

INFO



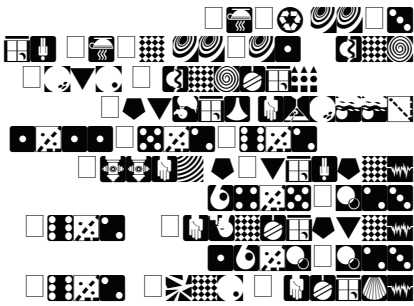
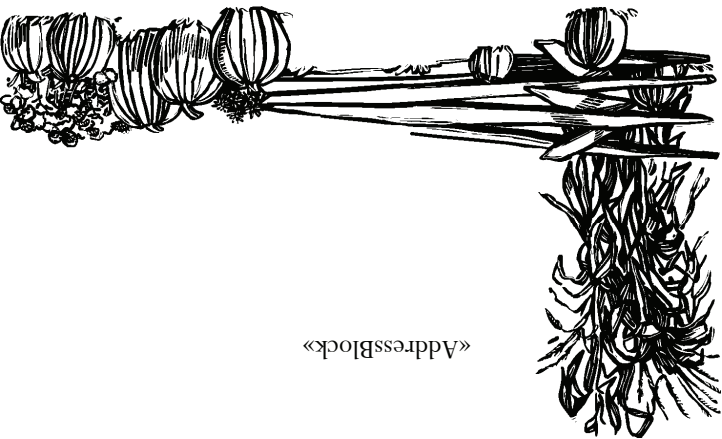
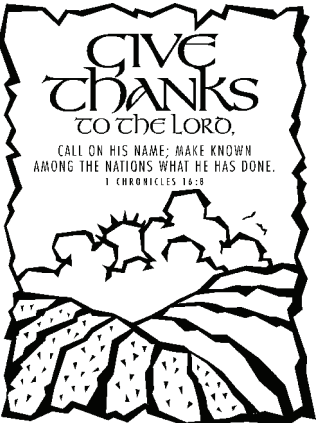
November 2008
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"Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."
Revelation 7:12, NRSV

Blessed are ...

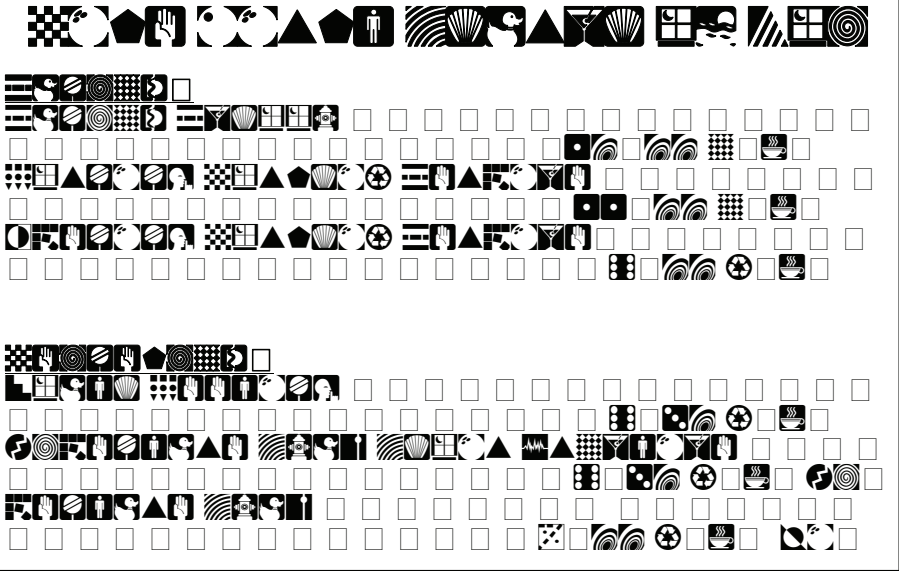
Blessed are those who have learned
to admire but not envy;
to follow but not imitate;
to praise but not flatter;
and to lead but not manipulate.



Wise First Church of God
P.O. Box 980
702 East Main Street
Wise, VA 24293



**Men's Fellowship
Breakfast**
**Saturday, Nov. 8
at 8:30 a.m.**
**Conference room of
Food City in Wise.**



Words from the Path.

By Pastor Ben Murphy



When you pick up this copy of INFO, you will be just three short weeks shy of Thanksgiving Day. My, how time has flown by. It seems like it was last week when we were taking down our Christmas decorations and here we are again with another year under our belts.

I love the Thanksgiving holidays. It is a time of reflection of the past year and all that we have to be thankful for. Each year Diania's family joins together at "The Farm" in Bardwell Kentucky and we all spend the week together. (After a week with that bunch, I have to start all over trying to remember why I am so thankful!) Just kidding. I really love them all and look forward to seeing them each year.

Thanksgiving was also

very special in Alabama. As you know, we were pastors in Alabama for ten years and we became acquainted with many people in the state. Alabama is one of the largest poultry producing states in the U.S. Alabama has hundreds, possibly thousands of chicken farms. There are some turkey farms as well. I knew a man who raised turkeys for Tyson Inc. for years. He said that he got so many complaints about the 'drumstick' being the favorite part of the turkey, but there were only two to go around. So he decided to experiment with breeding a turkey that had more drumsticks. One day he said, "I finally did it! I bred a turkey that has six legs!" I asked the farmer how it tasted. He said, "I don't know, I never could catch the stinkin' thang to find out!"

That was a little Thanksgiving humor. For those who wish to read on, here is a little Thanksgiving history so you can impress all your friends about how much you know about Thanksgiving.

The first American Thanksgiving was celebrated in 1621, to commemorate the harvest reaped by the Plymouth Colony after a harsh

winter. In that year Governor William Bradford proclaimed a day of thanksgiving. The colonists celebrated it as a traditional English harvest feast, to which they invited the local Wampanoag Indians. Days of thanksgiving were celebrated throughout the colonies after fall harvests. All thirteen colonies did not, however, celebrate Thanksgiving at the same time until October 1777. George Washington was the first president to declare the holiday, in 1789. By the mid-1800s, many states observed a Thanksgiving holiday. Meanwhile, the poet and editor Sarah J. Hale had begun lobbying for a national Thanksgiving holiday. During the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln, looking for ways to unite the nation, discussed the subject with Hale. In 1863 he gave his Thanksgiving Proclamation, declaring the last Thursday in November a day of thanksgiving. In 1939, 1940, and 1941 Franklin D. Roosevelt, seeking to lengthen the Christmas shopping season, proclaimed Thanksgiving should fall on the fourth Thursday of November, where it remains.

Now what really may

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- November:**
- 2 Daylight Saving Time Ends
 - 4 W.C.G. Meeting
 - 4 Election Day
 - 5 Ministry & Programming Council Meeting
 - 8 Men's Fellowship Breakfast
 - 9 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, PM
 - 11 Visitation and Outreach Ministry Meeting
 - 12 Finance Council Meeting
 - 16 HOMESTEADERS IN CONCERT, AM
 - 16 Singspiration, PM
 - 18 Visitation and Outreach Ministry Meeting
 - 19 Christian Ed. Council Meeting
 - 27 THANKSGIVING DAY
- December:**
- 3 Ministry & Programming Council Meeting
 - 10 **Christ's Birthday Dinner/B-day/Anniv. Celebration for Nov./Dec.**
 - 10 Finance Council Meeting
 - 13 Men's Breakfast at 8:30



NEWSLETTER

Articles or information to be published in next months newsletter are due by the third Sunday of the month. Please call or email if your address/phone number has changed, or to add/remove someone from our mailing list.

TO ALL SINGERS & MUSICIANS

If you are on the monthly music schedule to sing in either the a.m. or p.m. service and find you cannot do so, it is your responsibility to find a replacement. In addition, would you please notify the church office of such a change. Our thanks to each of you who serve.

The Ministries & Program Council

WHEN THERE IS A DEATH IN THE FAMILY

If there is a death in your immediate family, (Parent, Sibling, Spouse, Child) or in the family of a church member, please notify any member (See Below) of the benevolence committee so the church may send flowers and for food preparation when applicable.

- The Benevolence Committee
- Mona Orr— Chair
- Phyllis Belcher
- Sue Ellen Fleming
- Diania Murphy
- Charlotte Rice

Honor Our Veterans

Veterans Day, while others believe in a "just war." Many believe that the goals of freedom, justice, equality and democracy are worth the cost to serve and sacrifice for our nation's common good.

Christians follow the Prince of Peace, so war is a dilemma that often challenges people of faith. Some Christians are pacifists, whatever individual Christians decide about any given conflict, most Christians believe that men and women who strive to make this world free of tyrants are

to be respected. As Winston Churchill said, "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."

Thank you to all the men and women who served or are now serving our country.



Count Your Blessings

- Count your blessings instead of your crosses;
- Count your gains instead of your losses.
- Count your joys instead of your woes;
- Count your friends instead of your foes.
- Count your smiles instead of your tears;
- Count your courage instead of your fears.
- Count your full years instead of your lean;
- Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.
- Count your health instead of your wealth;
- Count on God instead of yourself.



Southern Gospel Group
The Homesteaders
In Concert Nov. 16th
11 a.m.



Sunday School
The winner for the month of Sept.
was Janet Mize! (no photo avail.)

WORDS cont'd from pg. 1

surprise you is what foods may have been on the table at that first Thanksgiving. *Historians can't be completely certain about the full bounty, but it's safe to say the pilgrims weren't gobbling up pumpkin pie or playing with their mashed potatoes.

Foods That May Have Been on the Menu:

- Seafood:** Cod, Eel, Clams, Lobster
- Wild Fowl:** Wild Turkey, Goose, Duck, Crane, Swan, Partridge, Eagles
- Meat:** Venison, Seal
- Grain:** Wheat Flour, Indian Corn
- Vegetables:** Pumpkin, Peas, Beans, Onions, Lettuce, Radishes, Carrots
- Fruit:** Plums, Grapes
- Nuts:** Walnuts, Chestnuts, Acorns
- Herbs and Seasonings:** Olive Oil, Liverwort, Leeks, Dried Currants, Parsnips

What Was Not on the Menu:

- Ham:** There is no evidence that the colonists had butchered a pig by this time, though they had brought pigs with them from England.
- Sweet Potatoes/Potatoes:** These were not common.
- Corn on the Cob:** Corn was kept dried out at this time of year.
- Cranberry Sauce:** The colonists had cranberries but no sugar at this time.
- Pumpkin Pie:** It's not a recipe that exists at this point, though the pilgrims had recipes for stewed pumpkin.
- Chicken/Eggs:** We know that the colonists brought hens with them from England, but it's unknown how many they had left at this point or whether the hens were still laying.

Milk: No cows had been aboard the Mayflower, though it's possible that the colonists used goat milk to make cheese. (*Source: Kathleen Curtin, Food Historian at Plymouth Plantation.)

I think I will stick with Diania's turkey and dressing and Dad's recipe for

cranberry salad. And if that guy ever catches that 6-legged turkey, I might give that a try as well. Nevertheless, whatever you eat or wherever you may travel this year, or how many drumsticks you catch up with, remember the most important thing is to *stay on the path with Jesus!*



Annual Business Meeting

Sunday,
November 9th
6 p.m.

Due to current health issues of Rev. Bradley, the Fall Revival Nov 5-9 has been CANCELLED.



Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honor me.

Psalm 50:23

