

The Covenanter

Silverhill Covenant Church

“To work for God, God’s people, and to win souls for His Kingdom”

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silverhillcovenant.org

Thanks Giving

November is the month in which we celebrate the only truly American holiday. A holiday that symbolizes the beginning of America. Thanksgiving reminds us of our heritage. It reminds us of the courage and faith of a handful of Pilgrims at Plymouth who had suffered a dreadful winter that first year and where less than half of them had survived it. And yet, they gathered together to give thanks to God. Tradition says that they read from the 100th Psalm:

“Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.” (NIV)

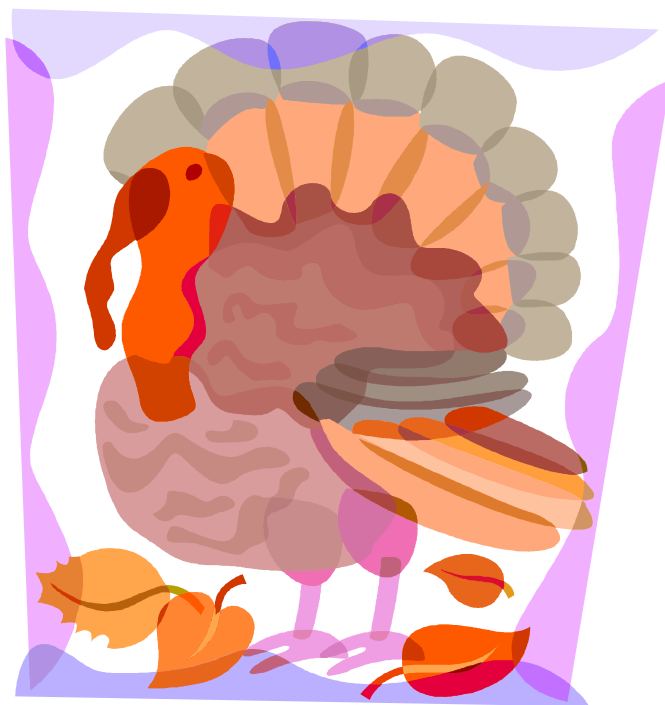
In light of the book of Galatians that we have been studying, America more than anything else needs God’s Grace. Poet Katharine Lee Bates, daughter of a Congregational Pastor, born in Falmouth, Massachusetts in 1859 wrote about our pilgrim heritage and our need as a nation. She wrote:

“O beautiful for pilgrim’s feet
Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness!

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!

America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!”

There are actually eight verses of this poem in which a few would become the song we know as America, The Beautiful. Katherine Lee Bates was thankful for our pilgrim heritage and knew what America needed, “God, shed His grace on thee.” For me, Thanksgiving is about knowing, “that the Lord is God. It is he who made us.” And thanking him for his matchless grace.



NOVEMBER

2006

Thanksgiving Thought

We pray for the big things and forget to give thanks for the ordinary, small (and yet really not small) gifts. How can God entrust great things to one who will not thankfully receive from him the little things?

If we do not give thanks daily for the Christian fellowship in which we have been

placed, even where there is no great experience, no discoverable riches, but

much weakness, small faith and difficulty; if on the contrary, we only keep complaining to God that everything is too paltry and petty, so far from what we expected, then we hinder God from letting our fellowship grow according to the measure and riches which are there for us all in Jesus Christ.

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Recipes of the Month

After many requests at Heritage Day, here are the soup recipes that we served.

Sausage & Potato Soup

2 lbs. ground sausage or seasoned meat
1 bell pepper, finely chopped
1 onion, finely chopped
1 8 oz. cream cheese
1 bag frozen corn (or can of whole kernel)
½ stick butter
8 c. cubed potatoes
1 c. half & half
7 c. milk
Zatarain's Seasoning, to taste

Lightly brown meat. If meat is very lean, you may sauté the bell pepper and onion in it. If meat will need to be drained, sauté pepper and onion in butter then mix them after draining meat. Add cream cheese to mixture in soup pot, mix well. Add corn and half & half. Parboil potatoes, drain and add to other ingredients. At this point, all you have to do is occasionally stir and add Zatarain's to taste. Do not let the mixture boil as it will separate. Also, do not cover the soup while it is cooking, the steam will make it separate.

Crawfish Chowder

3-4 sweet onions, finely chopped
1 stick margarine
2 pkg. frozen crawfish tails
2 cans cream of chicken or celery soup
1 qt. heavy cream
2 cans cream style corn
2 cans white or shoe peg corn, drained
8 oz cream cheese
Old Bay Seasoning, to taste

Sauté onions in margarine. Stir in crawfish tails. Add soup, cream and corn. Heat on low

as it scorches easily. Add Old Bay, salt and pepper, to taste. Add cream cheese and

continue to cook. Soup is ready when cheese has melted.

Both of these recipes work well in a crock pot.



A Morning Prayer

Lord, in the quiet of this morning hour
I come to thee for wisdom, peace, power
To view the world through love-filled eyes,
Finding your image in every human guise.
Silence my tongue to all that is unkind;
Let only thoughts that bless be in mind.
Let me so kindly be, so full of cheer
That those I met may feel thy presence near.
So clothe me in thy beauty, Lord, I pray,
That my life may reveal thee all this day.

-Zella Shaper

Upcoming Holiday Events:

November 5 - Committee Workshops
November 15 - Thanksgiving Potluck
November 18 - Church Workday
November 19 - Community Thanksgiving Service
November 26 - Christmas Decorating Party
December 1 - Silverhill Christmas in the Park
December 2 - Down Home Christmas
December 3 - Committee Workshops
December 11 - Covenant Women's Christmas Salad Supper
December 17 - Sunday School Christmas

Program