

Christian Life Notes

OREGON DISTRICT LWML VOLUME 3 –NOVEMBER 2016

Giving Thanks – To All – For All

When I was growing up, **Thanksgiving** Day in Ohio was spent with family. Friends gathered around Mom's dining room table eating turkey and all the fixings. After dinner the cousins headed outside and played football in the street. Some years we were playing in 3-4 feet of snow! After the game we would head back inside for my grandmother's homemade apple pie and ice cream. 40 years later I can still smell that apple pie.

Today **Thanksgiving** Day in Oregon is spent with friends and neighbors gathered around my dining room table. There is of course turkey and all the fixings, however, age has made me decide that a game of football is better watched on TV rather than played in the street. I never have captured my Granny's apple pie recipe, but homemade apple pie is still on the menu. And back in Ohio, my sister now makes the day's meal at her home and carries it over to Mom's house. Mom no longer can cook and she will not even know that it's a holiday. My Dad will be assigned to make the mashed potatoes. There will be pie, but it will come from the grocery store.

I am grateful for the memories my Mom and Dad gave me. They taught me to be **thankful**, not only at **Thanksgiving**, but *every day of the year*. They taught me the importance of family and friends and that there is always plenty of room for one more at the dining room table.

Verses to share during this time of Thanksgiving:

"Singing a song of **thanksgiving** and telling of all your wonders." **Ps. 26:7**

"Every time I think of you, I give **thanks** to my God." **Philemon 1:4**

"Enter his gates with **thanksgiving**; go into his courts with praise. Give **thanks** to him and praise his name." **Ps. 100:4**

"Give **thanks** to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever." **1 Chronicles 16:34**

"And give **thanks** for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." **Ephesians 5:20**

"They sang, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and **thanksgiving** and honor and power and strength belong to our God forever and ever! Amen." **Revelation 7:12**

We pray that during this **Thanksgiving** season your hearts will be open to family, friends, neighbors and strangers. We pray that your love of God and all that you are grateful for will be evident to those who surround you.



Blessings this season.

Christian Life Committee – Debbie Weaver, Judy Chase, Kim Mann,
Pat Wetzel, Anita Eller

**Be sure to mark your 2017 calendar for Sept 29, 30, Oct 1 for the
Fall LWML Retreat – "Guard your Heart"**

From the Heart Giving Thanks by Kimberly

God gives gifts; I know He does!
I never even asked.
But there across our yard one day,
A streak of gray, from here to there.
Whatever could it be?
Next day beneath a bush it came –
A tiny mew! I left some food and
waited.
Soon out she crept, gray ball of fur –
So cute, so thin!
She let me touch her,
Then I held her – Rosie was her name.
Through the months she grew and
played
Through autumn leaves or Christmas
wrap.
In the spring she helped me garden;
In the cold, lay on my lap.
I knew she was a gift from God;
How else could I have had her?
So was it fair my heart should break
The day he took her back?

My daughter, lost so many years;
God brought her back to me one day.
Oh joy of joys! We laughed and cried,
And held each other tight.
We shared so much, I thought I'd
burst.
So many plans I made.
But two months later she was gone.
Oh where, oh why? *How could this
be?*
Not even a goodbye.

But God gives gifts, I know he does.
He gave us life; He gave us love.
What do we have, He did not give?
He gave it all! His only Son,
That pain would end and Life begin.
So can a heart that He's made whole
ever chance to break?
It feels that way sometimes,
I know.
But I know something more.
Cracked or whole
it's in His hands;
For that I'm thankful evermore!

