

Weekly Update

November 7, 2018

ELECTIONS, VETERANS DAY, THANKSGIVING

What do Elections, Veterans Day and Thanksgiving have in common? All three of these are significant national days in November 2018. All three are special days designated by our Federal Government. None of the 3 occurs in our Church's Lectionary or do we find them on our Church Calendar. All three occur only in countries with a democracy. All are only secular days.

All three are interdependent. Free open elections would not happen or exist without veterans. Freedom of speech, freedom to worship, and the freedom to express our thanksgiving to God would not exist without veterans. And veterans would not continue to serve our country without the support and consent of our elected officials and support of those who are thankful for men and women willing to serve.

We collectively express a sigh of relief that elections are over. Elections are often dirty, and ugly and divisive and distasteful, and we express our dissatisfaction. Until we visit or live where there are no elections. Thanksgiving can be viewed as the kickoff for a commercialized Christmas. Until we visit or live where the only thankfulness allowed is to cheer the "State". Veterans Day can sadly remind us of sacrifices that are made because of our imperfect world.

All three of these special secular days, also gives Christians an opportunity to spread The Good News of Jesus Christ. Help us to understand God's love and forgiveness and to give thanks.

From the Hymn, Give Thanks:

Give Thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One because he's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong, Let the poor say I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us.

Give Thanks

THIS SUNDAY

This week's guest minister will be Herb Knudsen.
He will be preaching on I Kings 17:8-16 and Mark 12:38-44.

ELDER'S BREAKFAST

Elder's Breakfast will be held this Sunday at 8:00am with David Hagan providing the meal.

NURSING HOME SERVICES

First Christian Church will lead worship at both nursing homes this Sunday afternoon. Worship at the Gibson Area Hospital Annex begins at 1:30pm and worship at Heritage Health Care begins at 2:15pm. Come and join the residents in worship.

DWM SERVICE PROJECT – CANCELLED

The DWM Service Project scheduled to take place this Sunday afternoon has been cancelled. A new date will be set.

SERVING SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11TH

Elders: *Sharon Higgins, Melanie Warfield, Cheryl Elder*

Deacons: *Tim Ricks, Katy Neal, David DeWall*

Kristine Medler, Jeff Elder

Worship Leader: *Warfield*

Communion Preparation: *Katy Neal*

Home Communion: *Melanie Warfield and Katy Neal*

Greeters: *Jerry & Ida Wahls*

BLESSING WALL

As we approach Thanksgiving Day, please think about all the blessings you have received. Each time you enter church, pick one of those blessings and write it on a turkey or pumpkin found in a basket in the narthex. You may either post it on the "Blessing Wall" or place it in the offering plate to be posted later. Surely, we can fill our "Blessing Wall" to overflowing by Thanksgiving!

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

During this season of Thanksgiving as we are thinking of and remembering the many blessings for which we have to be thankful, we also think about how we could express our thankfulness to God by reaching out to others. We will have an opportunity to do this on Thanksgiving Sunday,

November 18th. We will have a procession of our gifts as we bring forward our regular offerings, a Special Day Thanksgiving offering and gifts of canned food and fresh fruit to be given to the Shepherds Closet. Also if you have some gently used winter coats, the Shepherds closet has expressed a need for those.

WORSHIP LEADERS AND GREETERS

Please consider serving as a greeter or worship leader in November. A sign-up sheet can be found in the narthex.

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

College care packages will be prepared in a few weeks. If you know of any college student who would benefit from receiving a package, notify the office with their name and address. Donations of items to include in the packages may be dropped off at the church office.

PRAYER LIST

Rosella Jesse –Hollybrook Apt 42

Bill and Jean Kerchenfaut – new address

6235 Hoffman St #201

North Port, Florida 34287-2285

Harold Stimmel— Hollybrook Apt 34

John Revell

Harriet Farney

Margaret Meers

Patty Benz

Margaret Gambill

Jim McClard

John Weller

Lila Parsons

Evelyn Fawver
Barb Bennett
Irene Schaefer
Duff Knudsen – Herb Knudsen's wife
had back surgery and is making good progress

We also continue to pray for the Search Committee
and the Recruitment Committee

SYMPATHY

We express our sympathy to the Karen Rankin family upon the unexpected death of her son,
Alan.

CHURCH BOARD

The Church Board will meet on Tuesday, November 13th at 6:30pm.
If you have any items that need to be added to the Board agenda, please send them to the office.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

(November 7-November 13, 2018)

November
9: Kate Kristensen
Colin Kristensen
10: Lila Parsons
Sue DeWall

Please send us (gcfccdoc@yahoo.com) additions or corrections of birthdays,
anniversaries, or email addresses.

FUTURE GUEST MINISTERS

November 18th: Beth Rupe
November 25th: Joe Culpepper
December 2nd: Jake's Boys
December 9th: Herb Knudsen
December 16th: Joe Culpepepr
December 23rd: Beth Rupe
December 30th: Herb Knudsen

WEBSITE

The church's WEBSITE IS NOW LIVE and can be found at **www.fccdocgc.com**
On the website, you can view the **church video** made to help with the search process,
a **calendar** featuring upcoming events,
and **copies** of the Weekly Updates and Christian Visitors.

ATTENDANCE

FCC ATTENDANCE	SUNDAY WEEK					AVG
	1	2	3	4	5	
2018 JULY	46	41	42	41	30	40
2018 AUGUST	48	42	42	45		44
2018 SEPTEMBER	46	55	48	47	51	49
2018 OCTOBER	63	68	51	50		58
2018 NOVEMBER	51					51
AVG	50.8	51.5	45.8	45.8	40.5	

Average Monthly Attendance		
	2017	2018
July	30	40
August	35	44
September	49	49
October	46	58