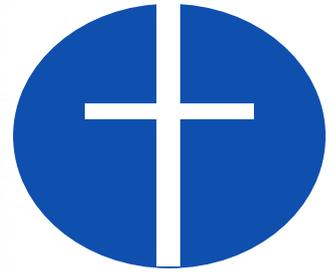


Loco Baptist Church Pastor: Marty Pinion



Welcome to the Loco Baptist Church newsletter.

"What should be the focus of Christians on Thanksgiving?"

The original thanksgiving celebration was held by the Pilgrim settlers in Massachusetts during their second winter in America in December, 1621. The first winter had killed 44 of the original 102 colonists. At one point their daily food ration was down to five kernels of corn apiece, but then an unexpected trading vessel arrived, swapping them beaver pelts for corn, providing for their severe need. The next summer's crop brought hope, and Governor William Bradford decreed that December 13, 1621, be set aside as a day of feasting and prayer to show the gratitude of the colonists that they were still alive.

These Pilgrims, seeking religious freedom and opportunity in America, gave thanks to God for His provision for them in helping them find 20 acres of cleared land, for the fact that there were no hostile Indians in that area, for their newfound religious freedom, and for God's provision of an interpreter to the Indians in Squanto. Along with the feasting and games involving the colonists and more than 80 friendly Indians (who added to the feast by bringing wild turkeys and venison), prayers, sermons, and songs of praise were important in the celebration. Three days were spent in feasting and prayer.

From that time forward, Thanksgiving has been celebrated as a day to give thanks to God for His gracious and sufficient provision. President Abraham Lincoln officially set aside the last Thursday of November, in 1863, "as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father." In 1941, Congress ruled that after 1941, the fourth Thursday of November be observed as Thanksgiving Day and be a legal holiday.

Forget Black Friday sales and all the commercialization that has happened to the holiday season over the years. We, the church, need to return to our God and give Him thanks for all that he has provided for us!

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you"
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 ESV

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God" Philippians 4:6 ESV

"Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men"
1 Timothy 2:1 ESV

Upcoming Events

November 6th: Fall Festival. Please see Marcia Kirkland for the list of activities and needs.

November 20th: Conference

November 20th: Evening Services @ 5pm with our Thanksgiving meal to follow.

Answer to October's trivia question: King Solomon—1 Kings 3:10-12 and 4:29-30

Trivia question:

In the Bible, for what "price" did Esau sell his birthright to his younger twin brother, Jacob?
(answer in next month's newsletter)