

The Glades Gazette November 2016

From the Pastor's Porch:

Why are we thankful? Why SHOULD we be thankful?

November is the national month to be thankful. We celebrate thanksgiving on the fourth Thursday in November.

Where did it come from?

According to google, "The American tradition of Thanksgiving began with a threeday feast that took place in 1621 to celebrate a bountiful harvest. It became cemented as an annual celebration in 1863, when President Lincoln declared a "day of Thanksgiving" in the midst of the Civil War."

I think that is, in itself, a powerful statement. Can we all be thankful in the midst of turmoil? That appears to be why President Lincoln started this holiday in 1863.

Let me ask this another way: Can you be thankful when you don't get your way?

Why do I ask that question? I ask it because it is a sign of whether or not your heart and life is focused on you or on God. (It is either one or the other; it can't be both!)

The truth is that there is turmoil all around us. I'm going to make a bold statement that there will ALWAYS be turmoil and conflict in the world. It isn't just going to go away. But what do we do with it? Are we thankful no matter what is going on around us or are we only thankful when things go our way? The key to this is that we can always be thankful when we live a surrendered life to God. When we don't live a surrendered life to God, then it is much harder to be thankful. This is because it is about us and not God. When our lives are about God, we can ALWAYS be thankful because God is ALWAYS good.

Glades Presbyterian Church 21121 Judge Winikoff Road Boca Raton, Florida 33428

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Pastor's Porch continues... What does that look and sound like?

It looks like having joy even when you don't get your way. What that looks like in a church is having the attitude of whatever the Lord is calling us to do is great and being happy with it.

The contrast to that is "I".

Yes, the contrast to that is saying: Well "I" ______. "I" don't like how we do that. I don't like that we no longer do that. I don't like that one time we did this and now we do that. I don't like that person so I'm going to. I don't like how things aren't the way that I want them to go.

Do you notice all of those I statements? When we make things about "I", it takes the joy out of life because we are so focused on us that we can't see the beautiful things that God IS doing. When we are so focused on "I" and what I want and what I think is right, we leave someone very important out of the equation: GOD! Without focusing on God, our joy will always be contingent on our opinions and getting our way. The truth is we will all never get our way and therefore, we won't be able to be joyful and thankful all the time. What does the Bible say?

Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

The only way to make that happen is for our life and church not to be about "I", but about God.

This Thanksgiving, let's reorient our lives to be around God and not about "I". I promise it will lead to a more thankful heart. It is the season to be thankful. God is doing great things. I'm personally excited and thankful for what God is doing in my life. Let's ALL be completely thankful because of what GOD IS doing! Amen.

Vactor Carter

November 6th "Joyful Giving" Mark 12:41-44, 2 Cor 9:6-8, & Malachi 3:10 November 13th Commitment Sunday "Commit Ourselves to Jesus"

November 20th "Promise or Ordinary?" Galatians 4:21-31 November 27th 1st Sunday of Advent "Prophecy" Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

We all know prayer can go a long way. Have you been praying for Glades? Our church leadership? Our congregants?



If you haven't already, start following The Robinsons' Blog! http://robinsonscoastalcallings.blogspot.com.



We were lifting prayers galore from across seas during the threats of Hurricane Matthew. We can't THANK YOU enough for not only looking out for the church and its protection, but for also taking the time to then go to our house to do the same! We appreciate it more than you know! We definitely felt the love from afar! Please keep praying for those who were affected; many of our SC buddies are still fighting the damage done.

And THANK YOU SO MUCH for all of the prayers and encouragement for us to take time away for vacation. We appreciate ya'll looking out for us in a variety of ways. It's nice to be at a church filled of congregants who realize the importance of "us time" away for recharging and getting refreshed so we can keep on serving the Lord and others here at Glades as well as those outside of our church, too. WE LOVE YA'LL!

Pastor Carter and Kristin





The 3 Rewards of Generosity

Leah Dipascal

"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." **2 Corinthians 9:11**

How would you describe your response towards giving? Generously or sparingly? Freely or reluctantly? Cheerfully or grudgingly?

Paul continues his thoughts on the importance of generous giving from **2 Corinthians 8** into today's reading. He wants to make sure the Corinthians' willingness of heart continues in order for all the donations that were promised to be successfully delivered and distributed to the church at Jerusalem. (**2 Corinthians 8:19-21**)

He reminded the Corinthians that Jesus Christ being rich became poor, giving generously and sacrificially so that through His poverty they might become rich. (**2 Corinthians 8:9**). Paul didn't want them to feel pressured to give. However, he was testing the sincerity of their love (**2 Corinthians 8:8**) and didn't want his boasting of them (to the Jerusalem church) to prove hollow if they gave grudgingly, instead of generously. (**2 Corinthians 9:3,5**)

Giving to others should come from a joyful and willing response to God's goodness and grace towards us. Not something that is forced, compulsive or done with a grudging attitude. (**2 Corinthians 9:5**)

Paul also didn't want them to miss out on the blessings that were available as a result of their generous giving. These same blessings apply today. When we give generously with a loving attitude, God produces a threefold reward system.

1. God enriches us so we can be generous on every occasion. As we give, God will replenish what we need on a continuous supply. Knowing this truth frees us up to give generously on *every* occasion without hesitation or worry that we won't have enough.

2. God blesses those who receive our gifts by meeting their needs. Our world is filled with people who not only need a Savior, but also need daily provisions to simply survive. Someone's blessings could come straight from your giving hands and loving heart today as you abundantly share with them.

3. Our generosity results in thanksgiving and praise to God. When we give to others and they respond in saying "thanks," it creates a great opportunity to tell them about God and share why *He* is the very reason we are able to give generously. This puts the focus on the greatest Giver who rightfully deserves *all* our thanksgiving and praise.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for providing my needs and blessing me today. Even though I don't always feel blessed or acknowledge the gifts You've given me, I realize in this moment, that without You I have nothing of worth to share. Help me to be generous on every occasion and in every season of my life. In good times and in bad times. My gifts can never compare to the glorious and sacrificial gift of Your one and only Son. And when I think of all You've done for me, it makes me want to give more because I've been a recipient of Your abundant supply of grace. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Notes from Peggy:



Choir Practice is on Wednesdays at 7:30PM

If you would like to be part of the group, please contact Peggy at <u>phoglund@ymail.com</u> and join in on the fun!

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<u>Small Groups</u>

<u>Tuesday Women's</u> <u>Group</u>

Meets at 10AM and facilitated by Ellen and Tracy. We are continuing the videobased study: "Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman"

Sunday Evenings:

Walk in the Word at 6PM on November 6th and November 20th .

Mike Hoglund is facilitating.

Women's Bible Study

will be continuing the book: "Who is Jesus?" This month, the meeting is on November 10th at 7PM.

Esther Gonzalez will be facilitating.

Thursday Men's Group Date/Time and Locations are:

November 3rd, at 7PM at Tijuana Flats November 17th, at 7PM at Steve's Wood Fired Pizza

Brian Claxton is facilitating.

Circle of Hope

will meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1PM The meeting in November is on the 9th.

Glades Young Women

God continues to do awesome things! We can't wait to see what God reveals to us as we continue to study <u>Living Beyond Yourself: Exploring Fruit of the Spirit</u> this month. God is so good...all of the time!

Meetings are on Thursdays at 7PM Contact Kristin at <u>krobglades@gmail.com</u> with any questions.

Men's Ministry "The 33, Volume 3: A Man and His Traps"

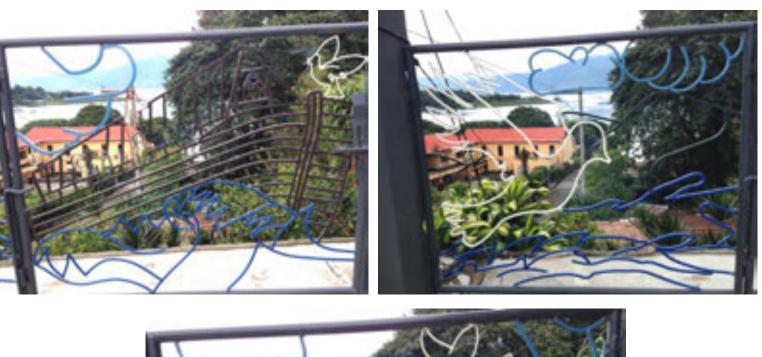
This study is about identifying the deep idols of your heart and developing a "Battleplan" built on God's grace. The classes are on November 7th and November 21st from 7PM-8:30PM

Brian, Mike, Paul and Chad are facilitating.

> Don't be a Turkey... Mark your calendar for our Glades Thanksgiving Feast. On November 13, immediately after the service, we will have a catered traditional Thanksgiving lunch. Tables will be set up in the courtyard and throughout the education building so we can spread out and enjoy a meal together. The meal is provided by the deacons free of charge. This is a great opportunity to invite friends and family to join us at Glades.

> There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex to help us get a head count, but please come even if you don't sign up.







Thank you for your donations for the railing! If you would like to receive the House of Healing newsletter, please go to: https://vr2.verticalresponse.com/s/signup-form-

houseofhealingfoundation-enewsletter











<u>The Way</u> Garden Building









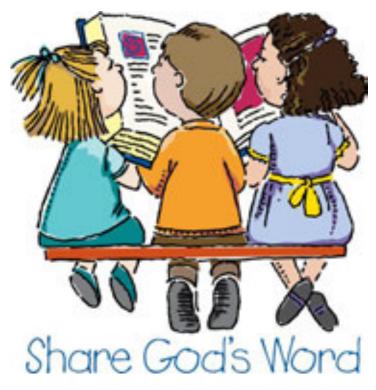




<u>The Way</u> (Youth Group)

Meetings are every other Sunday evening. We will be studying The Word, enjoying some fun fellowship events, and giving back to the community together! This month, we will meet: November 13th at the Cooper's house

For more information, please contact Janet Cooper: Janet_cooper@msn.com.

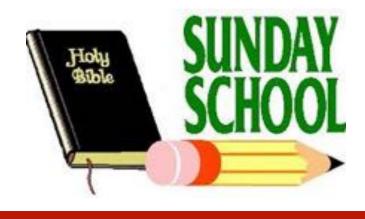


<u>2¢ a Meal</u>

Take a small bank and put it on the table where you eat. Say a prayer and put 2¢ a person in the bank. These donations will grow and when filled, bring it to church and put it in the 2¢ bank. At the end of the year, these donations will be sent to several organizations who help others less fortunate.

Sunday School for ages 4-11

Kids of Glades, please continue to invite your friends to come to church with you.We will continue learning about how much Jesus cares for us!



Birthdays and Anniversaries:

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. Psalm 139:14

Birthdays

- 1 Lawrence Ghougasian
- 5- Carlo Davila
- 6- Eric Armstrong
- 6- Jan Faustin
- 17- Jimmy Hamilton
- 18- Clarence Bloom
- 21 George Perez
- 23- Evelyn Bridy
- 23- Daniel Wantz
- 23- Chad Cooper
- 23- Mark Deviny
- 24- Jim Hamilton
- 26- Carmen Gomez
- 27- Ryan Crout





Anniversaries

10- Ramcharan 24- Hamilton

Take a moment to acknowledge those who have a birthday or anniversary this month. If your birthday/anniversary is not listed in your month, please contact the church office.

The Glades Gazette November 2016 Page 11 If you have any family, friends, and/or are aware of congregants who have upcoming surgeries, are in the hospital, and/or need prayer, please let Pastor Carter know. He and Kristin like to lift them in prayer and if they are local, go visit them.

Any December Newsletter Announcements, etc need to be sent to admin@gladeschurch.com no later than November 21st.

Wrapping it up...

<u>The Gathering</u> Palm Beach County

The Men's Outreach Breakfast on November 4th from 7AM-9AM at the Double Tree in Deerfield Beach. Guest speaker will be Jeff Kemp, former NFL Quarterback.

Don't forget ;

Our next Boca Helping Hands is scheduled for November 19th from 8:30-11 am at Boca Glades Baptist Church! Glades Presbyterian Church is collecting boxes for Operation Christmas Child These boxes will be sent to children all over the world for share God a level

For packing ideas, visit www.samentanepurse.org Please bring in any number of completed and filled boxes in addition to \$7 to cover shipping costs. Or just make a donation to the church with Operation Christmas Child in the memo and we will pack a box for you!

Join us to decorate the church for Christmas on Saturday, December 3 from 9:00 to 11:00. We will have doughnuts and coffee to wake you up, and we can get the church looking beautiful quickly if everyone pitches in to help. Thank you, Ellen and Kathy



On November 5th from 8:30A-12P

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| sun | mon | tue | wed | thu | fri | sat |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| | | 1 6P Christian Ed 7P Deacon Lawrence Ghougasian's Bday | 2 7:30P Choir | 3 7P Glades Young Women 7P Men's Group | 4 7A Men's Outreach Breakfast | 5 8:30A-12P Work Day Carlo Davila's Bday |
| 6 10:30A Worship/ Children's SS Eric Armstrong's Bday Jan Faustin's Bday 6P Walk in the Word | 7 7P Men's Ministry "The 33" | 8 10A Tuesday Women's Group | 9 1P Circle of Hope 7:30P Choir | 10 7P Glades Young Women 7P Women's Bible Study Ramcharan Anniv | 11 Veterans Day | 12 |
| 13 9:15A Guatemala Meeting 10:30A Worship/ Children's SS 11:30A Thanksgiving Celebration Lunch 4P The Way | 14 7P Worship 8P Admin | 15 10A Tuesday Women's Group 7:00P Session | 16 7:30P Choir | 17 7P Glades Young Women 7P Men's Group Jimmy Hamilton's Bday | Clarence Bloom's Bday | 19 8:30A Boca Helping Hands |
| 20 10:30A Sunday Worship/ Children's SS 6P Walk in the Word | 21 7P Men's Ministry "The 33" George Perez's Bday | 22 | 23 7:30P Choir Evelyn Bridy's Bday Daniel Wantz's Bday Chad Cooper's Bday Mark Deviny's Bday | 24 Thanksgiving Day Jim Hamilton's Bday Hamilton Anniv | 25 | 26 Carmen Gomez's Bday |
| 27 10:30A Sunday Worship/ Children's SS Ryan Crout's Bday | 28 | 29 10A Tuesday Women's Group | 30 7:30 Choir | | | |