

# *the*Will

November 2018 | Monthly Newsletter of God's Will Christian Church

**Mark Your  
Calendar**

**Service Time: 10AM**

**Happy Birthday to those  
born in November**

**11.18  
Thanksgiving Dinner  
Giveaway**

**11.22  
8AM Thanksgiving  
service**

**Sunday School classes  
are held at 9AM**

**Become a member today!  
See Sis. Vanessa  
Hawkins for details.**

## **Thanksgiving Day After Day**

by Barbara Rainey

***He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving  
honors Me. (Psalms 50:23)***

Has it ever seemed surprising to you that God made the Israelites wander in the wilderness for 40 years just for grumbling and complaining? My kids may have spent 30 minutes in their rooms for griping, but 40 years? That's some severe discipline!

One thing is crystal clear from this biblical account: God is obviously not pleased with grumbling, ungrateful hearts. And we should not tolerate grumbling either—in ourselves or in our children.

## Thanksgiving Day After Day cont'd

Being grateful is a choice that we readily and ritually express on Thanksgiving Day. But what do we do on other days of the year when the mood is less festive or the atmosphere is more ordinary?

I like the contented way the Pilgrims approached life. They did not allow their feelings or circumstances to determine whether or not they would exercise gratitude and thanksgiving. They believed that God was in control—"providence," they called it. Following this belief to its logical conclusion, they responded to challenges with a perspective that said, "God has allowed this for our good." They chose to believe—rightly so—that their dependence on a holy, faithful God was well placed and that even though much was against them, there was always much more for which to be grateful.

Developing a heart of gratitude is essential to growing a stronger faith. As John Piper stated in his book *A Godward Life*, "If we do not believe that we are deeply dependent on God for all we have or hope to have, the very spring of gratitude and faith runs dry."

Make the choice today to take your eyes off yourself and your circumstances, gratefully acknowledging who God is and what He is doing. Deny yourself the right to complain, embracing instead the deep-seated joy of thanksgiving... in all things.

***A grateful heart pleases God.***

### **REMINDER:**

Please remember to download our App in the App Store or Google Play!

# Member's Corner



**This month, we shine the spotlight on Minister Latoya Walker. Minister Walker, along with her husband and children, rejoined GWCC earlier this year. Min. Latoya was one of GWCC's founding members. We are excited to have her back!**

**Who introduced you to Christ?** I was introduced to Christ by my cousin in 2000.

**When did you join GWCC?** In 2005-2006 (recently returned in 2018)

**What do you do for a living?** Office Manager and Executive Assistant at the Semiconductor Industry Association .

**What ministries do you participate in?** Altar Workers (for now) :-)

**What are your hobbies?**

Writing, motivating, playing family games, resume updates, and websites

**What have you found most rewarding about being a member of GWCC?**

The Leadership and the people (WOW!) are on point in the aspect of where we want to be and how we need to get there. It's no walk in the park, but Lord knows what I have experienced.

**What advice would you give a new Christian?**

Hmm...giving a new follower in Christ advice is always different! However, my all time favorite is welcome to the best days of your life, it's not going to be easy but it's rewarding and sure worth it! You ready? Let's go!

## Recipe Corner: Homemade Peppermint Patties

### INGREDIENTS

- 1/4 cup softened butter
- 1/3 cup light corn syrup
- 1-2 tsp peppermint extract\*
- 3 cups powdered sugar
- 2 cups dark dipping chocolate\*\*
- chocolate jimmies, if desired

### DIRECTIONS

1. Combine butter, corn syrup, extract and powdered sugar in a mixing bowl. Mix with an electric mixer for about 3 minutes, until ingredients are well combined and are holding together.
2. Remove dough from bowl and break off about 2 teaspoon-sized sections. Roll into a ball and gently flatten with your hands. Put patties down on a pan lined with wax or parchment paper. Once all patties are made, place pan in the freezer for 10-15 minutes.
3. Melt chocolate in microwave for 1 minute 20 seconds. Let sit for an additional minute in the microwave. Remove and gently stir. Remove peppermint patties from freezer. Use a fork or a handy Winton Dipping tool like I did to dip each patty in the chocolate, flip to coat the other side, then tap to remove any excess. Transfer chocolate coated patties to wax paper to cool. Top with chocolate jimmies if you'd like.
4. Store in an airtight container, refrigerate if preferred but it's not necessary. Yields 40 mints.

## Our Daily Bread

***For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have. 2 Corinthians 8:12***

My friend was eager to gather her family and friends for a festive holiday celebration at her home. Each of the guests looked forward to gathering around the table together and wanted to help defray the expense of feeding so many by contributing to the meal. Some would bring bread, others salad or a side dish. For one guest, however, money was exceptionally tight. Although she looked forward to spending the evening with those whom she loved, she couldn't afford to purchase any food. So, instead, she offered to clean the host's home as her gift.

She would have been welcome at the table had she come empty-handed. Yet she looked at what she did have to offer—her time and skills—and brought them to the gathering with her whole heart. I think that's precisely the spirit of Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 8.

They had been eager to give to help some fellow Christians, and he urged them to follow through on that effort. He commended them for their desire and their willingness, saying their motivation to give is what makes a gift of any size or amount acceptable (v. 12).

We're often quick to compare our giving to that of others, especially when our resources don't afford us the luxury of giving as much as we'd like to. But God views our giving differently: it's our willingness to give our willingness to give what we have that He loves.

*Lord, help me see what You've given me, even if it doesn't seem like much by the world's standards. Help me to give generously.*

**God loves wholehearted giving of any measure.**

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## Weekly Activities

**Morning Prayer Conference Call**

**Daily 7:00AM**

**Weekly Bible Study Conference Call**

**Wednesday 7:00-8:00p**

**Men's Bible Study Conference Call**

**Tuesday 7:00-8:00pm**

**Conference Number:**

**712-775-7031 Access Code: 443-268-839**

**Women's Bible Study Conference Call**

**Monday 7:30-8:30pm**

**857-232-0158 Access Code 262390**