



CAMPTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2020

PASTORS' CORNER

The Pastors Corner – “Thank You, God”

Every time, it seems, that I sit down to share a word with you, I find myself back to the familiar topic of “giving thanks.” Pastor Cindy sits beside me, working on the Church Newsletter for November, with the focus on Thanksgiving, coming right up! Our need to be thankful to God seems even greater, with this extra holiday calling to us! So, in the middle of all this, please join for a moment of giving thanks.



us

Immediately, I hear campers from my years of working in Church Camps in the Summer, singing the little lines of “For health and strength and daily bread, we give You thanks, O God.” Sometimes I was very aware that it was Wednesday lunch already, and the folks who came for the weeklong camp had rain since their arrival Yet the “WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O LORD.” sounded very sincere, as well as the looks on their faces.

Of course, at this time, in the middle of the present crisis, to give thanks may sound difficult. Yet, my prayer for each of us is that we will give an honest and sincere thank you to God once again, as we “count our blessings” even in this situation. May God bless you this day and every day, with his love and power working in you, and bring us all to a better day ahead! May your thanksgiving be meaningful, and may God bless you in spite of the rain!

God bless you,

Pastor Russ



This year we celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrims coming from England to land at Plymouth and to begin eking out survival in a land far to the north of their tiny ship the Mayflower’s original destination. They actually landed on the further end of Cape Cod and the men left the ship to do some assessing as to their actual arrival point in this New World.

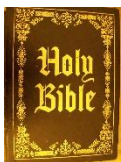
The women were sent ashore in harsh winds and freezing temperatures to accomplish a much-needed task. They were assigned to do the laundry. Can you imagine the difficulty? Scrub boards, harsh soaps freezing winds, frozen fingers. Yet the task was accomplished. Clean laundry was long overdue after the journey through the Atlantic that occurred so late in the season that the Winter storms had tossed them around for many more weeks than the trip was originally planned to take.

After the men had completed their search and the women the laundry all went back aboard the ship. The decision was made to come closer to the mainland. The Mayflower then settled into port in what is now Plymouth. The travelers decided to begin their settlement close to the shore as they found acceptable drinking water nearby. They could not have known that they were going to begin a colony during one of the worst droughts in the history of the location which they had chosen. Yet the Pilgrims persevered. They spent the long winter, some on the ship, some in a large one room building the men were able to create to try and keep everyone safe and warm.

During this first year many lives were lost, and even more prayers were said. The Pilgrims possessed a steadfast love for our Lord God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit of God. It was their determination to find a place where they could worship as they felt led by God’s Holy Spirit that had brought about their venture into the New World. The journals of many of the Pilgrims have been preserved in the Congregational Library located in Boston



Massachusetts. As you may know our history is being rewritten every day and the History of these steadfast Christians who were led here by God’s Holy Spirit have had their voices dulled by the modern day claims that the Pilgrims had only commerce on their minds. *Do not be misled by the modern rewrite of history.* Go to the library during this 400th anniversary year and read some of the journals for yourselves. You will find them inspiring.



God was present with the Pilgrims in all of their difficulties as he is present with us in the unprecedented year. We pray that when the 400th anniversary of the first Thanksgiving comes about in 2021 we will all be able to gather together and journey to the Library for inspiring information on the Forefathers of our Christian Faith. Time will tell when the virus leaves us.



May God Continue to Richly Bless You
In Christian Love, Your Pastors, Russ and Cindy

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