

**That Old Hockey Injury!**



**Why the Gray Hair?**



all

**A Turkey Tale...**



**THANKSGIVING**



**First Baptist Church Strathroy**

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



# **GETTING CONNECTED**

*Publication of...*

**First Baptist Church Strathroy**

Strathroy, Ontario N7G 1T5 519-245-0291 / 519-317-8659 (cell)

Email:

[www.FirstBaptistChurchStrathroy.ca](http://www.FirstBaptistChurchStrathroy.ca), Edited by Pastor Dave Adams



## ***What's inside...***

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

God is with us always; we are never alone,  
and His is everywhere;  
He blesses us with the Holy Spirit, He gives us  
His Word in the Bible, teaching us to love and  
encourage others with hospitality to share.

He knows our struggles and He forgives our  
sin.

When Jesus died on the cross, He carried our  
burdens with Him.

He loves us continuously and gives us joy and  
peace;

He comforts us when we are sad and broken;  
He gives us eternal life that will never cease.

God gives us food and shelter; He provides  
rain and sun for the crops to grow.

He is our Good Shepherd taking care of our  
needs;

He is happy when we plant spiritual seeds for  
others to know.

We should view life as a gift with an attitude of  
gratitude for each day,

Our hope is anchored in Jesus and every  
good and perfect gift He give us during our  
stay.

By Kim Lang



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



**20 Centre Street W., Strathroy, Ontario**

**Thot:** "When it comes to provision, the message of the Bible is this: Work while we  
can, save what we can, share what we can, and trust God to meet our needs."

~ Julie Ackerman Link (Our Daily Bread 29 Oct 17)

## Just Waiting!

A preacher was repairing the fence around the old country church. He noticed a small boy had been watching him for some time.

"Do you want to speak with me, son?" the pastor inquired.

"Oh no," the boy replied, "I'm just waiting."

"Waiting for what?" the preacher asked.

"Waiting to hear what a preacher has to say when he hits his thumb with a hammer!"



## COOLER WEATHER

### Something to Think About...

*"All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God"* ~ 2 Corinthians 4:15.



What does it mean to be thankful? Scripture encourages us to always give thanks and to express our gratitude. Yet it's so easy to be overwhelmed with all the tasks and activities to do, especially during festivities such as Thanksgiving, and it's so difficult to give thanks in trying circumstances as we deal with the unexpected, the unwanted, and the perceived undeserved events often creeping up in our lives. We forget to stop to reflect on **why** we celebrate what we do have to give thanks with grateful hearts. At such times it's important to take a minute to pause and read God's Word, reflect on all the ways God has blessed you, and to be truly thankful!

While both the Old Testament and New Testament provide many Scriptures for giving thanks to God, our primary reason is simply that we're to give thanks for who God is; for what He has done and will do in our lives; for His daily provision, answers to prayer and attentive ear to our cries; and simply for His love, His goodness, His amazing grace, His forgiveness and His faithfulness.

As Canadians we've long had the tradition of setting aside one day each year to give particular attention to being thankful. The first official annual Thanksgiving in Canada was celebrated on 6 November 1879, though Indigenous peoples in Canada have a history of celebrating the fall harvest that predates the arrival of European settlers. Sir Martin Frobisher and his crew are credited as the first Europeans to celebrate a Thanksgiving ceremony in North America in 1578. Then on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 1957, Canadian Parliament announced the second Monday in October would be "a day of general thanksgiving to almighty God for the bountiful harvest with which Canada has been blessed." Since Thanksgiving for Canadians is more about giving thanks for the harvest season than the arrival of pilgrims, it makes sense to celebrate the holiday at the height of the harvest.

What comes to mind as **you** think of Thanksgiving? Do you picture a time of thankfulness toward God — or merely one of eating, partying or watching football? Is

simply a day of turkey dinners, cranberries, candied yams, stuffing, mashed potatoes, pumpkin pie and family gatherings — all commonly associated with our yearly celebration of giving thanks — a day almost completely lost within the media hype, sales pitches, marketing tactics and blitz commercialism. But if we see thanksgiving associated with adoration, praise, an offering, or sacrifice; if we find ourselves giving thanks for what God's done and who He is, then we recognize that though we set aside a day in October, the attitude of a thankful heart must permeate through every day of the year. Although not *directly* mentioned in Scripture, we accept our *Thanksgiving Day* as a time set aside specifically based on *biblical* principles and commands as a day to spend with family and friends, honouring and *thanking* God for the bountiful blessings He provides.

If we're to be God's blessed people with hearts overflowing with thanksgiving, bringing glory to God for His great goodness, we must first recognize that being grateful means having a mindset which is truly conscious of the wonderful gifts, benefits and pleasures we have received in life. An American social worker for families in crisis, Jan Kwiatkowski, says genuine thankfulness requires pause and reflection; that to feel truly grateful you don't just run through a checklist of all the good stuff in your life, but you examine what it means to be thankful. In other words, "*how does being thankful make you feel?*"

Secondly, we must avoid the "*blame game*"! Thankful hearts of praise can't coexist with bitterness, anger, judgment and suspicion. Too often we've a mindset of wanting more; grumbling life's not fair; lashing out when things go wrong. Instead the thankful heart displays gratitude, forgiveness, humility and grace

Today, Thanksgiving can still be that time when families gather together, enjoy a wonderful meal, perhaps watch some football, but more importantly it must be a time to remember to truly give thanks. If you need a little help, consider:

- "*Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.*" (Psalm 95:2)
- "*Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name.*" (Psalm 100:4)
- "*O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endures forever...Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men! For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness.*" (Psalm 107:1, 8-9)

This Thanksgiving let's determine to give thanks to our wonderful God who's worthy of praise; give thanks for our many blessings; and then continue to practice throughout the year as an encouragement to one another!

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

### Mark Your Calendar!

Oct 2 – Women's Mission Encounter Group – 1:30 p.m.

Oct 7 -

Oct 13 – Men's Breakfast (8:30 a.m.)

Oct 14 – Communion Sunday

### Each Wednesday

**Prayer & Bible Study  
Gospel of Mark**