



**Mariners: No meetings until further notice**

**Women's Fellowship: The next meeting is Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am**

**EVERY MONTH SCHEDULE**

|                    |   |            |
|--------------------|---|------------|
| Sunday School      | Sunday                                      | 9:45 a.m.  |
| Informal Worship   | Sunday                                      | 10:45 a.m. |
| Worship Hour       | Sunday                                      | 11:00 a.m. |
| Commissions        | 3rd Thursday                                | 6:00 p.m.  |
| General Board      | 3rd Thursday                                | 7:00 p.m.  |
| Fellowship Singers | Thursday                                    | 4:15 p.m.  |
| Friday Fellowship  | 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fridays | 1:00 p.m.  |
| Mariners           | Postponed until further notice              |            |
| Women's Fellowship | 3rd Tuesday                                 | 9:30 a.m.  |
| Food Bank          | 1st Sunday                                  | 9:30 a.m.  |

Due to COVID-19, Mariners is temporarily postponed until further notice.

**The Mirror – November 2021**

The Mirror is published once a Month. Information deadline is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month.



Empire Church  
of the Brethren

P.O. Box 215

Empire, CA 95319

Phone: 209-522-4302

Pastor John Price: (209) 480-2778

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, who abides in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."

For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence; he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.



You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. *Psalm 91:1-6*

### **IN CHRIST ALONE**

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;  
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.



### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

**The Family of Norman Johnson**  
**The Family of Darlene Kennard**  
Suzanne Frantz – Cancer, Eye  
COVID – Among Us



## **GOD'S SIXTH PRIORITY:** **ATONEMENT OF JESUS IS EVERLASTING**

People need to be reminded of this priority constantly. The work Jesus did for them is an everlasting work! It is to help us right through to heaven. It is the message of atonement, a message of new beginnings. People need to know and understand the sacrifice of Jesus, and that the blessings of atonement are a continuing thing. Every day we live, we can experience these blessings in our spirit, soul, and body. All of our needs are covered in the atonement. Without the atonement we cannot be accepted by God. See *Ephesians 1:4*. It is impossible to please God when we live in fear! Our lives are covered when our faith and our trust are in Him and Him alone. The reason this is of such high priority with God is that people cannot really serve Him without genuine assurance that their position in Him is safe. Knowing this is real security! There are two things that can pull us out from under the covering. Rebellion and idolatry. Rebellion is on the inside and idolatry is outside distractions. Accept what God has done for you in Jesus and live for Him and Him only.





## THANK YOU!!!!!!!



Thank you all for your showing of appreciation for Kathy and I being your pastor and wife. It is our pleasure to serve God in the Empire Church of the Brethren. Thank you for your cards and gifts of appreciation. I loved my grandfather Price and he loved to eat and he especially loved pie. His wife made wonderful pies and the family enjoyed many of them. I never anticipated that pie would become a tradition here at Empire. But I think we all enjoy it being a tradition in October. Thank you all for opening your hearts and lives to Kathy and myself allowing us to become a part of your church family and your individual lives. Being here has enriched our lives in many ways.

Thank you for your loving kindness in so many ways.

*John and Kathy Price*

## POSITIVE INSIGHTS

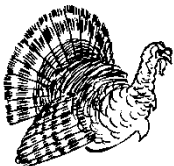
*“And the Levites were purified, and they washed their clothes; and Aaron offered them as an offering before the Lord; and Aaron made an atonement for them to cleanse them.” Numbers 8:21*

When you think of the world, how evil it seems to have become, how old standards seem to have broken down, how mankind has reverted to the filth of Roman Empire days and wallows in it, remember also that there are beautiful mountains and rushing rivers and sounding seas and magnificent forests and that the stars come nightly to the sky and that the sun still goes down in the west in an effulgence of beauty.

Remember also that there are good people, people reaching for the good, people who will not let anything overwhelm them, people who see the surging fountains of the waters of life and who wash themselves in them and become clean and fresh and restored. Be glad that you have life. It is a precious thing. It is awfully good. Keep it good as long as you have it.

**Prayer:** *Our Heavenly Father, we give You thanks for the great power that comes to us from You through Jesus Christ. We are children of God, and to us is given dominion and the power to overcome. Help us to enter truly into our inheritance and exercise our power of standing up creatively to any and every tough situation. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

*Norman Vincent Peale*



## EVERYTHING YOU LEARNED ABOUT THANKSGIVING IS WRONG

By Maya Salam, November 21, 2017



Not to rain on your Thanksgiving Day parade, but the story of the first Thanksgiving, as most Americans have been taught it – the Pilgrims and Native Americans gathering together, the famous feast, the turkey – is not exactly accurate.

Thanksgiving facts and Thanksgiving myths have blended together for years like so much gravy and mashed potatoes, and separating them is just as complicated.

Blame school textbooks with details often so abridged, softened or out of context that they are ultimately made false; children's books that simplify the story to its most pleasant version; or animated television specials like "The Mouse on the Mayflower," which first aired in 1968, that not only misinformed a generation, but also enforced a slew of cringe worthy stereotypes.

High school textbooks are particularly bad about stating absolutes because these materials "teach history" by giving students facts to memorize even when the details may be unclear, said James W. Loewen, a sociologist and the author of *"Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong."*

"That mind-set pervades everything they talk about and certainly Thanksgiving," he said.

### **The timeline is relative.**

The Mayflower did bring the Pilgrims to North America from Plymouth, England, in 1620, and they disembarked at what is now Plymouth, Mass., where they set up a colony. In 1621, they celebrated a successful harvest with a three-day gathering that was attended by members of the Wampanoag tribe. It's from this that we derive Thanksgiving as we know it. But it wasn't until the 1830s that this event was called the first Thanksgiving by New Englanders who looked back and thought it resembled their version of the holiday, said Kate Sheehan, a spokeswoman for Plimoth Plantation, a living history museum in Plymouth.

The holiday wasn't made official until 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln declared it as a kind of thank you for the Civil War victories in Vicksburg, Miss., and Gettysburg, Pa.

Beyond that, claiming it was the "first Thanksgiving" isn't quite right either as both Native American and European societies had been holding festivals to celebrate successful harvests for centuries, Mr. Loewen said.

A prevalent opposing viewpoint is that the first Thanksgiving stemmed from the massacre of Pequot people in 1637, a culmination of the Pequot War. While it is true that a day of thanksgiving was noted in the Massachusetts Bay and the Plymouth colonies afterward, it is not accurate to say it was the basis for our modern Thanksgiving, Ms. Sheehan said. And Plymouth, Mr. Loewen noted, was already a village with clear fields and a spring when the Pilgrims found it. "A lovely place to settle," he said. "Why was it available? Because every single native person who had been living there was a corpse." Plagues had wiped them out.

### **It wasn't just about religious freedom.**

It's been taught that the Pilgrims came because they were seeking religious freedom, but that's not entirely true, Mr. Loewen said.

The Pilgrims had religious freedom in Holland, where they first arrived in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. Like those who settled Jamestown, Va., in 1607, the Pilgrims came to North America to make money, Mr. Loewen said.

"They were also coming here in order to establish a religious theocracy, which they did," he said. "That's not exactly the same as coming here for religious freedom. It's kind of coming here against religious freedom."

"Also, the Pilgrims never called themselves Pilgrims. They were separatists", Mr. Loewen said. The term Pilgrims didn't surface until around 1880.

### **There's no evidence that native people were invited.**

Possibly the most common misconception is that the Pilgrims extended an invitation to the Native Americans for helping them reap the harvest. The truth of how they all ended up feasting together is unknown. "The English-written record does not mention an invitation, and

Wampanoag oral tradition does not seem to reach back to this event,” Ms. Sheehan said. But there are reasons the Wampanoag leader could have been there, she said, adding: “His people had been planting on the other side of the brook from the colony. Another possibility is that after his harvest was gathered, he was making diplomatic calls.” It is true that the celebration was an exceptional cross-cultural moment, with food, games and prayer.

The deadly conflicts that came after, though, created an undercurrent that is glossed over, Mr. Loewen said. Still, “we might as well take shards of fairness and idealism and so on whenever we find them in our past and recognize that and give credit to them,” he said.

### **The role of Squanto is complicated**

Tisquantum, known as Squanto, did play a large role in helping the Pilgrims, as American children are taught. His people, the Patuxet, a band of the Wampanoag tribe, had lived on the site where the Pilgrims settled. When they arrived, he became a translator for them in diplomacy and trade with the other native people, and showed them the most effective method for planting corn and the best locations to fish, Ms. Sheehan said.

That’s usually where the lesson ends, but that’s just a fraction of his story.

He was captured by the English in 1614 and later sold into slavery in Spain, Ms. Sheehan said. He spent several years in England, where he learned English. He returned to New England in 1619, only to find his entire Patuxet tribe dead from smallpox. He met the Pilgrims in March 1621.

### **There’s no evidence that turkey was served.**

There was no mention of turkey being at the 1621 bounty, and there was no pie. Settlers lacked butter and wheat flour for a crust, and they had no oven for baking. What is known is that the Pilgrims harvested crops and that the Wampanoag brought five deer.

“There are primary source writings about wild turkey being abundant in the area that fall, yet they do not specifically mention if they were at the First Thanksgiving,” said Tom Begley, executive assistant at Plimoth Plantation.

Experts agree, though, that there was certainly some wild fowl – possibly goose, duck or turkey – served along with the venison brought by the native men, he said, as those are the only food items explicitly mentioned. “However, there is no direct evidence proving that turkey was in fact served,” he said.

The menu may have also included cornmeal, pumpkin, succotash and cranberries. There were no sweet potatoes in North America at the time.

Contrary to popular depictions, there were about 90 native people in attendance, almost double the number of Pilgrims by some accounts.



*“Thanksgiving dinners take eighteen hours to prepare. They are consumed in twelve minutes. Half-times take twelve minutes. This is not coincidence.”*

***Erma Bombeck***

# SEPTEMBER 2021 STATISTICS

Average Attendance: 26

## Giving:

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Local:         | \$4,650.46        |
| Sunday School: | 0                 |
| Youth:         | 0                 |
| Messenger:     | 0                 |
| Mariners:      | 0                 |
| Other:         | 629.75            |
| <b>Total:</b>  | <b>\$5,280.21</b> |



## DATES TO REMEMBER IN NOVEMBER



### ANNIVERSARIES

14<sup>th</sup> –Jerry & Amy Stokes

### BIRTHDAYS

01<sup>st</sup> –Heather Winchester

02<sup>nd</sup> –Ken Barklow

03<sup>rd</sup> –Wendla Dyer

05<sup>th</sup> –J.J. Storne

08<sup>th</sup> –Erica Price



10<sup>th</sup> –Candice Arellano

18<sup>th</sup> –Clark Hartman  
Tim Vaughn

20<sup>th</sup> –Jerry Goodman  
Harold Harger

22<sup>nd</sup> –Mary Rariden

25<sup>th</sup> –Uriah Winchester

26<sup>th</sup> –Geri Masellis

30<sup>th</sup> –Laura Snyder



*If we have missed wishing you a happy birthday or a happy anniversary, we may not have your dates.*

*Please turn in your name and dates to the church secretary.*

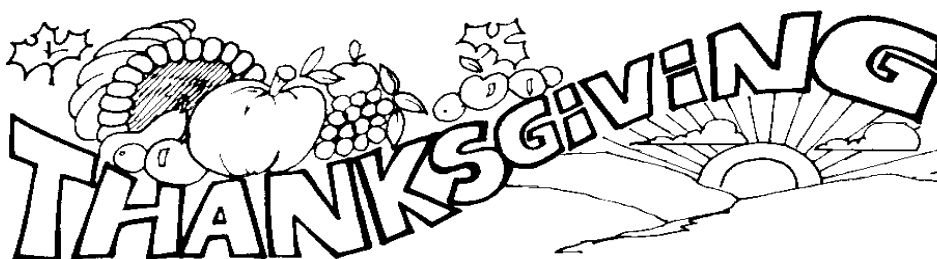
*You are important to us!*

### OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA ADDRESSES:

**Website:**[www.empirecob.org](http://www.empirecob.org); **Facebook:**[www.facebook.com/EmpireCOB](https://www.facebook.com/EmpireCOB);

**Twitter:**[https://twitter.com/empire\\_cob](https://twitter.com/empire_cob); and

**Instagram:**<https://www.instagram.com/empirechurchofthebrethren/>





# NOVEMBER 2021 PRAYER CALENDAR



| S  | M  | T   | W  | T   | F  | S  |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|
|  | 1<br>Psalm 28:1-9<br><br>Sarah Adams<br>Gerald Allinson<br>Alex & Cathy Arellano<br>Candice Arellano                           | 2<br>Song of Songs 2:10-13<br><br>Molly Arellano<br>Donna Ayres<br>Elaine Azevedo                       | 3<br>Psalm 103:1-5<br><br>Ben & Jen Baker<br>Ken Barklow<br>Don & Pat Benton                               | 4<br>Psalm 119:105-112<br><br>Wanda Bollinger<br>Pauline Bert<br>Michael Best<br>Earleen Cadruvi & Fam.               | 5<br>Matthew 5:38-42<br><br>Ron Cadruvi & Fam.<br>Phyllis Caudle<br>Linda Carter & Ivy             | 6<br>Psalm 145:1-13<br><br>Ashley Cooksey & Fam.<br>Naomi Covey<br>Arlene Cupp<br>Charlotte DeHart |
| 7<br>2 Corinthians 5:16-21<br><br>Pastor & Teachers<br>Chuck & Wendla<br>Dyer & Family<br>Jim & Sue Eikenberry<br>Zac Fear | 8<br>Acts 1:4-8<br><br>Pam Franklin &<br>Cherith Franklin<br>Kerby & Heather Frantz<br>Lyndall & Lois Frantz<br>Suzanne Frantz | 9<br>John 10:25-29<br><br>Lloyd Fullmer<br>Jerry Goodman<br>Thomas & Patricia Guthrie                   | 10<br>Psalm 118:21-25<br><br>Harold Harger<br>Clark Hartman<br>Jack & Rosetta Hartsfield<br>Marvene Hilkey | 11<br>Esther 10:1-3<br><br>Ryan & Kelly Heiny & Fam.<br>David & Evelyn Hurlbut<br>Kevin & Deborah<br>Hurlbut & Family | 12<br>Matthew 8:5-13<br><br>Jay Irizarry<br>Randy & Teri<br>Johnson & Family                       | 13<br>Hosea 11:1-8<br><br>Sheryle Knott & Fam.<br>Eunice Lasater<br>Mary Lou Lee                   |
| 14<br>Matthew 9:18-22<br><br>Pastor & Teachers<br>David & Cheryl Leib<br>JoAnn Lusk<br>Norma Lutes<br>Gerri Masellis       | 15<br>Genesis 1:26-31<br><br>Ric Mason<br>Stacy Nelson<br>Suzanne Neptune<br>Kelly Olsson<br>Clifford Parker                   | 16<br>1 Peter 5:6-11<br><br>Brad Parrish & Fam.<br>Tommy Parrish<br>Daymon & Sarah<br>Peterson & Family | 17<br>1 Kings 19:9-12<br><br>Dennis Peterson<br>Oscar Phan<br>Jason & Kirsten<br>Piazza & Family           | 18<br>2 Corinthians 12:2-10<br><br>Skip & Kathleen<br>Powell<br>Jeff Price  | 19<br>Exodus 17:1-7<br><br>Jeremy & Erica<br>Price & Fam.<br>Joel & Susan Price<br>& Family        | 20<br>Luke 15:8-10<br><br>John & Kathy Price<br>Nathan & Kim Price<br>& Family                     |
| 21<br>Psalm 27:1-14<br><br>Pastor & Teachers<br>Kay Qualls<br>Mike & Laura<br>Radcliffe & Family<br>Mary Rariden           | 22<br>Luke 13:22-30<br><br>Charlotte Rice & Fam.<br>Lana Royer<br>Keith Shafer<br>Vance & Maria Shafer                         | 23<br>John 8:1-11<br><br>Vern & Patty Shafer<br>Troy & Joy<br>Slaybaugh & Fam.<br>Marilyn Snider        | 24<br>Luke 9:57-62<br><br>Tony & Laura<br>Snyder & Family<br>Gayle Stanfill<br>Glenn Stanford              | 25<br>2 Corinthians 9:10-15<br><br>J.J. & Soleena<br>Storne & Family<br>Veronica Suderman<br>& Family                 | 26<br>Psalm 145:17-21<br><br>Arthur Syverson<br>Mark & Amber<br>Syverson & Family<br>Mike Syverson | 27<br>Isaiah 49:13-18<br><br>Natasha Towe<br>Carolyn Trent<br>John & Sue Vacca                     |
| 28<br>John 8:12-30<br><br>Pastor & Teachers<br>Tim & Catherine<br>Vaughn & Family<br>Linda Ward & Fam.                     | 29<br>Philippians 4:4-9<br><br>Roger & Cynthia<br>Welch & Family<br>Josh & Heather<br>Winchester & Fam.                        | 30<br>Psalm 8:1-9<br><br>Derek Wyatt<br>Don & Susan Wyatt<br>Donny & Errica<br>Wyatt                    |  |   |  |  |
















**PRAYER**  
The world's greatest wireless connection





# NOVEMBER 2021 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR



| S  | M  | T  | W   | T  | F   | S  |
|--|----|--|---|--|---|--|
|  | 1  | 2<br><br><b>EMERGENCY<br/>FOOD PANTRY<br/>9:00am-Noon</b>                                       | 3<br><br>8:00 am<br><b>Government<br/>Commodities<br/>Distribution</b> | 4<br><br>4:15pm Christmas<br>Choir   | 5<br>1:00pm Friday<br>Fellowship<br>at<br>AJ's Café & Grill<br>2800 Geer Road<br>Turlock  | 6<br><b>HEAVEN'S<br/>BOUNTY<br/>THRIFT<br/>SHOP<br/>9:00am-2:00pm</b>  |
| 7<br><br>Daylight Saving<br>Ends 2:00am<br>(Set clock back 1 hr.) | 8  | 9<br><br><b>EMERGENCY<br/>FOOD PANTRY<br/>9:00am-Noon</b>                                       | 10  | 11<br><br>4:15pm Christmas<br>Choir  | 12  | 13<br><b>HEAVEN'S<br/>BOUNTY<br/>THRIFT<br/>SHOP<br/>9:00am-2:00pm</b> |
| 14<br><br>All Church<br>Thanksgiving<br>Dinner                    | 15 | 16<br><br><b>EMERGENCY<br/>FOOD PANTRY<br/>9:00am-Noon</b><br>9:30am Women's<br>Fellowship Mtg. | 17  | 18<br><br>4:15pm Christmas<br>Choir<br>6:00pm Board<br>Meeting             | 19<br><br>1:00pm Friday<br>Fellowship<br>at<br>Golden Bowl<br>in Hughson | 20<br><b>HEAVEN'S<br/>BOUNTY<br/>THRIFT<br/>SHOP<br/>9:00am-2:00pm</b> |
| 21   | 22 | 23<br><br><b>EMERGENCY<br/>FOOD PANTRY<br/>9:00am-Noon</b>                                    | 24  | 25<br><br><b>Thanksgiving<br/>Day</b><br>Church Office Will<br>Be Closed | 26  | 27<br><b>HEAVEN'S<br/>BOUNTY<br/>THRIFT<br/>SHOP<br/>9:00am-2:00pm</b> |
| 28   | 29 | 30<br><br><b>EMERGENCY<br/>FOOD PANTRY<br/>9:00am-Noon</b>                                    |   |  |   |  |

## EVERY SUNDAY

- 9:45am Sunday School
- 10:45am Informal Worship
- 11:00am Worship Hour