letting the others do the same upon Thanksgiving Day.

I like the olden way the best, when relatives were glad  
To meet the way they used to do when I was but a lad;  
The old home was a rendezvous for all our kith and kin,  
And whether living far or near they all came trooping in  
With shouts of "Hello, daddy!" as they fairly stormed the place  
And made a rush for mother, who would stop to wipe her face  
Upon her gingham apron before she kissed them all,  
Hugging them proudly to her breast, the grownups and the small.

Then laughter rang throughout the home, and, Oh, the jokes they told;  
From Boston, Frank brought new ones, but father sprang the old;  
All afternoon we chatted, telling what we hoped to do,  
The struggles we were making and the hardships we'd gone through;  
We gathered round the fireside. How fast the hours would fly--  
It seemed before we'd settled down 'twas time to say good-bye.  
Those were the glad Thanksgivings, the old-time families knew  
When relatives could still be friends and every heart was true.

## A Children's Thanksgiving Prayer

- Author Unknown

*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!*





## Praises:

- ❖ Praise the Lord for our new church members! They are Reta Steely, Sara Lindsay, Acrame Charles, Kado Kapinga, Elizabeth Kapinga, Summer Murray, Kathy Everman, Vanessa Everman, and Sheiledda Joseph. Praise the Lord!
- ❖ Praise the Lord for those baptized Sunday! They are Sheiledda Joseph, Summer Murray, and Sloan Winders.
- ❖ Praise the Lord for a beautiful Thanksgiving Service with Blake and Jenna Bolerjack! Thankful for their talents but also their love for the Lord! The church was truly blessed to have them.
- ❖ Praise the Lord for our new African Church ministry! We had our first teaching night with them on the Articles of Faith. They genuinely love the Lord and the Church and are a blessing to know. Remember them in prayer also as they have been through many trials and struggle with the language barriers. Beautiful people!

## Prayer Needs:

(Found on mailed and emailed versions)

## Upcoming Events & Services

Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> – No Evening Prayer Meeting

Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> – 10:40am Worship Service & Children's Church  
– 3-5pm Teen Quizzing  
– 5-7pm R!OT Youth

Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6:30pm Prayer Meeting

Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> – 10:40am Worship Service & Children's Church  
– 3-5pm Teen Quizzing  
– 5-7pm R!OT Youth

Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> – 6:30pm Prayer Meeting

Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> – 4-9pm R!OT Youth Christmas Party and Dinner

Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> – 10:40am Worship Service with Children's Christmas Singing  
– 3-5pm Teen Quizzing  
– 5-7pm R!OT Youth

Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> – 6:30pm Prayer Meeting

Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> – 10:40am Special Christmas Family Worship Service & Treats (Children will be in service.)  
– 3-5pm Teen Quizzing  
– 5-7pm R!OT Youth

Wednesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> – No Evening Prayer Meeting

Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – 6:30pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup> – 10:40am Worship Service & Children's Church (Jesus' birthday party for children)  
– No Teen Quizzing  
– No R!OT Youth Group

Wednesday, December 30<sup>th</sup> – No Evening Prayer Meeting

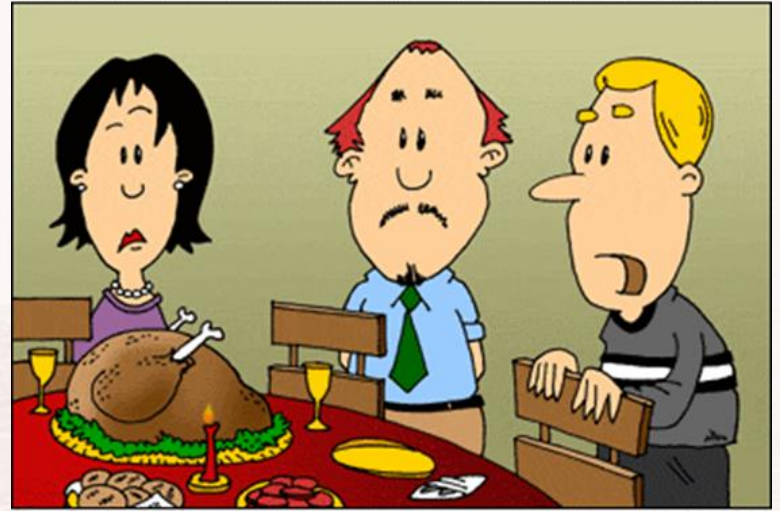
Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup> – 7pm R!OT Youth Lock-In (will stay from Friday at 7pm to Saturday at 7am)



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Psalm 100)

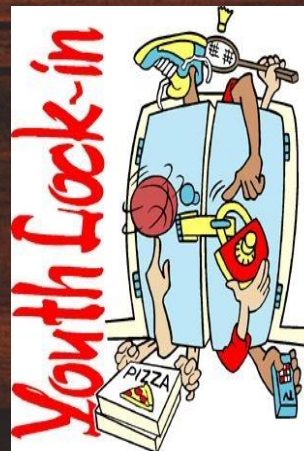
HAS IT ALREADY BEEN A YEAR SINCE WE WERE THANKFUL?

We will be collecting money for the 2020 Christmas Giving Tree through Sunday, Dec. 13th. All financial gifts go to help families connected to our church with a little extra for Christmas this year. Our goal is \$3,000. Please mark your donation "Giving Tree". If you know of a family who could benefit from a little help this year, complete the form at the Welcome Center and place in the Offering Box or place in the Office Manager's Inbox.

**2020**  
**Christmas.**  
**Giving**  
**Tree**



**R!OT Youth Christmas Party** will be Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. Ugly Sweater Contest, Progressive Dinner, White Elephant Gift Exchange! See Dave/Dana for details.



Teens: invite your friends for a fun night of unlimited pizza, games, skating, and fun! The cost is \$20 per person. See Dave or Dana Metcalf for details.

**R!OT Youth Lock-In**  
from 7pm Friday, January 1st  
to 7am Saturday, January 2nd