



## THANKSGIVING - CULTIVATING A SPIRIT OF GRATITUDE

By Pastor Doug

Below are some fun facts about Thanksgiving. It's too bad that the holiday is now squeezed out by Halloween. My prayer is that we as a community of believers take time to celebrate the goodness of our Lord. In the midst of the virus outbreak we can continue to look to the Lord. As He protects us and helps us turn over the anxiety may we give the Lord our praise.

•**The first Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in 1924 featured live animals from the Central Park Zoo.** Though the parade stretched just two blocks, New York City went all out for what newspapers were calling "a marathon of mirth." In addition to four bands, a large Santa float, and costumed Macy's employees, also participating in the parade were bears, elephants, camels, and monkeys from the zoo.

•**The menu for the first Thanksgiving dinner in Plymouth—which took place in 1621—likely included lobster, seal, and swans.** No, turkey did not RSVP. The friendly feast between Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Native Americans lasted for three days, during which both parties contributed to the meal. Though there are few records of the actual menu, it is known that the Pilgrims hunted for local fowl (swans very much included) and the Wampanoag brought five deer.

•**Originally, Thanksgiving may not have been celebrated in November at all, but rather in mid-October.** There isn't clear historical information on the actual date of the first Thanksgiving. President Lincoln assigned the holiday to fall on the last Thursday in November, possibly to coincide with the date the Pilgrims first landed the Mayflower in New England.

... Continued on Page 2

## Worship Schedule

Sundays • 9:30 & 11:00 am

Medina Community Church exists to help people begin and grow in their relationship with God. Our relaxed, contemporary style provides an enjoyable atmosphere where you can investigate the claims of Christ, deepen your faith and meet some great friends along the way.

### SERIES: FOLLOW JESUS

November 1 —  
On Your Knees

### SERIES: GOD IS

November 8 —  
God Is Sovereign

November 15 —  
God Is All Powerful

November 22 —  
God Is Good

### SERIES: REDISCOVER CHRISTMAS Advent Series

November 29 —  
Finding Hope In Our Uncertainties

**Community Meal**

**Saturday Nov. 14th**

**6—7 p.m.**



Don't forget to set your clocks back 1 hour

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



The Samaritan's Purse project **Operation Christmas Child** collects shoebox gifts filled with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items and delivers them to children in need around the world to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way. As part of Operation Christmas Child, MCC will be collecting gift-filled shoe boxes through November 10th. Delivered into the hands of children through local churches, every shoebox gift is an opportunity to share about Jesus Christ and God's love. Watch for more information in the coming weeks.

## THANKSGIVING . . . continued from page 1

•A woman named Sara Josepha Hale lobbied Congress for years to make Thanksgiving an official holiday. If it wasn't for this determined woman, Thanksgiving wouldn't exist today. Hale's allegiance to Thanksgiving began in 1827 and was based in national pride; she hoped to make it "permanently, an American custom and institution." It wasn't until 1863 that President Lincoln finally declared Thanksgiving a national holiday. Seeing as the President did this in the throws of the Civil War, Thanksgiving is considered by some to be an attempt on behalf of the President to bring some peace back to the country.

### Psalm 107:8-9

*<sup>8</sup>Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind,  
<sup>9</sup>for He satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.*

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY:

The MCC men's Bible study is currently meeting on Thursday evenings (7:00 pm) at the church. The current study is based on a book by David Jeremiah entitled *The Book of Signs*. Plans are to maintain a 6 foot social distance and still have the study. Participants in the study will have to bring their own refreshments. With everything going on in the world today, getting into the Word with our current study seems like a good place to start. Please contact Dave Arron with any questions.

MCC's women's Bible study group is not meeting at the current time.

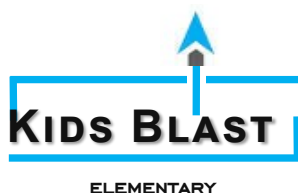
## YOUTH GROUP NEWS:

Young Adult study with Arlen Gerig meets on Tuesday evenings from 5:30-7:00 pm at MCC.

Ontrack (Jr. High) and Student Life (Sr. High) youth groups meet on Sunday evenings from 5-6:30 pm at MCC.

Kids Blast (kindergarten-5th grade) meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30 pm at MCC.

*Please be aware that masks will be required for all groups when inside.*



STUDENT  
LIFE SR. HIGH



## WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS . . . *Kathy Summers*

It's been awhile since the women's ministry has had any news to talk about. I hope you are all doing well and keeping safe. For those of you not attending church physically, please know that we miss all of you and can't wait until life returns to some sort of normal. We have some holiday things coming up; it won't be our usual flurry of activity, but we're getting creative so that we feel connected during this time. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, as usual just let me know [(330) 461-1081 or [kathy@beeculture.com](mailto:kathy@beeculture.com)]. Also, please let me know if there is a need that we can help with.



### **Holiday Craft Night—7:00 pm, November 20 at MCC**

This year we'll be doing our craft in the worship center, socially distanced, masks on, and no food this year. Bring your own drink if you want. We'll be keeping it to just an hour and plan to have everything organized at your seat so we don't have to travel around the room much. I really need to know if you're coming by November 13. It will be different, but it will be fun.

### **Jail Ministry—**

We will be doing gifts for the children of the inmates at Medina County Jail again this year. Last year we had a great time at the party for them. This year we'll be doing some sort of drive-up party instead. They will pull up to the side doors and be given their bags of goodies and gifts. I think we have enough gifts, but I'll be asking for donations if it turns out that we need more. I think we've also come up with a safe way to have Santa there. Please be praying about this ministry. It's been such a hard year for everyone, I can't imagine having your parent in jail for Christmas, along with everything else.

### **Ladies Gift Exchange—**



We just can't have our usual holiday lunch and gift exchange this year. But again, in trying to be creative, we're still going to do a gift exchange. The gift for this year is a Christmas pin. We'll pick a Sunday, probably our usual first one in December, and bring our wrapped gifts. We'll have a table—you bring a gift, you take a gift. I know it's not the same and I know how much we love our Christmas lunch, but hopefully, we'll be able to get it back for next year. I'll let you know when we settle on the date for this one.

### **Ladies Bible Study—**

This is a tough one. I don't want to do anything on-site until at least after the holidays. Then we'll see what happens. We could do a Zoom study, and I'm more than happy to organize that. Zoom is so easy, so please don't be intimidated by the technology. Please give me some feedback on this, and if you're interested we'll get one going. I know several groups that are doing it and really seem to be enjoying it.

Ladies, I know we're headed into the hard time of year. Winter is hard for us even under normal conditions. Please let us try and stay connected. If you need something please let me or one of the other deacons, elders, or Pastor Doug know. Again, my contact information is Kathy Summers, (330) 461-1081 or [kathy@beeculture.com](mailto:kathy@beeculture.com).



**Medina Community Church**  
**416 South Broadway • Medina, Ohio 44256**  
**(330) 723-5155**

[mccoffice@zoominternet.net](mailto:mccoffice@zoominternet.net)  
[www.medinacommunitychurch.org](http://www.medinacommunitychurch.org)