

Pastor's Thanksgiving Message



“ On Thanksgiving Day truly give thanks to the Lord for all he has done and will continue to do in your life.”

Pastor Appreciation Dinner

The Pastor Appreciation Dinner was held on Saturday evening, October 24th. There were 80 people in attendance. The Social Committee, combined with the Sanctuary Fund team prepared a delicious meal for all. George Smith and his friends provided great entertainment. Complete total is not available yet, but over \$2,000 was donated in honor of the church family's appreciation for Pastor Bill.



Give Thanks to God

“The Lord is the strength of his people; he is the saving refuge of his anointed. O save your people, and bless your heritage; be their shepherd, and carry them forever.”

As we begin the month of November, we are reminded of our many blessings. Our world spends so much of its time believing that blessings include our many material possessions. That is unfortunate but many times that is true. Our jobs, our cars, our homes, and our friends have become the things which define and that needs to change.

What should define us as Christians is the fact that God loves us so much that he gave his son to die for you and for me. The greatest blessing that was ever given to this world was Jesus Christ. He came with pure and perfect motives and chose to teach us the many ways that God wants us to live in this world. That is the blessing that our country needs once again.

We need Christians to share their hope and faith with people who have none. We need to reach out during this holiday season because there will be families whose dinners and gifts will be less elaborate than in years past. To be quite honest that is not always a bad thing.

Sometimes we need to be reminded of what a blessing is in God's eyes. A blessing is something that he bestows upon us when we are following his word. Psalm 28:8-9 states, *“The Lord is the strength of his people; he is the saving refuge of his anointed. O save your people, and bless your heritage; be their shepherd, and carry them forever.”*

I believe that America has received many blessings from God but that has changed in the last few years. We have not stood up and fought for what is righteous but instead have given into sinful behavior. Since

our current president took office, there has been a heightened sense of awareness about government decisions and how those decisions especially affect Christians. All I feel comfortable saying is that this administration is in need of prayer and wisdom. We need to pray that God's people will stand strong in the midst of the persecution that has already begun. I am able to give thanks because my God is in control.

I also give thanks for all of the capable leaders that surround me in this church. I give thanks for those of you in the church who have experienced the blessings which come from being stretched by God. You have been willing to try something new and God has shown you great things.

I give thanks for those people who prepared the pastor appreciation dinner which took place on October 24. It was a wonderful blessing for my family. Your gifts and cards were appreciated and my family thanks you. Give thanks to God for the many things that you know are blessings in your life. On Thanksgiving Day truly give thanks to the Lord for all he has done and will continue to do in your life.

Pastor Bill