

FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH

November 8, 2021

Volume 2, Issue 10

Pastor's Word

What word do we expect to use for November if not Thanksgiving? I am choosing to use a related word: thankfulness.

When I think of "Thanksgiving" I think of a special time to gather with family and friends for a special meal. I do look forward to this. We have over the years developed a few "traditions" that go along with our celebrating Thanksgiving. One that seems to be growing with the granddaughters is writing on a pumpkin with markers (which is in the center of the dinner table) things they are thankful for. This year we are going to try to use a Styrofoam pumpkin that has been painted with black chalkboard paint. We will use chalk to write what we are thankful for on the pumpkin. If it works, we will reuse this pumpkin next year. If not, we had fun painting it!

I am choosing the word thankfulness because it is from the thankful heart than thanksgiving comes.

Being thankful is also God's will for us ... we are commanded to be thankful ...

"Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus."

1Thessalonians 5:18 NLT

We are to be thankful in all circumstances. With all the things we have been inundated with: Covid-19 and new variant, vaccination mandates, political and racial unrest, illegal immigration and border issues, civil unrest over freedoms and rights infringements, other day-to-day health issues and loss, we might find it hard to be thankful.

But we must choose to be thankful. The enemy doesn't want us to be thankful; he wants us to be fearful, angry, and unsettled.

This is not what God wants. God wants us to focus our minds and hearts on Him and His Sovereign grace. He wants us to focus on Him.

I was reading Nehemiah chapter 9 and was overwhelmed with how faithful, protecting, rescuing, leading, guiding, giving, providing, patient, loving, just, disciplining, compassionate, merciful and gracious God is with His people, with us.

When we lift our eyes above the surface noise and beyond the clouds of confusion and chaos, we will see the One whom is so loving and faithful toward us. The God of Order and Peace. The One whom fills our lives with so much to be thankful for. We find His grace and mercy, love and compassion, forgiveness and restoration, renewal and revival. We find the God who sustains and strengthens us. The God who keeps us safe and in His care.

"Give thanks to the LORD and proclaim his greatness. Let the whole world know what he has done."

Psalm 105:1 NLT

"Praise the LORD! Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever."

Psalm 106:1 NLT

Pastor Jerry

November Verse of the Month

***I will thank the Lord because he is just;
I will sing praise to the name of the
Lord Most High.***

Psalm 7:17 NLT

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Office Hours are Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

A Pinned Note from the Pastor's Wife



Psalm 34 NLT

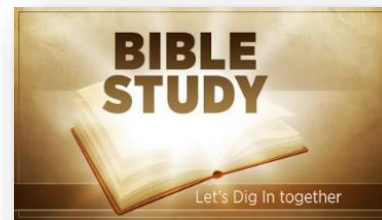
- ¹ *I will praise the Lord at all times.
I will constantly speak his praises.*
- ² *I will boast only in the Lord;
let all who are helpless take heart.*
- ³ *Come, let us tell of the Lord's greatness;
let us exalt his name together.*
- ⁴ *I prayed to the Lord, and he answered me.
He freed me from all my fears.*
- ⁵ *Those who look to him for help will be radiant
with joy;
no shadow of shame will darken their faces.*
- ⁶ *In my desperation I prayed, and the Lord
listened;
he saved me from all my troubles.*
- ⁷ *For the angel of the Lord is a guard;
he surrounds and defends all who fear him.*
- ⁸ *Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him!*
- ⁹ *Fear the Lord, you his godly people,
for those who fear him will have all they
need.*

Sometimes all that needs to be shared is God's Word. His Word is truth, it is faithful, it is hopeful, it is praiseworthy.

I would encourage you during this month of November to go to God's Holy Word daily and be reminded of God's faithfulness; be reminded of God's love; be reminded of God's promises.

By the time you get to December 1st you'll be ready to join me in praise and adoration as we begin reading a chapter a day out of the book of Luke leading up to Christmas morning.

*Come, let us tell of the Lord's greatness;
let us exalt his name together.*



Opportunities available at FSBC to study God's Word together:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. both in-person and on FB

Women's Friday morning Bible study is on break until early 2022.

JOIN US

For more information call the church office at 784-1641.

Follow us on the church's Facebook page at **First Southern Baptist Church**:

- "Worship and Word" broadcast at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays by Pastor Jerry; upon viewing you are encouraged to **Share** and **Like** so that it will be available to your friends on FB



- Also, "Wednesday Bible Study with Pastor Jerry" broadcast at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays

A new ministry opportunity at FSBC



If you have lost a loved one and want to navigate the grief process then this is the group for you.

In order to plan appropriately, please sign up for this ministry. A sign-up sheet will be available on Sundays at the back of the sanctuary, or you can contact the church office at 784-1641.

Then watch our FB page, announcements on our broadcasts as well as Sunday morning worship for information on the start date and time for this group.

The chorus to the song "Healing Begins" says this:

***This is where the healing begins, oh
This is where the healing starts
When you come to where you're broken within
The light meets the dark
The light meets the dark***

North American Mission Board

Prayer Calendar – November 2021

Eric and Sylvie Dean

Chaplain
U.S. Army



Pray for us as we proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ among our nation's service members in Korea.

Chris and Jin Kim

Church Planter
Bethel SBC
Niles, IL



Pray that Bethel Church will have a greater desire to grow spiritually. Pray that God will use our church to reach the lost people in our communities.

Daniel and Arienne Middlebrooks

Chaplain
First Call-First Responder
Church and Chaplaincy
Care, Inc.
Dover, FL



Pray that God will open the hearts and minds of our First Responders to hear Christ in a world full of confusion.

Week of Prayer for International Missions

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions supports the many International Mission Board missionaries serving around the globe by providing the resources they need to give help and hope to a lost world. Pray that Southern Baptists will give generously and sacrificially to spread the good news of Jesus throughout the world.



Operation Christmas Child



We have OCC shoeboxes and labels still available at the church. Our final collection Sunday will be November 21st. Completed boxes can be dropped off at the church office between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 noon, Monday – Friday, or at church on Sundays.

NOTE, we will be having a churchwide packing party on Saturday, November 13th at 11:00 a.m. We hope you will join us in packing at least 60 boxes at this event.

If you have items you would like to donate please let Janice know through contacting the church office. So **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!**

Thanksgiving Prayer

by Ralph Waldo Emerson

For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food,
For love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends.

For flowers that bloom about our feet;
For tender grass, so fresh, so sweet;
For song of bird, and hum of bee;
For all things fair we hear or see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee!