

THE NEWS of East Washington Heights Baptist Church

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Fueled by Thankfulness



Thankfulness is not a minor virtue. It is not one of the elementary virtues [that] may be left behind as we become more mature. Thankfulness is essential to the strength of every virtue, and that without it every other branch is starved and lean.

Life without thankfulness is devoid of love and passion. Hope without thankfulness is lacking in fine perception. Faith without thankfulness lacks strength and fortitude. Every virtue divorced from thankfulness is maimed and limps along the spiritual road. John Henry Jowett

The greatest thing is to give thanks for everything. He who has learned this knows what it means to live. He has penetrated the whole mystery of life: giving thanks for everything. Albert Schweitzer

The Pastor's Message

On Being Content

"Godliness with contentment is great gain." (I Timothy 6:6)

This November, as we enter the season of Thanksgiving, we must remember that a major component of being thankful is contentment. However, when we talk about contentment, some people think we are against progress. But this is not the case! The Apostle Paul said that contentment never comes from outside factors. Instead it comes from being in a personal relationship with Jesus (Phil. 4:12-13).

Nonetheless, every 12 minutes TV advertisers try to convince us that contentment is not possible without their particular brand of something. Suddenly we feel "less than" if we don't have it, so we go out and buy it, plunge into debt, put ourselves under pressure, and miss out on what's really important, and this especially happens as Thanksgiving and Black Friday draw nigh.

Therefore, the next time you see one of those commercials, just shout back, "Who – are – you – kidding?" If you don't want to become "old too soon and smart too late," listen to what God has to say about the subject in the 6th Chapter of the book of 1 Timothy.

(1) "We didn't bring anything with us when we came into the world, and we certainly cannot carry anything with us when we die" (I Timothy 6:7). This verse explains why we'll never see a hearse pulling a U-haul trailer. It's a one-way trip. Furthermore, when we die, and someone asks, "How much did they leave," the answer will be – everything!

(2) "And some people, craving money, have wandered from the faith" (I Timothy 6:8). If your pursuit of things leaves you no time for God, then you're heading into trouble. Re-examine your priorities and change them right away!

(3) "If we have enough...let us be content." Here's the bottom line, real contentment doesn't come from possessions, it comes only from knowing you're walking with God. Anything beyond that is a bonus!

Peace and Blessings, __ **Pastor Kip Banks, Sr.**



The long view of Advent

Advent is about preparing not only for Christmas but also for Jesus' return. According to Scripture, that won't be the calm, silent scene described in Christmas carols.

In 1928, Dietrich Bonhoeffer preached: "It is very remarkable that we face the thought that God is coming so calmly, whereas previously peoples trembled at the day of God We have become so accustomed to the idea of divine love and of God's coming at Christmas that we no longer feel the shiver of fear that God's coming should arouse in us. We ... [forget] the serious aspect, that the God of the world draws near to the people of our little earth and lays claim to us."

God is love; we'll be in good hands at the end of time. But during Advent, also be in awe of God. Embrace a reverent fear of the Lord that reminds you how profound it is that God chooses again and again to draw near and lay claim to you.

Imitating Christ

The biblical use of the term saint in the book of Acts ... applies to each of us. All who are attempting to imitate the Christ in their lives merit the title of saint. Some do it more fully than others and are willing to let go of more to get the job done. __Matthew Fox, *Confessions*

Special November dates

- All Saints' Day, *Tuesday, November 1*
 - Daylight-Saving Time ends, *Sunday, November 6, 2:00AM*
 - EWHBC 122nd Anniversary Worship Service, *Sunday, November 6, 11:00AM*
 - Election Day, *Tuesday, November 8*
 - EWHBC 122nd Church Anniversary Revival, *November 9 - 11, 7:00PM*
 - Veterans Day, *Tuesday, November 11*
 - Fall Youth Retreat, Ocean City, MD, *November 18 - 20*
 - Christ the King Sunday, *November 20*
 - Annual Thanksgiving Breakfast & Worship, *Thursday, November 24, 8:00AM*
 - Thanksgiving, *Thursday, November 24*
 - First Sunday of Advent, *November 27*
-

Happy Birthday to all who were born in November!

Happy Anniversary to all who were married in November!

Use it all up

About two-thirds of Americans say eating Thanksgiving leftovers is more important than eating the actual holiday meal. That's one of the few times people hope food is left on the table. When it comes to giving out blessings, God doesn't want any leftovers to remain. In Genesis 12:2, God blesses Abraham so he will be a blessing to others.

Charles Stanley writes: "A hoarded blessing is never enjoyed as richly as a shared one. Using your gift to meet someone else's need glorifies God by demonstrating his grace at work in your life. Don't let his generous provisions end with you. Pass them on and discover the joy of a never-ending cycle of blessings."

Christ the King Sunday

Christ the King Sunday - Colossians 1:15 - 23.

The Lord Upon the Throne - Psalm 11: 4 - 7.

Many churches may not be familiar with Christ the King Sunday. For those who carefully observe the events of the Christian year it is the last Sunday before Advent begins. As such, it helps worshipers who are already thinking about Christmas to remember that the event of Christmas is about much more than a baby in a manger. It's about a sovereign Christ! Even if you do not identify the day as a special celebration, we encourage you to consider this theme for the Sunday before Advent begins. Marking the kingship of Christ makes a healthy transition that leads directly from Ordinary Time into Advent, the Christmas cycle, and the remainder of the Christian year.

The theme of the Lordship of Christ is integral to the message of the entire New Testament and certainly to the faithful practice of Christian worship. So this Sunday aims to focus our attention and our worship on the cosmic character of Christ's reign over the world. [_ Calvin Institute of Christian Worship](#)

Bible basics

All Christians must take seriously our responsibility to "learn the ABCs," learn "About the Bible in Church." Unless we read it, study it, learn what's in it and feel comfortable with it in our hands and on our tongues, we cannot truly love the Word of God. Instead, we're intimidated by it, afraid of it, shocked by it or simply remain ignorant of it.

Let us all be renewed in a faith that has been enriched by the gift of Scripture so we may end our worship by saying: "We were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives" (1 Thessalonians 2:8, NASB)

Learning to repent

Just as we learn to read, share and play ball, we learn to apologize, right a wrong and repent. Grace-filled parents, teachers and other adults can guide that process.

A young visitor to a national park took home a pine cone, despite the adage to “take only photos and leave only footprints.” But the child, likely prompted by Mom or Dad, later thought better of it. Opening a lumpy envelope from the mail, a park ranger was tickled and touched to discover the pine cone. An anonymous note in childish script explained regret for “my decision” and asked that the bit of nature be returned to its rightful place.

Repentance is tough, but the caring support of someone more mature in life and faith can make it easier. May we all keep learning to say we’re sorry.

Love in action

Fiddler on the Roof, the 1964 musical about an Orthodox Jewish family navigating cultural change, includes a duet by the main character, Tevye, and his wife, Golde. As they watch their daughters marry for love, they contemplate their own arranged marriage.

“Do you love me?” Tevye sings. After first deflecting the question, Golde recounts the many things she’s done for or with him during 25 years together — cooked, cleaned, endured hardships, raised a family. She concludes, “If that’s not love, what is?”

When Jesus speaks of love, he uses a word that might be better translated as “serve.” Above all, love is an action. Sometimes we feel loving; sometimes not. But Jesus calls us always to act lovingly. And in the end, serving is the best way to show our love.

Is your light growing dim?

Albert Schweitzer, the gifted physician, scientist, musician and missionary, said that at times our own light seems to go out. Sometimes we feel rather dim or washed out. Know the experience?

Schweitzer suggested that our light can be rekindled by another person whose light is still strong and whose presence can increase the power of our own light. Our light can be increased as we live in relationship with the “light of the world.”

In John 8:12, Jesus says: “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness” (NRSV). In Jesus’ light, we find that the light in our own life is increased.

St. Paul told how Christ’s light should affect us: “In the Lord you are light. Live as children of light ...” (Ephesians 5:8, NRSV).

EWHBC Annual Women's Week 2016

"What Happens When Women Pray"

We celebrated Women's Week 2016 with a prayer service, a prayer breakfast and a worship service. We recognized cancer survivors and brought awareness to domestic violence. October is Breast Cancer and Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

The celebration began in the Many Chapel with prayer service on Wednesday, October 19, 2016. Deacon Katie Williams was the worship leader. We gave testimonies, recited poems, prayed and sang (including some solos). Participants were Mrs. Michelle Glymph, Ms. Breona Williams, Ms. Chela Williams and Ms. Lauren Wiggins, Deacon Yvonne Burke, Mrs. Patricia Smith and Rev. Elizabeth Wiggins. Rev. Kip B. Banks, Sr. gave remarks and closed with a prayer, thus ending a night of worship and fellowship.

Saturday, October 23rd, we celebrated with a prayer breakfast. Our worship leader was Mrs. Barbara Robinson. The breakfast was delicious and healthy, thanks to our caterer, Ms. Sharon French. The participants for the prayer breakfast were Ms. Angela Robinson, Rev. Elizabeth Wiggins, Mrs. Maxine Charles, Mrs. Renna Young, and Mrs. Blanch Moose. Mrs. Robinson invited a panel of doctors, Dr. Christina Council, Dr. Joylene Thomas, Dr. Tu, Chief of Staff for the United Medical Center and Mr. Thompson (publicity). The panelists provided a wealth of information on serious illnesses and preventive methods. They distributed written information, gifts, bags, pens and pamphlets to the audience. The United Medical Center is located on Southern Avenue, SE (formerly the Greater Southeast Hospital). Mrs. Dollie Banks donated purple light bulbs and Mrs. Anita Winston donated purple ribbons for domestic violence awareness. The prayer service was well attended. A special "thank you" to all, including Rev. Kip B. Banks, Sr. who closed the breakfast with remarks and prayer.

Women's Day, Sunday, October 23rd, the worship leader was Ms. Rosemary Gary. Other pulpit participants included Deacon Betty Fralin, Sisters Barbara Savage, Renna Young, Cheryl Ball, Yalonda Penn, Dollie Banks, Deacon Migdalen Eley and Rev. Elizabeth Wiggins. The women's choir lifted their voices in praise and worship. The ushers, under the guidance of Mrs. Johnnie Anderson, consisted of mothers, daughters and granddaughters.

The guest speaker, was Rev. Lisa Weathers-Hall, Associate Minister, of the New Commandment Baptist Church, in Bowie, MD. Her sermon, "This Time" focused on three important points, 1. Check your line. 2. Claim your blessing in your testing and 3. Change your prayer from petition to praise. (Genesis 29). *When women pray, we are pleasing in God's sight and all sorts of miracles happen.*

The Women's Day Reception was held in Fountain Hall after the Service. The Reception committee members were Dr. Zavolia Willis, Mrs. Mary Goodwin, Mrs. Renage Brox-Braxton, Mrs. Doris Smith Simon, Mrs. Lisa Kendall Brown, Mrs. Patricia Smith, Deacon Betty Fralin, Mrs. Zara Willis Wright and Ms. Stephanie Beckett. **(Continued on Page 7)**

THE NEWS

(Continued from Page 6). Mrs. Mary Goodwin provided the pink ribbons to be worn during the worship service. Mrs. Brox-Braxton gave gifts at the reception and Dr. Willis gave pink bags with tokens of love and appreciation.

We thank our musicians, Mrs. Avis Balcolm Williams, Mr. David Dodson and the guest drummer, our secretary, Ms. Joyce Milton and our pastor, Rev. Kip B. Banks, Sr.

May God bless each of you and our beloved congregation.
Vasser J. Baldwin, Chairperson of EWHBC Annual Women's Week

Puzzle!

Use the clues to fill in the blanks. The only vowel used is the letter A.

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1. The mountain where Noah's ark rested *(Genesis 8:4)*

2. Jacob's grandfather and Ishmael's father *(Genesis 18:1, NIV)*

3. She sometimes laughed inappropriately. *(Genesis 18:12)*

4. He had a talking donkey. *(Numbers 22:28)*

5. This bird is both a color and a species. Did he come from the islands?

6. This can refer to a hat, canal, country or isthmus.

7. The country with the largest area in the Western Hemisphere

8. This animal is an early entry in the dictionary.

9. A magician's exclamation

10. A brand name for motorcycles and pianos

Answers: 1. Ararat, 2. Abraham, 3. Sarah, 4. Balaam, 5. canary, 6. Panama, 7. Canada, 8. aardvark, 9. abracadabra, 10. Yamaha



Blessings from the Lord

Throughout the Bible, God blesses his chosen people. How can we receive these gifts?

Directions: In the word search, find all the words in the box. Then write the words in the correct order on the blanks below to complete the verse.

come you these LORD if blessings you the accompany
Deuteronomy All on your obey will God you and

I	J	T	Z	Z	L	M	X	N	W	C	I	Z	Y	H
X	V	U	B	M	O	O	O	V	I	O	L	T	R	T
N	L	V	L	I	R	A	D	S	L	M	R	H	A	T
B	F	C	E	Z	D	T	X	O	L	E	D	E	L	D
O	S	K	S	L	O	D	A	B	V	G	W	S	L	E
H	G	Y	S	L	R	A	W	E	Y	J	E	E	U	U
I	O	R	I	W	F	I	C	Y	O	U	R	L	R	T
Z	D	B	N	I	A	B	Y	C	V	M	R	X	C	E
G	K	D	G	Y	D	M	A	O	O	T	U	F	M	R
C	T	I	S	Z	O	M	T	E	Q	M	P	N	T	O
C	X	C	I	D	U	U	O	L	R	D	P	T	C	N
F	S	X	F	R	T	L	P	M	F	B	L	A	A	O
Y	Y	Y	O	U	H	T	U	A	P	A	I	U	N	M
E	O	K	N	U	E	A	Z	U	F	E	F	B	D	Y
T	Q	U	Y	N	I	N	O	O	V	E	O	T	Z	I

“ All _____ ”

_____ 28:2, NIV

Answer: “All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God.” Deuteronomy 28:2, NIV