

ROSE HILL

Friends Church



November 2014

Give Thanks

From the Pastor's Pen

By Pastor David

A few years ago, I was asked to bring a devotional for a board meeting so I set out to put together a few seasonal thoughts on "being thankful." I took the letters that form the word "thanks" and made them into an "acrostic questionnaire" of sorts, asking for 6 reasons to be thankful using the letters T-H-A-N-K-S to jump start the thought processes. We each took a few minutes and filled out the list then shared our answers with each other. What followed was a surprisingly poignant and meaningful discussion as we talked about things that we recognized as heaven-sent treasures. Why don't you play along and think of some of the wonderful blessings you have received. (I'll leave a little space after each letter for you to jot down your answer)

"T" stands for "a TIME from the past that is precious to me," Every answer to this question involved a relationship. Isn't that revealing and instructive, that none of the times mentioned were "precious" because of the what, why, where, or when involved? All of them were precious because of the "whom." What precious time from the past can you thank God for right now?

"H" means "a HELP that someone gave to me that made a difference in my life." None of us get very far without some help along the way. Aren't you thankful that God's sends us people to help? And sometimes, He lets us be the one who is the helper! Why don't you Thank God for help He sent through someone when you really needed it, and maybe send a little thank you note to one of those who has helped you along life's path - and don't forget to take some time out of your schedule today to help someone coming behind you.

"A" is used to indicate an "ANSWER to prayer." I can think of many. Can you? Express your thanks to God for His answers to your prayers. Jesus healed 10 men of leprosy and only one came back to say "Thanks." Let's do better than the other nine!

"N" is for "NEW beginnings." God is the God of second chances. He's always ready to forgive and give us a fresh start if we will only seek Him. Think about how God and others have given you new beginnings, then give thanks in a very tangible way by forgiving somebody and letting them off your hook. New beginnings free two people, the offender AND the forgiver.

YOUTH NEWS

DHS Football Feed

On October 23, Rose Hill Friends Church provided supper for the Douglass High School football team and coaches. Jeff and Carey helped cook burgers while Mitzi and DeAnna helped setup and clean up. About ten ladies helped provide side dishes and desserts for the evening as well. Pastor Gabe was asked to share a brief message with the team. He encouraged them with the story of Nehemiah rebuilding the wall and how it related to their football season. "Sometimes work is discouraging and you feel weak and ready to give up, but we can ask our Heavenly Father to 'strengthen our hands' (Nehemiah 6:9) in those times of need." About 35 were fed – physically and spiritually. Thanks for those who served, cooked, and cleaned for this ministry outreach!

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I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:14

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Jr. High Bible Quiz

We are hoping, praying, and planning on having a Jr. High Bible Quiz team hosted by EFC-MAYM this year! This season the Jr. High Quizzers will be studying the book of John, chapters 1-11.

We will have a **parents/student meeting** for all 7th and 8th graders interested in participating on **Wednesday, November 12 at 6:30pm** right before youth group. Starting Wednesday, November 19, we will have practices starting at 6:00pm every Wednesday through the middle of April.

Below is the schedule for the 2014-2015 Bible Quiz Tournaments:

January 17 – Bethel

February 14 – Miami

March 7 – Chandler

March 28 – Friendswood

FCA Night @ Youth Group

On October 29, RHFC youth ministries hosted the Douglass Fellowship of Christian Athletes. There was so much food and candy provided by the church for the fun night filled with games, contests, and a lesson about "standing out" like Daniel did before being thrown into the lion's den. It was great to see the mix of students – from Jr. High to High School, from Douglass to Rose Hill to Andover – a reminder that we are all one in Christ Jesus! The next time we will host Douglass FCA is November 19!

(from page 1)

"K" reminds us of "KNOWLEDGE learned from experience." Many times the experience is awful - certainly nothing to be thankful for - but the thing we learned from it was invaluable. Can you see how God has allowed you to experience things that were uncomfortable, even painful, in order to teach you something that you could have never learned otherwise? He promises to, "*Cause all things to work together for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose.*" (Romans 8:28) Thanks, Lord for teaching us even through the tough circumstances of life.

"S" calls to mind "SOMETHING WONDERFUL God has done for me." While each of us could relate individual stories of God's manifest goodness in our lives, they all stem from His wonderful love, grace and mercy most aptly expressed to all men everywhere in the same way: "*For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever would believe in Him would not perish but have eternal life.*" (John 3:16) Something wonderful indeed! "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift."

Now, go face your day with thanksgiving in your heart and a smile on your face!

Rose Hill Fall Festival

A huge thank you, family, for your prayers and generosity (tons of cookies and volunteering) for the Rose Hill Fall Festival. You may not be aware that it was Gunther's idea to contact the 1687 Foundation and ask for books (500) for our Festival and it was Pastor David who also communicated with them and they ended up sending over 750 books!!! Of course, the whole event was Holy Spirit directed and the results October 11 were wonderful to experience. Starting around 9:00, a steady trickle of folks came by our booth...#40...what a special number!! The United Methodist Church had a bake sale at the corner as you came in the southwest door of the multi-purpose building and across from us was a man and his wife offering samples of chili and taco meat made with his special spices. Everything we gave out was free. Our display was simple, with a large beautiful picture of our church and on either side were pictures of our pastors and their families. You generously provided more than enough cookies, bagged by twos in plastic baggies. The children, of course, were drawn to the cookies, but soon were captivated by the three books, written and beautifully illustrated just for them. Grandmas came by and got books for grandkids that were not with them. We heard from a lady at the library booth (3 booths down from us) that people, as they walked by, would make positive comments about the quality and content of the books. Some even sent others to our booth. Especially after the parade at 11:00, the trickle turned

into a procession. There was such a sense of calm...such peace and joy...the blessing of the Lord upon our gifting. We had something to give and all people had to do was take our gift. Just like salvation. Some people asked, "Why are you giving the books free?" and we told them of the generosity of the 1687 Foundation, which distributes books free of charge to worthy endeavors. All the volunteers, and there were plenty, were having great conversations with old friends and acquaintances as they strolled by, and new friends were made. The two adult books were very well received as well. Few turned down our offer. We ended up giving out 452 books, 20 of Pastor's sermons called "Saved" and a lot of flag pins in the shape of the cross, and I don't know how many cookies. We would guess close to 500. And the cool thing is that we get to do this again November 22, from 9-2 in Douglass. We've been invited to have a booth at the Douglass Church of Christ multi-purpose room so even though it may be cold, we'll be nice and cozy. Be encouraged and keep praying that those who read these books will be drawn to our Savior, Jesus Christ. And join in another outreach for the glory of God.

Your RHFC Outreach Committee



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We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.rhfc.org

Mission Statement

Rose Hill Friends Church,
in obedience to Jesus Christ our
Lord, endeavors to encourage and
nurture spiritual growth and
reach out
to the community and beyond
presenting the Gospel.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday

Sunday School 9:30am
Worship 10:45am
Young Adult Group 6:30-8:00pm

Wednesday - 7:00-8:00pm

Adult Bible Study
Youth Group
Discovery Club - ages 0-3rd grade

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