

IN TOUCH
DAY OF THANKS

Dear Friends:

Maybe you know all about the history behind Thanksgiving, maybe you don't but here it is, the Readers Digest version....

The tradition of celebrating Thanksgiving on Thursday dates back to the early history of the Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay Company,. though it would not become a national holiday until more than 300 years later. The first Thanksgiving took place in 1621 when Plymouth governor William Bradford invited local native Americans to join the Pilgrims in a festival held in gratitude for the bounty of the season. Fast forward to 1789 when our first President, George Washington, proclaimed November 26 as a Thanksgiving holiday. What was the occasion? Not bountiful harvest, but this was designated as the day to celebrate and be thankful for the U.S. Constitution. Maybe a good idea at the time, but not for long!

Fast forward again to Abraham Lincoln. In 1863 he declared Thanksgiving must become a yearly holiday, not to celebrate the Constitution (which by then had lost all steam) but, this day was to be a day of celebration for all that God had done and that we should be thankful. The celebration day was to be on the fourth Thursday of November. Lincoln was getting close to our modern day Thanksgiving. Fast forward one last time... on November 26, 1941 President Franklin Roosevelt signed into law the fact that the fourth Thursday of November would become a national legal holiday. The purpose was said to be pretty much what Lincoln declared.

A couple weeks ago I asked the congregation for testimony during the service, I asked them to finish this sentence: "I am thankful to God for _____". We got all kinds of great responses. So, how would you respond? Think about it and tell somebody your answer.

Happy Thanksgiving, Pastor Mike

Prayer: Thankfulness, Music Director Search, Shut-ins

Events: AFTER CHURCH SUNDAY: CHRISTMAS DECORATION DAY! Stay, decorate and eat some pizza!