

University Heights Church
of Christ
445 Columbia Ave.,
Lexington, KY 40508
(859) 255-6257
www.uheightschurch.com

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday

Bible Study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7:30 PM (This is
immediately followed by a
short worship period)

First Friday of Each Month

Singing: 7:30 PM

LEADERSHIP

Elders

David Collins
John Thompson
Troy Antle

Evangelist

Adam Litmer

Deacons

Richard Brundige
Matt Thompson
Adam Litmer
Bill Morelan
Jim Parsons
Pat Seabolt
Adam Daniels
Jamie Powell

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

Ralph Fox, Janice Parsons, Rick Small, The Brundige and Spivey families, Arlena Poynter, the Collins and Daniels family, Jeff Howerton, Rhonda Boyd (and her sister, Dorothy), Louis Harrod, Paul Atkisson, Julia-Ann Dixon, Ed Allison, Dwight Antle, The Bays and Robbins family, Sheila Lawson, Keia Burton, Robert Brundige, Susie Burton, Valerie and Barry Boyd, Janett's mother, Sandy Driver, Erlene Young, Larry Sells, Evelyn Damron, Jennifer Dunbar, Jean Gartland, John Blessing, William Roberts, Paul Lyda, Pete Soro, The Ward and Thacker family, our brethren in southern Philippines, our brethren in Zimbabwe, Jamie Powell's father, Harleigh Spartman, Mattie Johnson, the brethren in Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Mexico City, and the Caribbean, Elijah Epling, Leland Wells, Linda Moore

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It's Always Thanksgiving Here!

Adam Litmer

This is the time of year when people traditionally consider the things for which they are thankful. This past Thursday families all across the country were sitting around tables with a veritable feast spread before them with family and friends on each side. Before "digging in" many families go around the table and mention a few things everyone present is grateful for. Even the most pessimistic tend to catch the spirit and find a few things to mention. If only for a few days, this particular holiday season seems to bring gratitude to the surface for most people.

Of course, this is certainly not a bad thing. The more people are inclined to be thankful for their blessings (and recognize them as such) the better off they will be. The prayer is that people will learn to appreciate the truly important things in life and that they will consider the source of such blessings. Christians, though, ought not to need a special holiday to be thankful for the blessings they have received from God. In fact, of all people Christians are

the ones who should be trained to live each day with a constant awareness of the blessings for which prayers and praises of thanksgiving ought to be lifted to God regularly. Let us consider some of these blessings.

Consider the blessing of family. When husbands and wives live in a state of constant devotion to one another and to God, when they both conscientiously and consistently strive to fulfill their duties to one another, and when they do it all because they love each other and God (Ephesians 5:22-33; Proverbs 31:10-31), then a reason for daily thanksgiving has been identified. When God graciously allows children to be added to the mix then even further cause for thanksgiving exists (Psalm 127:3-5). If and when those children become children of God the entire family rejoices. If we have been blessed by God to experience these relationships, then let us never cease to thank Him for them.

Consider the blessing of a healthy body and mind permitting one to provide for family, others, and self (1 Thessalonians 4:11). We work and have enough to get from one day to the next. One of the wise men, Agur, considered that a blessing (Proverbs 30:8). The money we receive from our labor provides for our families and for brethren who hit a rough patch and need some help. Those of our number who have many years under their belt will remind us that a healthy body and mind is a tremendous blessing and one that does

not last forever. Let us thank God for a healthy body each day we are blessed to have it.

Consider the greatest blessing of them all: *a healthy spirit*. Fulfilling his duty to the fullest, John exclaimed, *Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world!* as he stood with some of his disciples watching Jesus pass by. As our Passover lamb, Jesus willingly shed his own blood. The “why” is explained by Paul in Ephesians 1:7: *In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace*. The truth is that every person who is in a saved relationship with God is in it because of the sacrificial work of Jesus Christ. That truth will never change and provides a constant reason for thanksgiving.

Again, Christians do not require a special day in the year to count their blessings. Ours is a life filled with gratitude. So keep on counting the ways God has blessed you and never grow weary of telling Him, “Thank You”!

NOTE

Ed Allison was finally able to have a kidney and liver transplant. At last report (Tuesday evening) he was recovering well and his color was good. Let’s continue to pray for him.

