

FOOTPRINTS



Volume 7, Issue 11
November, 2021

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

THANKSGIVING IS STILL A HOLIDAY

Seems like the first day of November has become an unofficial/official beginning for the Christmas holiday season. However, there is still a holiday towards the end of November that needs to get the attention it deserves. Thanksgiving is the day we are supposed to remember the blessings we received from the Lord and we should use this day as an opportunity to say thank you to those who have blessed us throughout the year.

For this reason, I think we should slow our roll with the Christmas stuff and honor the day that was inspired by the pilgrims having a fellowship meal with the Native Americans. God brought them to the new land with some casualties but with the hope of a new life. Those who survived were thankful for the help of the ones who were already living on the land when they struggled with raising crops. The rest is history!

I
JESUS
L
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I LOVE our Church!
Earl Winfrey
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Check us out online:

www.fccgwd.org

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FirstChristianGWD

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Church Office:

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Please keep us informed of any
address changes so we can
keep our records up to date.

What Kind of Church is First Christian Church?

First Christian Church is a non-denominational Elders-led Church located in Greenwood, SC. We are part of the movement to restore the simplicity of New Testament Christianity. We believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God, that He lived a sinless life, offered His life for ours on the Cross, and rose on the third day to live forever. We believe that salvation comes through simple obedience to the plan of salvation that is laid out in the pages of the New Testament.



Core Beliefs

A common misconception is that all churches believe and preach the same thing. Unfortunately that isn't the case. In a world that is greatly divided spiritually it is very important to know just exactly what a church believes and practices. We welcome the opportunity to sit with you and discuss these core beliefs in depth.

We believe...

1. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God who died for our sins and arose from the dead. **1 Corinthians 15:1-8**
2. That the Bible is the inspired Word of God - "a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path".
2 Timothy 3:16; Psalm 119:105
3. That every person has worth as a creation of God but "all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" **Romans 3:23**
4. That forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life are available to those who trust and obey Christ as Savior and Lord. **John 3:16**
5. That we are saved by grace through faith in Christ. **Ephesians 2:8-9**
6. That the Church is the body of Christ on earth and exists to save the lost and edify the saved.
Ephesians 4:1-16
7. That Jesus Christ will one day return as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. **1 Thes 4:13-18**
8. That those accepting Christ must repent of sin, confess their faith and be baptized into Him.
Romans 10:9, Acts 2:38

For more information about baptism, see our Baptism FAQ located on our website

Biblical Foundation

Like most people I know, I love a buffet! Just walking into the room where there is food from wall to wall is what I consider to be a little slice of heaven. Taking my plate and filling it with different types of food is fun because I get to create a party in my mouth. Physical food is good to eat and the buffet is the best way to offer as much food for a variety of people as they can handle. I decided to take this concept and use it for the spiritual food that keeps us healthy and active for the Lord. Here are several options for you to choose so you can pick one and stick with it for the year or change it up and use different ones as you go. You could go hardcore and try all of them at once but be careful and don't get a tummy ache if you do! Have fun and let me know if you would like to see anything else offered here.

Chronological

(Traditional reading plan for the year)

274. Luke 1; John 1	298. Luke 10
275. Matthew 1; Luke 2	299. Luke 12-13
276. Matthew 2	300. Luke 14-15
277. Matt 3; Mark 1; Lk 3	301. Luke 16-17
278. Matthew 4; Luke 4-5	302. John 11
279. John 2-4	303. Luke 18
280. Matthew 8; Mark 2	304. Matt 19; Mk 10
281. John 5	305. Matthew 20-21
282. Matt 12; Mk 3; Lk 6	306. Luke 19
283. Matthew 5-7	307. Mark 11; John 12
284. Matthew 9; Luke 7	308. Matt 22; Mk 12
285. Matthew 11	309. Matt 23; Lk 20-21
286. Luke 11	310. Mark 13
287. Matthew 13; Luke 8	311. Matthew 24
288. Mark 4-5	312. Matthew 25
289. Matthew 10	313. Matt 26; Mk 14
290. Matt 14; Mk 6; Lk 9	314. Luke 22; John 13
291. John 6	315. John 14-17
292. Matthew 15; Mark 7	316. Matt 27; Mk 15
293. Matthew 16; Mark 8	317. Luke 23; John 18-19
294. Matthew 17; Mark 9	318. Matt 28; Mk 16
295. Matthew 18	319. Luke 24; John 20-21
296. John 7-8	320. Acts 1-3
297. John 9-10	321. Acts 4-6

Gospel Harmony

(From R.C. Foster's Life of Christ class)

282. Mark 14:27-31	302. Mk 14:53, 55-65
283. Luke 22:31-38	303. Lk 22:54, 63-65
284. John 13:31-38	304. John 18:24
285. Matt 26:26-29	305. Matthew 26:58, 69-75
286. Mark 14:22-25	306. Mk 14:54, 66-72
287. Luke 22:17-20	307. Luke 22:54-62
288. John 14:1-31	308. John 18:15-18, 25-27
289. John 15:1-27	309. Matthew 27:1
290. John 16:1-33	310. Mark 15:1
291. John 17:1-26	311. Luke 22:66-71
292. Matthew 26:30, 36-46	312. Matt 27:3-10
293. Mk 14:26, 32-34	313. Matt 27:2, 11-14
294. Luke 22:39-46	314. Mark 15:2-5
295. John 18:1	315. Luke 23:1-5
296. Matt 26:47-56	316. John 18:28-38
297. Mark 14:43-52	317. Luke 23:6-12
298. Luke 22:47-53	318. Matt 27:15-26
299. John 18:2-12	319. Mark 15:6-15
300. John 18:12-14, 19-23	320. Luke 23:13-25
301. Matthew 26:57, 59-68	321. Jn 18:39-19:16
	322. Matt 27:27-30

Genres reading plan listed by the week

W	Gospels	Law	History	Psalms	Poetry	Prophecy	Epistles
37	John 16-18	Num 17-20	1 Chron 25-29	Ps 108-110	Prov 23-24	Amos 1-4	Titus
38	John 19-21	Num 21-24	2 Chron 1-5	Ps 111-113	Prov 25	Amos 5-9	Philemon
39	Acts 1-2	Num 25-28	2 Chron 6-10	Ps 114-116	Prov 26-27	Obadiah	Hebrews 1-4
40	Acts 3-4	Num 29-32	2 Chron 11-15	Ps 117-118	Prov 28	Jonah	Hebrews 5-7
41	Acts 5-6	Num 33-36	2 Chron 16-20	Ps 119	Prov 29-30	Micah	Heb 8-10
42	Acts 7-8	Deut 1-3	2 Chron 21-24	Ps 120-121	Prov 31	Nahum	Heb 11-13
43	Acts 9-10	Deut 4-6	2 Chron 25-28	Ps 122-124	Ecc 1-2	Habakkuk	James 1-3
44	Acts 11-12	Deut 7-9	2 Chron 29-32	Ps 125-127	Ecc 3-4	Zephaniah	James 4-5

Mentoring Notes ("The Mentor Leader" - Tony Dungy)

7. The Means of the Mentor Leader (Part 2 of 2) (Maximizing the Team)

"The secret is to work less as individuals and more as a team. As a coach, I play not my eleven best, but my best eleven." - Knute Rockne

- To maximize team performance, the leaders must create the appropriate culture. A healthy culture values its people.

C. Together - Always Moving Forward:

"A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken." - Ecclesiastes 4:12

"We need every man on this roster to win, but no player is so important that we can't win without him." - Coach Chuck Noll

1. Maintain a balance between important and not needed
 - a) Every person is needed for the church to grow
 - b) Nobody is too important to be above the group
 - c) Don't be afraid to move people to the sidelines
2. Success is something we will achieve together

D. Lead Volunteers for Extraordinary Achievement:

"The mercenaries will always beat the draftees, but the volunteers will crush them both." - Coach Chuck Noll

1. Ordinary effort leads to ordinary results as individuals
2. As a team, ordinary effort leads to exceptional results

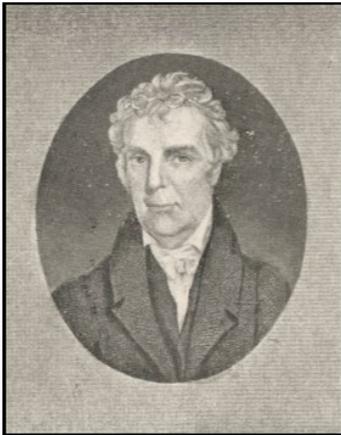
E. Action Steps:

1. Create a culture that values people in and out of the church
2. Take the first step to change the culture of the church
3. Get everyone on the same page
4. Embrace the diversity of your people (skills, talents, etc.)
5. Break down barriers that isolate the people
6. Bring the best people on board for the specific task needed
7. Maintain a balance between important and not needed
8. Focus on what really matters, don't sweat the small stuff
9. Persuade people to serve instead of requiring them

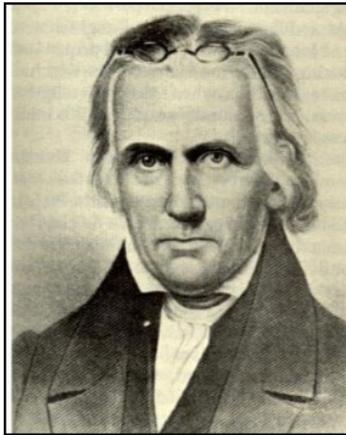
Who will be our Next Man Up?



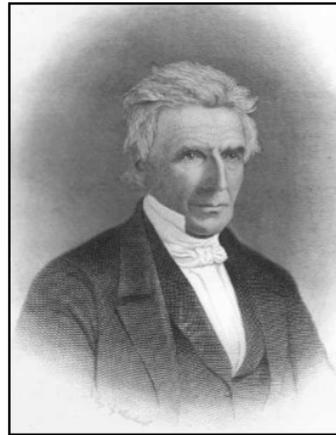
Mentoring today for
a better tomorrow



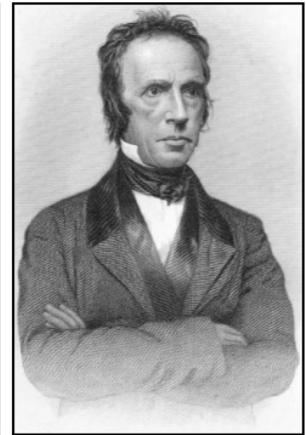
Barton Stone



Thomas Campbell



Alexander Campbell



Walter Scott

REFLECTIONS ON THE RESTORATION

"Growing Pains for the Movement"

(Taken from Earl's Restoration History class for the local church)

The Bad, the Ugly, and the OOGLY!!

(Working on correcting the mistakes)

What is happening today?

1. 1985: Disciple Renewal began as a movement to return to conservative theology
2. Disciples of Christ Historical Society
 - A. All historical landmarks and archives are available to all 3 branches
 - B. No ownership can be claimed by 1 particular branch
 - C. Dialogue across all 3 branches of the movement has improved as a result

Moving Forward:

1. Cooperation with a few DOC churches is possible as long as theology is conservative
2. Open membership and liberal theology are still issues with many DOC churches
3. Some DOC churches have hired ministers from Conservative Christian churches
 - A. Trying to return to conservative theology
 - B. Some have dropped the DOC name and re-incorporated as independent
4. Love and patience are crucial when working with DOC churches who want to change!

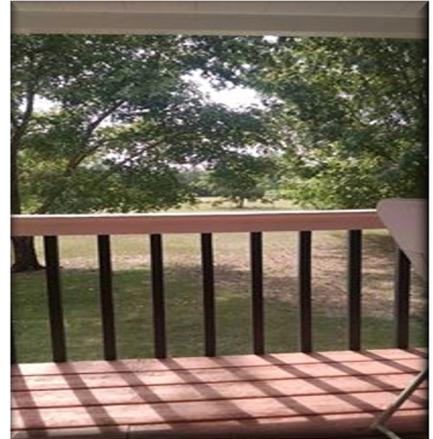


WHAT CAN WE DO AS A CHURCH TO BE A BLESSING?

Now that the weather is getting cooler and the holidays are approaching, we should be thinking about what we can do as the church for the community. Can we donate hats and gloves to a ministry? Can we adopt a family and give them a Christmas? What can we do to help people?

REPLACING THE BRAKES

When I lived in Florida, I drove a 1991 Honda Accord for a while. It was a great car with 35 miles per gallon but just like any other car I have driven, it had way too many miles on it, and it was already showing its age. I was able to keep the Honda running through preventive maintenance, but I remember the day when my confidence caused me to wait too long. Anybody who has worked on disc brakes can recognize the sound of metal on metal that is a sign that we better change the pads quickly. Well, I heard the sound for a couple of weeks so I was already living on borrowed time. However, I did not feel like working on the brakes yet so I decided to wait for the weekend.



As I was driving, I began slowing down at the intersection for the road that would take me to my home which was a little over a mile away. I hit the brakes and I heard the noise that none of us wants to hear. It sounded like the brake assembly broke on the right front wheel so I nursed the car into the parking lot of the Walgreen's on the corner.

I walked home and went to sleep because there was nothing else I could do at 11:00pm. After I got Eli on the school bus, I called up my friend Jimmy who was serving as the Associate Minister at the church across the street from Walgreens, and he helped me get to the store for parts and then to my car.

The brake assembly was actually in good shape so the noise was more the pads falling to pieces than anything else. That was good news for me so I kept working. I removed what was left of the pads and began to push the caliper back, but the caliper did not move. I fought it for a while until I decided to remove the caliper and go back to the parts store. At the parts store, I found out that the caliper went beyond the point of no return, so I had to buy a new one.

The caliper is designed with a thin line of metal that prevents it from retracting just in case something went wrong. This was a safety measure that prevents further damage to the brake assembly and/or the wheel hub should something break while the car is in motion. That was the point of no return, and thanks to my overconfidence, my caliper was no longer any good.

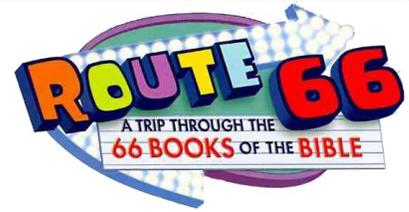
Sometimes, our confidence can cause us to wait too long before reacting to spiritual warning signs. The more we study the Bible, the more confident we get. The more confident we get, the better our spiritual lives become because we know that we are growing in Christ. However, with that confidence comes the temptation to become spiritually lazy. And when we become spiritually lazy, we no longer fear the sins we should avoid. And if we don't fear those sins we should avoid, we could end up being blindsided when we least expect it.

We all have certain warning signs that alert our consciences when we get too close to activity we should not engage in. If we don't pay attention to those warning signs, we could end up paying a price we did not plan on paying, and sometimes it can be an extremely high price.

"Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall." (1 Corinthians 10:12 ESV)

The Gospels: 1 Corinthians

(Several sources used each month, see Earl for details)



Who wrote the book?

Paul's authorship of this epistle is widely accepted in the scholarly community, though it was not the first letter Paul wrote to the Corinthian people (see 1 Corinthians 5:9). We know that the Corinthians misunderstood an earlier letter from Paul (5:10–11), though that letter has not survived. Therefore, it is Paul's second letter to the Corinthians that we know as 1 Corinthians—the first letter to the Corinthians that God inspired.

Four years prior to writing the letter we know as 1 Corinthians, the apostle had spent eighteen months in Corinth, so he was intimately familiar with the church and many of its congregants. The recipients of the letter must have understood the letter's significance, not only to their own circumstances but for the church worldwide. In AD 95, Clement, the bishop of Rome, wrote a letter of his own to the Corinthians in which he invoked the authority of Paul's instruction in 1 Corinthians. Only a few decades after its origin, this letter to the Corinthians had traveled outside of Corinth and was considered authoritative beyond its initial Corinthian context.

Paul had been in Ephesus for more than two years on his third missionary journey when he received a disturbing report of quarreling within the Corinthian church, a report he received from people associated with one of its members, Chloe (1 Corinthians 1:11). The church he had founded so recently (Acts 18:1–17) had already developed deep divisions, a situation that required immediate action. Paul penned his letter in AD 55, just as he was planning to leave Ephesus for Macedonia (1 Corinthians 16:5–8).

Why is First Corinthians so important?

First Corinthians contains a frank discussion of the church and the issues that impacted real people in the first century. The Corinthian church was corroded with sin on a variety of fronts, so Paul provided an important model for how the church should handle the problem of sin in its midst. Rather than turn a blind eye toward relational division and all kinds of immorality, he addressed the problems head on. In his bold call to purity within the Corinthian church, Paul made it clear that he was willing to risk the good opinion of some in order to help cleanse the sin that tainted the church.

First Corinthians addresses reports that Paul received from Chloe's household, as well as a letter he received from the church itself (1 Corinthians 7:1). In this letter to the church at Corinth, Paul covered a number of different issues related to both life and doctrine: divisions and quarrels, sexual immorality, lawsuits among believers, marriage and singleness, freedom in Christ, order in worship, the significance of the Lord's Supper, and the right use of spiritual gifts; he also included a profound teaching on the resurrection.

The line of thought that joins these topics together was Paul's emphasis on Christian conduct in the local church. The apostle expected that Christian people would live according to Christian ideals, or as he told them, "You have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body" (6:20).



This month's Church myth: "Musicians can't teach the Bible"

Growing up in a suburb of Atlanta, I was exposed to "City" churches that were larger than small town churches, and almost every church had a choir. My parents sang in the choir and I began singing at an early age. In these churches, we also had several choir members with Bible College degrees so the quality of our Bible Studies was noticeably better than churches where high school is the highest level of education for most of the members. Obviously, college is not for everyone and it is possible to teach without higher education, but my point is that in the "City" church, it is not uncommon to see a choir member teaching a class.

This is why I was surprised when I attended a church while going to Bible College, and the Minister told me that since I was playing the piano and leading the singing, I am not going to be good at teaching a Bible Study class. I should develop my musical talents and stick with the music ministry of the church. Well, this Minister was not saying this because he was concerned about my future, but he did bring to light a common myth in churches.

For many churches, those who are musically talented can be pushed to the side because they have a reputation thrust upon them that is completely unfair. While it may be true that some musicians can sing about standing on Jordan's stormy banks without knowing who Jordan is and why his banks are caught up in the middle of a storm, I know several musicians who are not only knowledgeable about the Scriptures, but they get busy digging in and throwing down Biblically when they teach a class!

This is probably one of the most frustrating myths I know because so many great teachers of the Word are written off simply because they are musically talented. Instead of assuming that musicians are bad teachers, here is an idea. Why don't we take the time to get to know the people in our church and then evaluate how well they would be able to teach?

We might find out that there are some musicians who are not teachers, but there could be many teachers who are also musicians! Let's not jump to conclusions based on generalizations because that is not fair to the people we are judging, the people who need a teacher, and the church that suffers from spiritual malnutrition if they don't have enough qualified teachers!

I would say that this myth is busted, but since there are musicians who can't teach, I have to say that it is "Plausible" but we should not judge them before getting to know them.

SUPER SPECTACULAR SCRIPTURE SCAVENGER HUNT

Super Spectacular Scripture



Every month, there are a few items with points assigned and we will keep track of the progress as we go. This will be going for the whole year so there is plenty of time to catch up if you fall behind. (Helpful Hint) Although I will be asking for a few items each month, there is no expiration date so feel free to look through past issues of the newsletter to get the items you have missed. This game is from January 2021 until November 2021 so the winner will be announced in the December newsletter.

Leaderboard:

1. Michaela (41 points)
2. Wil (40 points)
3. Michael (10 points)
4. ????? (Will it be you?)

I hope you are able to join in the fun! **(This is the final month for the 2021 hunt)**

Here are this month's items:

1. An example of a "Thank You" (1 point per verse for a total of 10 points)
2. A command to be thankful (5 points)

(Please provide the scripture reference when you give Earl the answers.)

"Pray for FCC"

For 2021, we want to cover our church in prayer on a weekly basis. Along with the many prayers that go up on our behalf, I am declaring every Tuesday to be a day for us to offer up special prayers specifically for our church. Please join us by praying at some point every Tuesday!

One Liners to Make You Laugh

When Eve asked Adam if he loved her, he replied "Who else?"

Bible Trivia Question (Send answers to Earl)

Answer to last month's question:

First line of Psalm 1: Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly (Ps 1:1)

Winners: Phillis Jackson/Michaela Winfrey/????????



Be one of the first 3 people to answer correctly and you will be a winner!

Be one of #4-10 to answer and you will receive an honorable mention!

Honorable Mention: ???

This month's question:
In which tribe was the city of Bethlehem?

God's Gift

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10

When our son, Brad, and daughter-in-law, Maria, were expecting Bradley Joe II, their joy was so great. Maria took extra care of that little one inside her. She ate well, exercised properly, and got plenty of rest. It never occurred to me that Bradley Joe was not in the safest environment for those nine months he was born.

One evening we attended a service at an Evangelical Free Church in Fullerton, California. Pastor Chuck Swindoll introduced the speaker for the evening. His opening statement was "The most dangerous place for a young child today is in his mother's womb." Tears filled my eyes and flooded down my cheeks. I wanted to sob. *Oh, God, I thought, what has happened in the world today?* Children are being thrown away as trash, right in our own cities. God says, "Behold children are a gift of the Lord" (Psalm 127:3). We aren't even waiting to unwrap the gift, or allowing the fruit of the womb to be God's reward.

When I held our new little grandson, Bradley Joe II, I saw the miracle of God—a child planted and formed by the Almighty. As I watch our children raise their children, God has impressed upon me the desire to teach women to love and care for children. What a blessing of trust that God would count us women worthy to care for one of His dear children!

Our niece, Becky, and her husband, George, adopted a son. They could never have a child from her womb due to cancer in her body at a very early age. God allowed a child to be born to another woman so Becky and George could be the parents they so desired. This child is sent from God, a gift of God. Thank you, Lord, that this child was not a throwaway, but a child who will contribute much to our society, adopted into a family who wanted a child.

That's exactly what God has for us. He wants to adopt us into His family. We are not God's throwaways. We are His reward. He said, "I have come to give you life" (John 10:10). God sent His Son Jesus as a sacrificed gift to us. He laid down His life for us. Jesus went to the cross so we will never have to suffer the punishment. He took the sins of the world upon Himself and died for you and me.

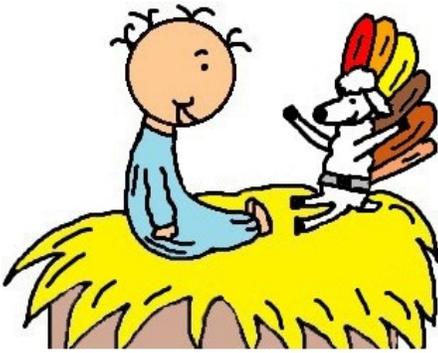
Thank You, Jesus, for Your love to me that while I was yet a sinner, You died for me. Thank You for the little children. Please protect them in their mother's womb, and may these children be an opened gift to parents. May we, as a country, rise up and defend our children in and out of the womb. Amen.

Thoughts for Action:

- Ask yourself, "Am I a child of God, adopted into His family?"
- If no, talk with someone about what that means.
- Read the whole book of John.
- Pray for the child in the mother's womb—for the gift to be opened at its fullness.

Additional Scripture Reading:

Mark 9:37, Luke 9:23, John 1:12, 1 Peter 3:18, 1 John 1:9



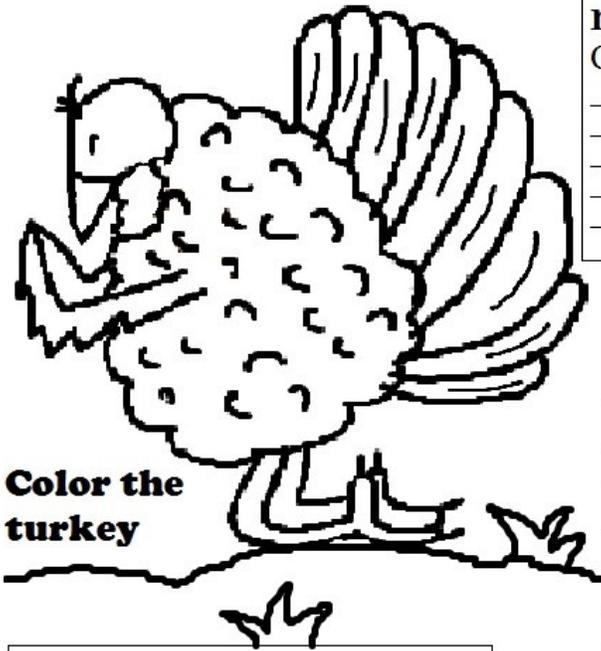
Write down what your thankful to God for.

Psalms 118:29- O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Copy the Psalms scripture down here:

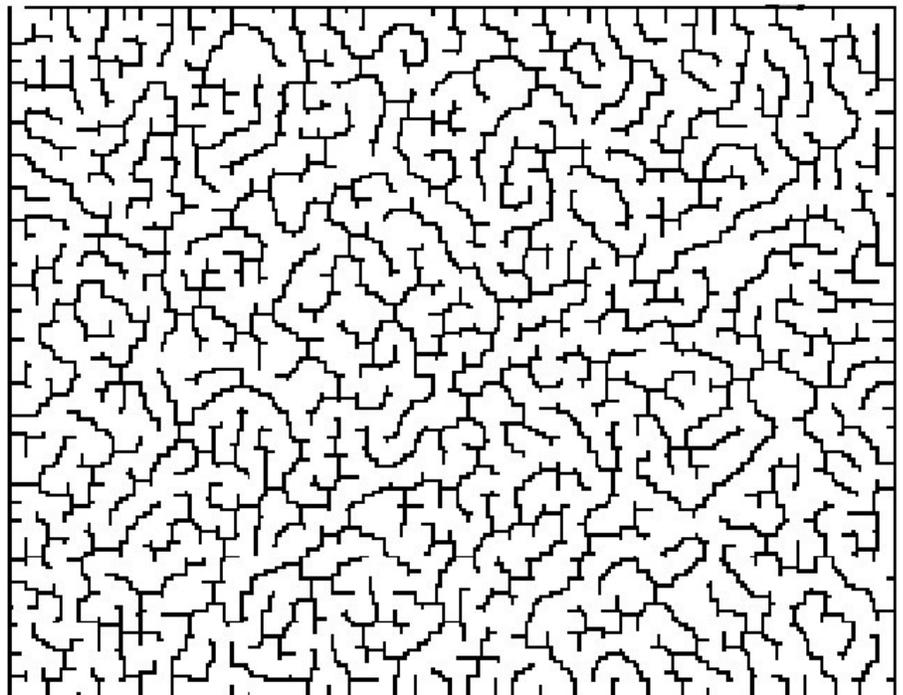
**How many words can you make out of:
Happy Thanksgiving**

Color the turkey



**How many words can you make out of:
Thanks Be To God**

Maze





CALENDAR OF EVENTS - NOVEMBER 2021



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Prayer - 9:30am Coffee - 9:45am S.S. - 10am Worship - 11am	Daily Scriptures are given for us in anticipation of the sermon	Pray for FCC reminder to pray for our church every Tuesday	Mission of the Month: Greenwood Pathway House	Elders meet as needed. For questions, see Frank, Chris or Marvin	Weekly bulletin will have the most current information	All events subject to change if needed
	1 Proverbs 16	2 <u>Pray for FCC</u> Isaiah 26	3 Eph 3:14-21	4 James 5	5 Phil 4:4-7	6 1 Thes 5:16
7	8 Isaiah 6	9 <u>Pray for FCC</u> Genesis 28	10 Ex 2:23-25	11 1 Chron 4:9-10	12 Ezra 9:5-10:4	13 1 Thes 5:17
14	15 1 Chron 16:8-36	16 <u>Pray for FCC</u> 2 Chronicles 7	17 Psalm 30	18 Eph 5:1-21	19 Col 3:1-17	20 1 Thes 5:18
21	22 Mark 1:1-15	23 <u>Pray for FCC</u> Luke 1:5-25	24 (Lk 1:26-38) Newsletter Submissions Due	25 Thanksgiving John 1:1-18	26 1 John 1	27 Gal 4:4-6
28 Advent Begins	29 Isaiah 7:10-25	30 <u>Pray for FCC</u> Isaiah 9:1-7				

Spiritual Potpourri

11/07 - Rejoice Always (Earl Winfrey)

11/14 - Pray Without Ceasing (Chris Crawford)

11/21 - Give Thanks... (Earl Winfrey)

"[16] Rejoice always, [17] pray without ceasing, [18] give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 ESV)

FCC of Greenwood SC - www.fccgwd.org



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