#### **POPULAR**

A fellow had been waiting in line for some time before finally getting in to a very popular restaurant that advertised great meals for popular prices. He ordered a burger and fries with a coffee and was surprised when he got his bill - \$22.50. He pointed at the bill and asked the waitress, "You call a meal for \$22.50 popular? The waitress smiled and responded, "We like it!"

#### **BOASTFUL ANCESTRY**

"My ancestry goes all the way back to Alexander the Great," one woman bragged. Then she turned to the woman who was walking with her and asked, "How far back does your family go back?" "I don't know," was her reply. "All our records were lost in the flood."

### AN INDUSTRIOUS TURKEY FARMER

Since his family was fond of the leg portion for thanksgiving dinner where there were never enough legs for everyone, a farmer was experimenting with breeding, his mission to produce the perfect turkey.

After many frustrating attempts, the farmer told his friend Zeb, "I finally did it! I bred a turkey that has six legs!" He explained his latest experiment involved introducing octopus' genes into a turkey.

Zeb couldn't resist enquiring, "how did the turkey meat taste?". 'I don't know, 'said the farmer, 'I haven't caught that bird yet!'

#### THANKSGIVING TRICK

 $\label{thm:coming} \mbox{Emma's grandmother was coming to visit her family for Thanksgiving. When her grandmother arrived at the front door,}$ 

she was brought into the living room where the rest of the family was chatting before the Thanksgiving dinner.

"I'm sure happy to see you," Emma breathlessly said to her grandmother. "Why, thank you, Emma!" the grandmother replied.

Emma added, "Now maybe Daddy will do that trick he was talking about." Bewildered, the grandmother asked, "What trick?" The father leaned forward, interested.

Emma answered, "I heard him tell Mommy that he would climb the wall if you came to visit!"

#### THE SMALLEST MAN IN THE BIBLE

It was the apostle Peter who was so small, he slept on his watch!

**First Baptist Church Strathroy** 

Where Christ is cherished, family is loved and everyone is family!



# GETTING CONNECTED

Publication of..

# First Baptist Church Strathroy

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# October 2023



Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gifts

# What's inside...

- Being Thankful
- Prayer at Thanksgiving
- Something to Think About
- Mark Your Calendar
- Popular
- Boastful Ancestry
- An Industrious Turkey Farmer
- Thanksgiving Trick
- The Smallest Man in the Bible

# Thank You, God, For Everything

Thank you, God, for everything, The big things and the small.

For "every good gift comes from God"...
The giver of them all.

All too often we accept, without any thanks or praise,

The gifts God sends as blessings, each day in many ways.

And so at this Thanksgiving Time, we offer up a prayer...

To thank you, God, for giving us a lot more than our share.

Thank you for the little things that often come our way,

The things we take for granted but don't mention when we pray,

And thank you for the "Miracles" we're much too blind to see,

Give us new awareness of our many gifts from Thee,

To help us remember that the Key of Life, and Living,

Is to make each prayer a Prayer of Thanks
And that every day is Thanksgiving

~ Helen Steiner Rice

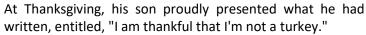


Where Christ is cherished, family is loved & everyone is family! Sunday, 11 a.m. Services.
20 Centre Street W., Strathroy, Ontario

**Thot:** "Contentment is the inward, gracious, quiet spirit that joyfully rests in God's providence." ~ Erik Raymond, Chasing Contentment (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2017)

#### **BEING THANKFUL**

A father asked his young son to write a composition entitled, "What I'm thankful for, at Thanksgiving".





#### PRAYER AT THANKSGIVING

"For the instant mashed potatoes, the canned cranberry sauce, and the defrost and serve pumpkin pie, we are truly thankful."



# Something to Think About...

"The LORD is my strength and shield. I trust Him with all my heart. He helps me, and my heart is filled with joy. I burst out in songs of thanksgiving" ~ Psalm 28:7.

Today, we live in an ever-changing world. What was the latest technology just a few years ago is old hat today. Expectations, work schedules, career paths, have all shifted alongside a changing society. However, one thing never changes – our need to be loved, to have our hearts filled with joy. Even a child needs such attention right from birth. For the life-span of humankind it has been the same. Yes, we have always struggled for a better living; have always longed for greater fulfillment; have always run after happiness, but in the end so much of what we seek leaves us unsatisfied if we don't have thanksgiving in our hearts.

As the Apostle Paul reflected on the oft-repeated call to have thankful hearts, he was able to call for God's children to "*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances*" reminding us that "*this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus*" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). We know that being thankful in all circumstances isn't always easy. But this is the very thing we're called to do in order to see our heavenly Father's will accomplished in our lives.

Author, Debbie Przybylski, wrote back in November 2015, "When we give thanks in the midst of difficulty, we bring pleasure to God's heart and breakthrough begins. He is looking for people who live in a realm of praise and thanksgiving where the enemy no longer has an ability to hold or manipulate. Satan is defeated when we have a thankful heart because thankfulness during difficulty is a sacrifice pleasing to God."

As we draw our hearts to the day that each year we set aside to remember why we are to be thankful people, do we look to the Lord to be our strength

and shield, to be our guide, to fill us with joy overflowing so that our hearts want to burst out in songs of thanksgiving? Have we only that sense of thanksgiving one day a year or have we learned to be thankful to our Father everyday for the multitude of blessings He pours into our lives?

If you would live life with a thankful spirit, you'll discover that it changes you from within. When we begin to thank God for all the blessings He has given instead of dwelling on the negative then discontentment, bitterness, covetousness and greed all dissipate and are gone. The soul is refreshed like a lively brook. Elisabeth Elliott, who lost her husband, Jim, on the mission field, and who has faced multitudes of hardships, says about being content in the Lord, "It is to wait quietly for life to be measured by One who knows us through and through; to be content with His timing; to follow in the steps of the Master".

The American Psychological Association also reports that recognizing and giving thanks for the positive aspects of life can result in improved mental, and ultimately physical, health in patients. Lead author of the report, Paul J. Mills, PhD, professor of family medicine and public health at the University of California, San Diego, stated, "We found that more gratitude in these patients was associated with better mood, better sleep, less fatigue and lower levels of inflammatory biomarkers related to cardiac health".

Gratitude has always brought an outlook on life that involves noticing and appreciating the positive aspects of life which in turn stimulates the inner-self to appreciate what they have over what they don't, to accept that the God who created all things, who gave them His own Son, Jesus, to be the propitiation for their sins and take their place, loves them too much for them not to be blessed if they would open themselves to Him, allow Him to help them in their daily

### Mark Your Calendar!

Oct 1<sup>st</sup> – Communion

Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> – Women's Mission Encounter

Oct 8<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving Service

# Thankful for Everything

Oct 14th - Men's Breakfast (8:30 a.m.)

## Wednesdays 1:30pm

Weekly Prayer (FBCS Godwinks' Café)

# Message Series

Experiencing God
- Blessed through the Trials of Life

## All Welcome!

journey, and seek Him with all their heart. And, not only can being grateful for the positives in life have a profound impact on your mood, outlook, and overall well-being, as you increase your gratefulness and give thanks to God, you grow closer in your relationship with Him, gain deeper understanding of His will and lean further on His Spirit to fill you and meet your needs. You are thus truly blessed with a heart filled with joy. And you discover that your thanksgiving celebration happens all year long. Happy Thanksgiving!