

The Encourager

Service Times

Sunday Service

Breakfast.....8:00AM
Sunday School.....9:00AM
Morning Worship.....10:25PM

Discipleship Training.....5:00PM
Preschool & Children 's
Classes.....5:00PM
Youth Connect
Groups.....5:00PM

Evening Service.....6:00PM

Wednesday Service

Supper.....5:00PM
Adult Prayer.....6:15PM
Children & Preschool
Classes.....6:00PM
Youth Service.....6:00PM

Office Hours

Monday.....8AM-5PM
Tuesday.....8AM-5PM
Wednesday.....8AM-5PM
Thursday.....8AM-5PM

Perhaps Thanksgiving is the one holiday that has remained the closest to its original intent. It seems to be resistant to the commercialization that has blurred the original intent of so many other holidays. For most people today, Thanksgiving Day means good food, family, giving thanks to God for His bountiful blessings. Sounds like the original Thanksgiving, doesn't it? OK, so the pilgrims didn't have the NFL. It was close.

The Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock on December 11, 1620. The first winter was so difficult, 46 of the original 102 who sailed on the Mayflower died. Those who survived went to work planting crops, building shelters and learning to hunt in the new land. The harvest of 1621 was such a bountiful one they decided to celebrate with a feast. They invited some of the Indians who had helped them and celebrated for three days. They thanked God for providing for them and seeing them through that difficult time.

In 1676, the governing council of Charleston, Massachusetts, held a meeting and declared June 29 an annual day of thanksgiving by proclaiming "...this a solemn day of Thanksgiving and praise to God for such His goodness and favour...and that being persuaded by the mercies of God we may all, even this whole people offer up our bodies and souls as a living and acceptable service unto God by Jesus Christ."

The people of Charleston, Massachusetts had it! The best way to express thanksgiving is by "thanks-living." Paul said in Colossians—giving thanks to God by doing whatever we do in the name of

Happy Thanks-Living!!

Colossians 3:1-17

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

the Lord Jesus; and letting God know that we recognize the trouble He has gone to in pouring out His rich blessings on us, especially sending His only Son Jesus to pay for our sins on the cross. The most effective way we can express this to Him is walking in love, obedience and faithfulness to His revealed will for our life.

It was not until 1863, unbelievably in the middle of the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November as an annual national holiday of Thanksgiving. In Lincoln's "Thanksgiving Proclamation" he pleaded with the nation to "...fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and union."

This year, can we combine the efforts of the grateful 1621, and the fearful, weary and mournful of the 1863? Can we be genuinely appreciative of the blessings of freedoms, of plenty, of peace, of a standard of living very few in the world can even imagine. And can we intercede for a land that has forgotten God, that is drifting dangerously in a stormy sea because it has lost its moral bearings, and is suffering from a drought

of citizens who will say"...you can serve whatever gods seem good to you, but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15)

On November 23rd, enjoy good food, family, and maybe some football, and thank God for His bountiful blessings. Intercede for our land and renew your commitment to be God's man or God's woman in Christ. Then beginning November 24th, live a life that expresses "thanks-living" to God in "whatever you do, whether in word or deed."

My family and I give sincere thanks to God for you. We thank you for your love, support, and encouragement, and for your desire to let Jesus reign in the church, the Body of Christ.

Happy Thanksgiving!

In Christ,
Bro. Neil



Dear Church Family,

Thank you to all who participated in the Fall Fest with donating candy, baking goodies and helping with food and games. It was a great success! We had 600-700 people here. I truly appreciate all your hard work!

I am really excited to try something different for Christmas this year. We are going to start a Kids Christmas Praise Team! This team will lead worship with our church's Praise Band on Sunday morning, December 10th. The children will lead while singing a couple of Christmas songs. The drums, guitars, piano and members of the Praise band will accompany the children as they lead worship.

I think that this experience will help teach the children what it means to worship and to lead in worship. The Praise band and I will be helping the kids as they lead worship.

We will be having practices for this event. If you would like for your child/children to participate, they must be at each practice scheduled and be willing to lead worship on stage with the Praise band. Please see me for more information.

Serving In Him,
Amanda Wilson
Preschool/Children Director



Regular Schedule

Sunday

Sunday School.....9:00am
Nursery.....9:00am
Worship.....10:15am
Nursery.....5:00pm
Preschool Mission
Friends.....5:00pm
GA's & RA's.....5:00pm
Worship.....6:00pm

Wednesdays

Nursery.....6:00pm
Kids Worship.....6:00pm

Contact Information

Email:

awilson@firstcal.org

Phone:

Office: (318) 644-5101

Cell: (318) 245-9978



WORLD MISSIONS OFFERING

Our world mission offering is designed to make donating to Georgia Barnette, Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong, and David Terry easier. When you donate money to the World Mission Offering a percentage will go to each of the above listed missions on a monthly basis. See the breakdown of percentages listed below.

Lottie Moon.....50%
Annie Armstrong.30%
Georgia Barnette.15%
David Terry.....5%

Report To-Date:

Lottie Moon.....
\$6,781.57
Annie Armstrong.....
\$4,103.94
Georgia Barnette.....
\$2,104.72
David Terry.....
\$675.66
Total
\$13,665.89



FIRST CAL

STUDENT MINISTRY

Weekly Schedule

Monday Night Basketball–6:30–9:00pm

Wednesday Worship–6:00–7:15pm

Sunday School– 9:00–10:15pm

Sunday AM Worship Service @.10:25pm

Connect Groups–Sundays @ 5:00pm

Student Ministry Contact

Email: janwar@firstcal.org

Cell: 318-573-9580

Check us out on facebook:

(www.facebook.com/firstcalstudentministry)

We have Twitter now at:

([@fbCalStudents](https://twitter.com/fbCalStudents)) so follow us

Friend us personally if you wanna chat with Rach or myself on: www.facebook.com/joey.anwar or on Instagram–janwar and rachelanwar

November Birthdays

2nd	James Ellis Kilpatrick
3rd	JP Rieger, III
5th	Diane Stanley
	Jason Rieger
6th	Nicholas Rieger
	Karlee Guerra
	Sarah Beth Duke
7th	Dixie Reynolds
	Frankie Tanner
8th	Beth Brown
9th	Charlie Staples
	Holly Thompson
	Will McDowell
10th	Lance Johnson
	Brett Stephenson
11th	Ervin Pilgreen
	Slade Sanford
12th	Jimmy Holton
	Hannah Goodfellow
	Cheyenne Butter
13th	Alicia Jones
	Case Goodfellow
14th	Ima Nae Green
	Melanie Conn
	Cynthia Stephens
	Chris Weaver
15th	Chris Craighead
	Nicole Dray
	Trey Knighten
16th	Dude Halley
	Alicia Minter
	Makayla Herrington
	Justin Neal
17th	Sara Williams
18th	Randy Wilbanks
19th	Betty Hale
	Stephanie Nance
	Lesley Mizell
20th	Julian Johnston
	David Petch
	Sonya Taylor
	Rachel Streeter-Raybourn
	Katie Calhoun
21st	Nancy Machen
	Amanda Goforth
22nd	Ronny Naron
23rd	David Hodnett
24th	Brandi Summerville
25th	Joellen Retz
	Lyn Rieger
	Sheila Taylor
27th	Kayla Temple
	Andrew Lockhart
	Breanna Benson
28th	Shirley Turner
	Matthew Petch
	Matthew Williams
30th	Gloria Blakeney
	Don Frasier
	Michael Guntharp