



WATER MILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Weekly Newsletter

November 29, 2009

Order of Worship

Welcome

Jerry Young

Song Leader

Kerry Cole

523 (v. 1,2,4)

#773

Opening Prayer

Brent Looney

#989

#511

Communion

Larry Baggett

#885

Contribution

Larry Baggett

#408

#68

Lesson

Bill McFarland

#779

Announcements

Jerry Young

#282 (v. 1,2)

Closing Prayer

Jason Luna

TRADITIONS

Bill McFarland

I've thought some about why it is that Thanksgiving has turned out to be the favorite of many of us. One reason, I'm convinced, is that there is something calming and humbling about even the thought of gratitude. But I think that, in practice, there is another reason: the traditions most of us have developed in our families as we have enjoyed the occasion down through the years.

There is something about the observance of our American Thanksgiving Day which particularly lends it to such traditions. There is a historical background to it. It is always on the same day of the week. It comes to mean family gatherings and the trips which make them possible, certain kinds of wonderful foods, and relaxing activities which can be repeated. I think it also helps that not as much commercialization and religious debate surrounds it as some of our other holidays.

An important spiritual question may be raised against this background. What is the place of tradition in the lives of God's children? This is a matter which has sometimes been a source of trouble. Some think anything that has become a tradition is the law. Others act as if anything traditional is the enemy. Those in between run the risk of concluding that all things are merely matters of personal preference.

The scriptures make it clear that where tradition either contradicts or takes the place of what the Lord has said, it is wrong. Jesus taught that the tradition of men must not be allowed to cause us to leave the commandment of God or to make the demands of his word void (Mk. 7:8, 13). The apostles emphasized that we are not to allow anyone to take us captive to human tradition as if it were equal to the will of Christ or a necessary supplement to his work (Col. 2:8, 9).

They made it just as certain, however, that things are not wrong merely because they have been said or done before. Paul could write, for example, this: "So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter" (2 Thes. 2:15). There is a difference between inspired truth which has been handed down and human practices which have been developed.

In between are the "how we do things in our family" customs that we all have. They are not law and they are not hindrances to be gotten rid of as soon as possible; they are life. It would be the height of arrogance and immaturity to claim that we can do without them.



Today's Sermons

Morning: What Do You Know For Sure?

Evening: Pat Cowden Report

Welcome Visitors

We are honored that you joined us. We hope you will be blessed by your time with us. We have an attended nursery, a cry/training room and a nursing mother's room for your convenience if you have small children. Please fill out an attendance card and pass it to the end of the pew so that we may thank you for your visit.

For The Record November 22

Bible Study:	281
Morning:	415
Evening:	249
Wednesday:	204
Contribution:	\$9,035



Elder of the Month
Jerry Young

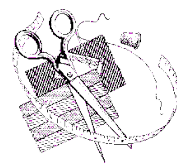
Prayer Lists and Announcements

The ladies studying "Searching for Truth" will meet Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. at Gaitha Downing's home.

Thursday Ladies Bible Class will meet December 10 at 10:30 a.m. Elaine Poland of Bona will be the speaker. Chili, soup and a lettuce salad will be provided. Bring other salads, crackers or your favorite holiday treat. If you would like to participate in a cookie/candy exchange, bring extra goodies for the exchange.

Wed. Evening Ladies Bible Class

Beginning Wednesday evening, Ruth Essex will be teaching the ladies Bible class a series of three lessons on the subject, "Instrumental Music in Worship." The class will be in the fellowship room, and all ladies are invited.



Sewing and quilting ladies will be working on Tuesday, Dec. 1 and Dec. 15.

- ◇ Golden Agers will meet next Sunday at 4 p.m. in Room 126
- ◇ Singing/Devo at James River Nursing Home will be December 12 instead of December 5.

Pat Cowden and his family will be here tonight to give a final report of their work in Saipan. Make your plans to be with us!

Youth Events

- ◇ The next area-wide Youth Night is next Sunday at Ava.
- ◇ Christmas SNAC will be 12/13 after PM service

Pew Packers meet this evening at 4:45

LTC Team 3 Drama will meet next Sunday from 3:30-5



Milton Ford is now at Springfield Rehab Center
Seldon Essex will have extensive shoulder surgery Wednesday at Cox South

Thelma Fain is in Cox South with heart problems

Cecil Lines is recovering from minor surgery

Bob Solomon is in St. John's after collapsing at the Veterans Hospital at Mt. Vernon last Monday; he is in critical condition

Friends and Family:

Lucille & Milton Ford's son in Texas is having health difficulties

Tiffany Meeks' dad, Don Lewis, has health problems but is home from the hospital

Special Prayer Request

Please continue to remember Monty & Lucy Lewis and Dale Lewis and his children as they are dealing with family problems

Long-Term Prayer List

- Joy & Alice Allen
- Paul Bratcher
- Doris Burch
- Bonnie Cole
- Thelma Fain
- Lucille/Milton Ford
- Gerald Jean
- Clay Joseph
- Carol Mahon
- Jarita Nimmo
- Judy Todd
- Pat Woods
- Friends & Family
- Karen Scheel, Cathryn Warren's daughter
- Military:
- Cody Newman in Iraq



Featured Family: Dale & Pat Harp



New Address
 Adam & Sarah (Stokes) Griffin
 210 West Clayton
 Hardy, AR 72542



Golden Agers Thanksgiving Dinner
 hosted by Barney & Debbie Crawford
 Thanks Barney & Debbie for a wonderful evening
 of fun, good food and fellowship.



December

- 7 Jackie & Virginia Buck 51 yrs.
- 10 Jim & Ruth Reaves 44 yrs.
- 20 Andy & Kirsten McFarland 1 yr.
- 22 Tom & Jammie Davis 15 yrs.
- 28 Eddie & Donna Sanders 52 yrs.
- 30 Barney/Debbie Crawford 37 yrs.
- 31 Eddie/Linda Currier 38 yrs.

Best Wishes To All

Dear Christian Family,
 We simply wish to express our gratitude and appreciation for the food that was provided by the ladies of the church during our stay in Springfield. Your love and tender concern for my sister, Sondi, as well as for all of us, helped to sustain and see us through. Even though I know she is in a better place, my heart is heavy and my eyes still weep. Thank you for being there.
 DeWayne and Sue Lann
 Thanks to all those who sent me get well and birthday cards. It really gives you a lift when you're not feeling well and your spirits are down. Thanks again. I love you all.
 Doris Burch

Congratulations to Randy & Orvella Blackburn on the arrival of a new grandson, Kaden Tuhey, born November 18th to Andrea & Cody.

WORDS OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE

Dennis Smith



In the New Testament there are different words used which have the same meaning. Such is true with the word "gospel" and the word "truth." In 2nd Thes. 1:8 the Apostle Paul used the word "gospel" as something to be obeyed. In 1st Peter 1:22 Peter uses the word "truth" as something to be obeyed and so does Paul in Galatians 3:1. However, in Gal. 1:6 he used the word "gospel" as what they had obeyed in order to make them his "brethren." In the old King James, as well as the New, Paul is asking the Galatian brethren "...who has bewitched you that ye should **not** obey the truth..?" Why would he ask such a question when they had already "obeyed the gospel/truth?" The Bible clearly shows that the gospel obeyed constitutes a form of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ when completing one's obedience in baptism. (See 1st Cor. 15:1-4 and Rom. 6:1-6, 17-18). The answer is simple. The "gospel preached" and the "gospel obeyed" must not stop at baptism. Jesus taught this early in his ministry when he used the word gospel to include such things as "*healing the brokenhearted, etc*" (Luke 4:18). Christ demonstrated this thought in his own actions when he "*went about doing good*" which was a part of declaring the gospel (Acts 18:8). Maybe we need to take another look at the question, "have you obeyed the gospel" - meaning in its fullness?

Schedule of Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study9:00 AM
 Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 AM
 Sunday Evening Worship...5:00 PM
 Wednesday Night Bible Class....7:00 PM

OUR MISSION POINTS

Mark & Era Thiesen, Malawi, Africa
 Joey & Tammy Treat, Northern Mariana Islands
 Jeremiah Akamah, Cameroon, Africa
 Voice of Truth International

"The Living Word"
 7:30 A.M. Sundays
 KOLR TV 10

"In Search Of
 The Lord's Way"
 7:00 A.M. Sundays
 KOLR TV 10

"Know Your Bible"
 10:30 A.M. Sundays
 Springfield 33
 KSPR-TV



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 Springfield, MO 65803

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 B. McFarland: b.mcfarland@mchsi.com
 Website: watermillchurchofchrist.org
 Office Hours:
 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday - Friday

Service Rosters

THIS MORNING

AM Nursery: Jill Morrison
Greeters: Blanton & Betty Glenn
Van Driver: Travis Morrison/742-1970
KYB Phone: Jim Meinsen/Daniel Meinsen
Serve Scott Barton/Eddie Currier
Communion: Randy Blackburn/Tom Davis
 Tim Bowling/Greg Donoho
 Jackie Buck/John Dutton
 Kyle Buckner/Mark Friend

THIS EVENING

Song Leader: Eddie Sanders
Opening Prayer: Scott Nichols
Speaker: Pat Cowden
Closing Prayer: John Penner
Communion: Todd & Trevor Kraus
Nursery: J. Davis/M. Reaves

NEXT WEEK, December 6

	MORNING	EVENING
Song Leader:	Jon Ewing	Travis Morrison
Opening Prayer:	John Stayton	Dustin Stokes
Communion:	Brendan Carroll	Tim/Kyle Buckner
Closing Prayer:	John Hulett	Daniel Tovar
AM Nursery:	Donna Jordan/Michelle Hulett	
PM Nursery:	Lisa Stayton/Emily Simons	
Greeters:	Larry & Jo Baggett	
Van Driver:	Shannon Haddock/732-4203	

THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Ushers: Adam Stipp
 Grant Wheeler
AV Room: Scott Barton/
 Jeremy Thurlkill
Secure Building: Paul Lines

Wednesday, December 2

Devotional: Bill McFarland
Song Leader: Larry Baggett
Opening Prayer: Ron Stokes
Closing Prayer: Mike Thurlkill