

# Whispering Hills

# Church of Christ



Volume XI, Issue IV

November 22, 2020

## Gathering Times

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Updates will be forthcoming as to the continual changes with COVID-19.

## Leadership

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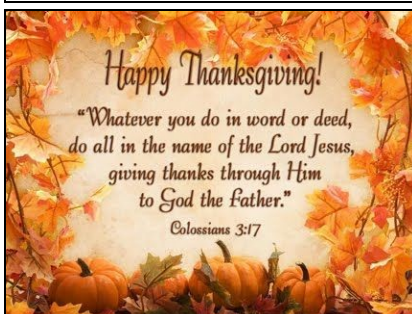
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## HOW TO BE SAVED

1. Hear (Rom 10:17; Jn 6:45)
2. Believe (Jn 8:24; Heb 11:6)
3. Repent ( Lk 13:3,5; Ac 2:38)
4. Confess (Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9, 10)
5. Baptized (Mk 16:16; 1 Pet 3:21)



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*always give thanks*

*"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."*  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

*"Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before."*  
Daniel 6:10

*"I will give thanks to the LORD because of his righteousness and will sing praise to the name of the LORD Most High."*  
Psalm 7:17

*"The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to Him in song."*  
Psalm 28:7

*"I will give You thanks in the great assembly; among throngs of people I will praise You."*  
Psalm 35:18

*"I will praise God's name in song and glorify Him with thanksgiving."*  
Psalm 69:30

## Weekly Bible Reading

November 22, 2020	Romans	9 - 12
November 23, 2020	Romans	13 - 16
November 24, 2020	1 Corinthians	1 - 4
November 25, 2020	1 Corinthians	5 - 8
November 26, 2020	1 Corinthians	9 - 12
November 27, 2020	1 Corinthians	13 - 16
November 28, 2020	2 Corinthians	1 - 7
November 29, 2020	2 Corinthians	8 - 13

### ***Our religious conviction:***

*God chose to save the world by sending His Son, Jesus to die on the cross for our sins (Rom 10:17).*

*Those who choose to listen and obey the Gospel message SHALL be saved (Ac 2:38).*

*God adds them to the Church of the Bible which His Son is coming for one day (2 The 1:7 - 10).*



# food for thought

## THANKSGIVING

Throughout the Bible, “*Thanksgiving*” for blessings is expressed as a theme. “Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! (Psa 95:2). Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!” (Psa 100:4). The Old Testament resounds with the people praising God (Psa 69:30); Israel had a history of giving thanks to God for the mercy and deliverance He showed (Psa 50:14, 23). In the New Testament, Jesus always PRAYED (giving thanks) before meals. “And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing over them. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd” (Lk 9:16). At the Last Supper Jesus took bread and gave thanks and offered it to His Followers (1 Cor 11:24). As the day of thanks is referred by many as a holiday, please give some serious thoughts for this thanksgiving day of celebration.

**Motive.** When giving thanks to God, our sole motive must be *pure gratitude*. Thanksgiving is just what it has always been: giving thanks! “You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God” (2 Cor 9:11). A “Thanksgiving Prayer” is not to be polluted or corrupted with selfish thoughts or subconscious appeal of manipulation. It is God’s Blessings toward us as we partake in a whole-hearted fashion demonstrating our appreciation of His Love. “Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving” (Eph 5:4).

**Knowledgeable.** Being grateful requires looking back, no matter how recent and acknowledging blessings for which we are thankful. “do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God” (Php 4:6). Our culture is infatuated with the future with the results being thanksgiving is oftentimes neglected. To give thanks to God is to look backwards revealing His Love instead of looking forward to express the gratitude for the good things having entered into our lives.

**Comprehensive.** We thank God for everything. Often, more is included in our giving of thanks because of His many Blessings. We are so blessed. God is to be thanked for our family, friends, housing, jobs and hundreds of abundant things. “For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving,” (1 Tim 4:4). Giving God thanks should be a theme running through our lives in good times and bad because of His Providence. We must constantly demonstrate our appreciation of His Thoughtfulness in all possible ways. “saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen” (Rev 7:12). We must not become complacent/unappreciative. Let’s show the indebtedness of His many, wonderful Blessings by giving thanks, appropriately to Him.



I WILL GIVE THANKS  
TO THE LORD BECAUSE  
OF HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS.

*Psalm 7:17*



# PRAYER REQUEST

**Continuous Prayers:** Walter Simon, Mack & Carolyn Clouds, Ron Forge, Christina Jones, Miguel Graves, Joyce Fair Patricia Hurd, Ruby Busby (Bro/Sis Busby's FAMILY), Sheila Harris, Curtis Ward, Joyce Gutierrez, Vernon Skinner (Sis Skinner's son), Mattie Stafford, Annette Rolette, Chris White (Sis White's son) Adam McCants (Bro Ramsey's daughter father-in-law), Ray and Byron Busby (Bro/Sis Busby's sons) Joel Sotelo Vazquez / Bertha Tapia [Mexico City, Mexico], Alfredo Cabrera/Ana Yescas (Bro Ramsey's friend) Maria Diaz (Sis Skinner's neighbor), Willie Gray (Sis Gray's brother-in-law) Anthony Yescas (Bro Ramsey's friend)

**Sick:** Arthur Henry, Dan Allen, Jerry Birdow, Jose (Bro Spataro's friend)

**General:** Demetria Washington, Greg Owens (Bro Owens' brother), Kelvin & Michael Porter (Sis Owens' brothers), Simon Young, Sam Lily (Sis Guthrie's stepson), James Hunter, Jr, Michael Neazer, M. Staton, Milicent Douglas (Sis Glasker's neice), John Carpenter (Sis Simon's brother) Jason Reeves & FAMILY (Sis A. Anderson's friend)

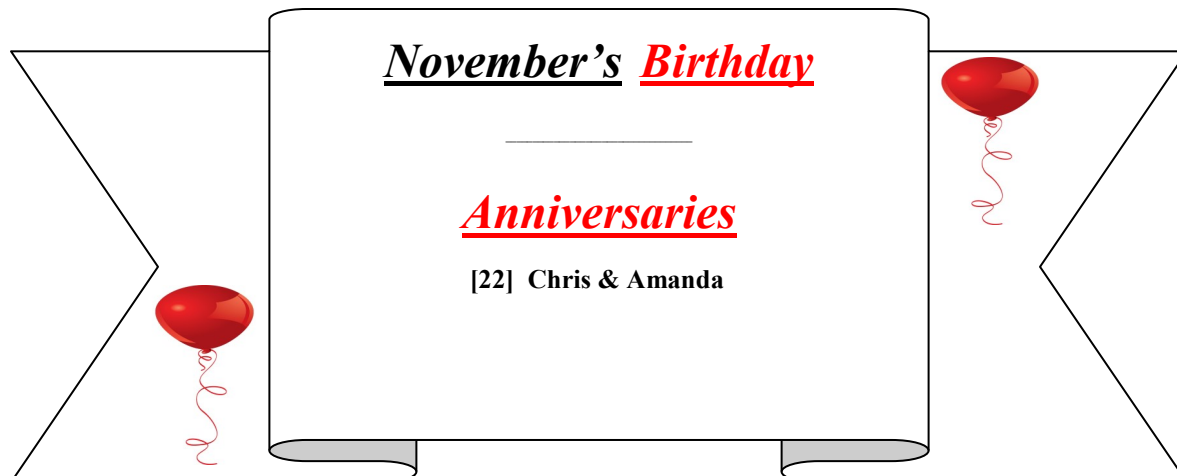
**UPDATES:**

1. Please ensure [we] have ALL relevant information pertaining to birthdays and anniversaries for our Bulletin to be current, so [we] may collectively participate in these extra special events with you. If in doubt, please share it, again for ALL of us to know.
2. **Bro Birdow** is out of ICU, able to digest solid food and hope to be released soon from Methodist Central [16 Nov]

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## Upcoming Activities / Announcements

1. **Door Knocking Campaign** Postponed until further notice.
2. **Thanksgivings Day** (Thursday: 11/26/2020)





## THANKSGIVING

### Leviticus 7:11 – 15

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. [We] look to the concept of “Thanksgiving” as seen from a Biblical perspective.
2. The 1<sup>st</sup> reference to “Thanksgiving” is in the description of the thanksgiving offering.
  - A. This offering is **NOT** just an ancient ceremony, **BUT** the true value of a thankful heart.
  - C. Through it, we learn how God expects us to practice thankfulness.
    1. Thanksgiving is a key ingredient of peace.
      - A. It is part of "the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings" (Lev 7:11).
      - B. It is necessary for the peace of God to rule in our hearts (Col 3:15).

#### BODY:

##### 1. MUST BE MADE FOR ALL THINGS

- A. The thanksgiving offering alluded to different items offered together (Lev 7:12, 13).
- B. As Christians, we are to "give thanks always for all things unto God" (Eph 5:20).

##### 2. MUST BE MADE FOR THE WORST THINGS

- A. The thanksgiving offering included an offering of "leavened bread" (Lev 7:13).
  1. Leaven (yeast) is used for negative things: sin, false doctrine and evil events.
  2. To include in the thanksgiving offering: thankful for even the bad things in our life.
- B. [We] are to be thankful for even the worst things happening to us.
  1. "...glory in tribulations" (Rom 5:3); "take pleasure in infirmities" (2 Cor 12:10).
  2. [We] are to "count it all joy" when [we] fall into temptations (Jas 1:2).
- C. This kind of thankfulness separates the believer from the lost.
  1. Even the lost are thankful for those things they perceive to be good.
    - A. It takes [true] faith to be thankful for things in which [we] see **NO** good.

##### 3. MUST BE AN OFFERING UNTO THE LORD

- A. Part of the offering was to be "an heave offering unto the Lord" (Lev 7:14).
  1. The priest stretch his hands toward heaven of presenting the sacrifice unto God.
- B. True thanksgiving is we direct unto God.
- C. God will accept the sacrifice of thanksgiving as a special offering ( Heb 13:15, 16).

##### 4. MUST BE OFFERED ON THE BASIS OF THE BLOOD

- A. The thanksgiving offering was offered with the sprinkling of the blood (Lev 7:14).
- B. The sprinkling of the blood was a type of the sacrifice of Christ on the cross (1 Pet 1:2).
- C. The blood of Christ is the foundation of all the thanksgiving of a Christian (2 Cor 9:15).

##### 5. IS THE BASIS OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

- A. The sacrifice of the Peace Offering was enjoyed as a fellowship meal (Lev 7:15).
- B. Thanksgiving draws us closer to God and to other saints (Psa 35:18).

##### 6. MUST BE OFFERED FRESH EVERY DAY

- A. The sacrifice of the thanksgiving offering must be eaten the day it is offered; none may be left for another day.
- B. The act of thanksgiving must be a present practice.
  1. Yesterday's thanksgiving will **NOT** suffice for today and today's can**NOT** be held over for tomorrow.
  2. We must be thankful each day (Psa 118:24).