

November 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<p>2 Daylight Savings Time Ends</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship & Children's Message & Widow's Offering 12:00pm Trustees Meeting 5:00pm Youth, Men's Bible Study & WMU 6:00pm Worship & Children</p>	<p>3 Church Directory</p>  <p>Photograph Sign-Up</p>	4	<p>5</p> <p>7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Youth & Children</p>	6	<p>7</p> <p>6:30pm at First Baptist Bolivar WMU Fall Gathering with Andy Leininager</p>	8
Church Directory Photos—November 3rd thru 8th						
<p>9</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship & Widow's Offering 5:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm Worship & Children 7:00pm Church Council Calendar Meeting</p>	10	<p>11 Veterans Day</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Youth & Children</p>	13	14	15
<p>16</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 12:00pm Italian Potluck 5:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm Higher Ground Concert</p>	<p>17</p>  <p>Pot Luck Dinner</p>	18	<p>19</p> <p>7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Youth & Children</p>	20	21	22
<p>23 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 5:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Community Thanksgiving Service</p>	24	25	<p>26</p> <p>7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study 7:00pm Youth & Children</p>	<p>27 Thanksgiving Office Closed</p> 	28	29
<p>30 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship & Benevolence 5:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm Worship & Children 7:00pm Deacon's Meeting</p>						

NOVEMBER

Birthdays of the Month



2. Riley Jean Graves
4. Kristina Hottes
6. Jake Pyle
7. Cari Ford
11. Lila Roller
13. Stephanie Wheeler
Dustin Pate
14. Kay Wheeler
Arlene Graves
15. Janice Cagle
18. Duane Graves
19. Cole Flohr
23. Madison Hall
29. Drew Wheeler
Kaitlyn Creek

Anniversaries of the Month



2. Mark & Susan Applegate
7. Johnny & Linda Porter
17. Chad & Karon Burton
18. Steve & Donis Ewing
28. Ken & Lila Roller
29. Paul & Kris Flohr



Since Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed a joint resolution of Congress on December 26, 1941, Thanksgiving has been officially celebrated in the United States on the last Thursday in November. Most would trace

Thanksgiving back to those Pilgrims who finding religious freedom in Holland, came to the New World following God's missionary call to the Native Americans. Though this is the beginning of the American Thanksgiving, as Christians we can trace the idea of giving thanks much further back.

One of my favorite stories of thanksgiving is in the fourth chapter of Joshua. In the previous chapter God finally allowed the Israelites to enter the Promised Land. They followed the Ark of Covenant across the Jordan River which God had caused to stop flowing allowing them the cross on dry land. Once they reached the other side Joshua commanded a man from each tribe to take a large stone from the Jordan. So twelve stones were taken to the place they lodged, and then Joshua set the stones up as a memorial for Israel to remind them of how God provided for them stopping the waters of the Jordan so that they could pass over on dry land. More than that it served as a reminder of all the ways God had provided and kept them as they journeyed from Egypt back to the Promised Land.

The Passover meal is a celebration meal of thanksgiving. Israel remembers God's faithfulness in delivering them from captivity in Egypt. The Lord's Supper for Christians is also a meal of thanksgiving. When we eat the cracker and drink the juice we are reminded of when Jesus reached across the chasm of sin to where we were and pulled us across to life. We remember how He, with His own life, paid our sin debt and are thankful for the free gift of grace.

Thanksgiving celebrations are not only about remembering what God did in the past and being grateful, but about encouraging us in our current struggle. When we take the Lord's Supper we are not only remembering our salvation that was secured on the cross. We are being encouraged remembering how Christ's victory over the grave secured the same for us. We remember, despite our current difficulty, that this is not the end for us. Jesus has promised to not leave us or forsake us, and to provide for every

need. Every difficulty we go through grows us closer to Jesus. Even when death comes for us we remember our salvation with thanksgiving that Jesus has prepared for us a place in heaven with Him. We can say in confidence with Paul in Philippians 1:21, "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Remember this Thanksgiving Day when Garfield and Kermit balloons float down the streets of New York City, when the turkey and dressing is passed around, and when you are relaxed on the couch in a food coma that as Christians we have so much to be thankful for. Remember not only your salvation, but all the ways God has provided for every need you've had. Remember how he has walked beside you in dark times and comforted you. Give thanks for his steadfast love and faithfulness. Then when the dark clouds gather again, be joyful and confident that he continues to provide for his children.

Now I have a challenge for you all. This time of year is great for families, but difficult and lonely for international college students who don't go home like our students. They stay at the empty dorms and miss their families. Southwest Baptist University is home for quite a few international students. Though it is a private Christian university most of the international students are not believers. I have spoken with Landy Nevills, Director of Residence Life, and she told me that most international students, who come to SBU, come for sports and not religious studies. They are attending a Baptist school, but don't know Jesus. My challenge to you is to contact Landy and make plans to bring one, two, or more international students to your home for thanksgiving or even Christmas. Though some of us will never go to the nations for Jesus, we can be welcome them as they come to us. Invite them in and share your families traditions and food with them. Most international students will never get a chance to enter an American home, because no one will invite them. Please consider doing this, you will be greatly blessed with the experience.

You can reach Landy Nevills, Director of Residence Life by email at levills@sbuniv.edu and by phone at (417)-328-1826.

In Christ,
Pastor Jason Mabry

We've made some changes in the way you receive your newsletter...

- We will no longer be mailing newsletters to people who regularly attend services.
- This change is an effort to be good stewards of the tithes and offerings that the church receives.
- Newsletters will be available on the first Sunday of the Month in the foyer.
- If you would like the monthly newsletter emailed to you please fill out the connection card in front of you in the pew.
- If you are out of town or know you will be unable to pick up your newsletter on the first Sunday of the month please call the church office and request one to be mailed to you.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

Photo taking for our new church directory is underway. Please sign up for a 45 minute time slot on the sign up sheet in the church foyer or call the church office to set up an appointment. I know many of you don't like to have your picture taken but please sign up for a photograph so that our directory is as complete as possible. If you are photographed for the church directory your family will receive a free copy of the directory. If you are out of town or unable to leave home and would still like your photograph to be in the directory please email a photo along with your names, address and phone number to fsbcstockton@windstream.net or mail your photograph and information to the church address found on the front of the newsletter.



First Southern Baptist Church
405 W. Englewood Drive
Stockton, MO 65785

(417) 276-3441

Office Hours:

Tues.-Fri.—8:30am-2:30pm

Pastor's Open Office Hours:

Tues. 9:00am-2:00pm

FSBC NEWSLETTER



2014

Jason Mabry	Pastor
Steve Ewing	Youth/Children's Pastor
Stephanie Wheeler	Music
Christina Mabry	Secretary
Sandra Camp	Treasurer
Ken Spurgeon	Deacon Chairman