The Hill Country Connection

November 2026

Hill Country Christian Church
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Welcome to November! Once again, we come upon the holiday season, having made it through All Hallow's Eve. We should talk about Halloween since it can be very controversial. Did you know that Halloween began as a Christian holiday? Back in the day (way back in the day) October 31st began an observance of what was known as Allhallowtide, a time in the Christian liturgical calender to remember the dead, including saints (aka hallows), martyrs, and the faithful departed. November 1st is All Saints Day (or All Hallows Day) to honor the faithful departed. November 2nd was All Souls Day, which honors everyone else who may not be saints. And it all kicks off on All Hallows Eve, October 31st. Since we're dealing with the dead the holiday has become more associated with horror and the macabre. But we're through that all now.

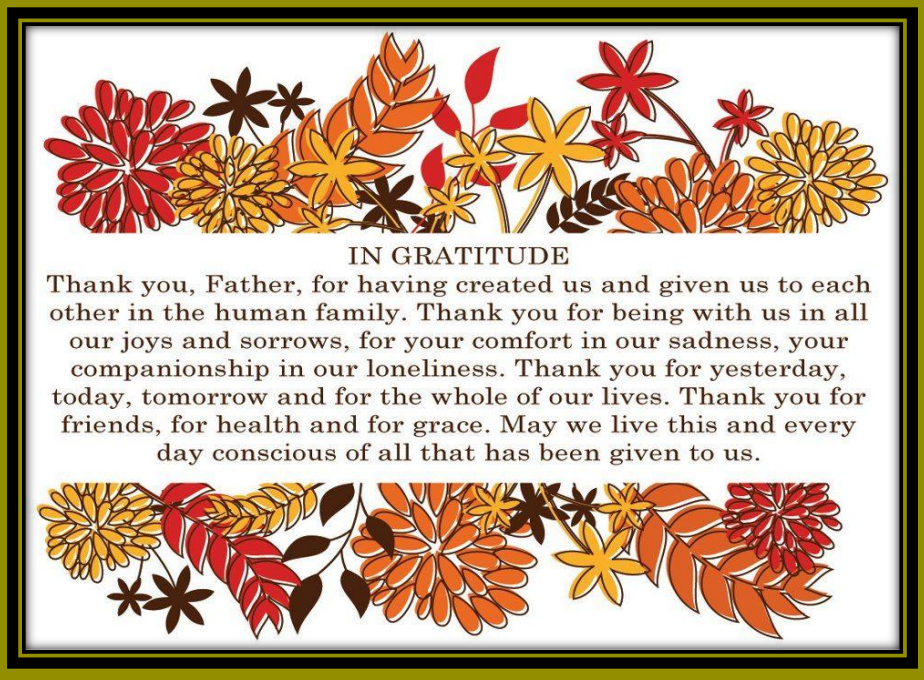
Now it's time for Thanksgiving. Ephesians 5:19b-20 says, "Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, [20] always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

What are we thankful for this Thanksgiving holiday season? Here's the key: our thankfulness before the Lord is not just for the holiday season. This should mark our hearts and minds year round! Even in the throes of my cancer struggle, still I could find little things to be thankful for and I ever thanked my God for those things.

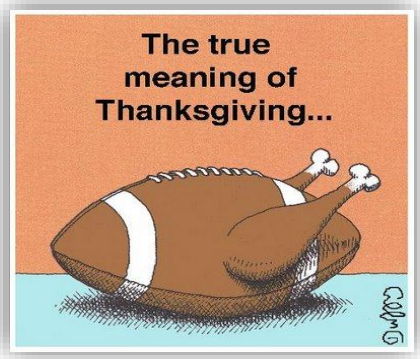
As Paul told the Thessalonian church in 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18, "Pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God will for you in Christ Jesus."

I pray that all of us, even those of us in stressful times, find something worth thanking our God for!

Pastor Keith







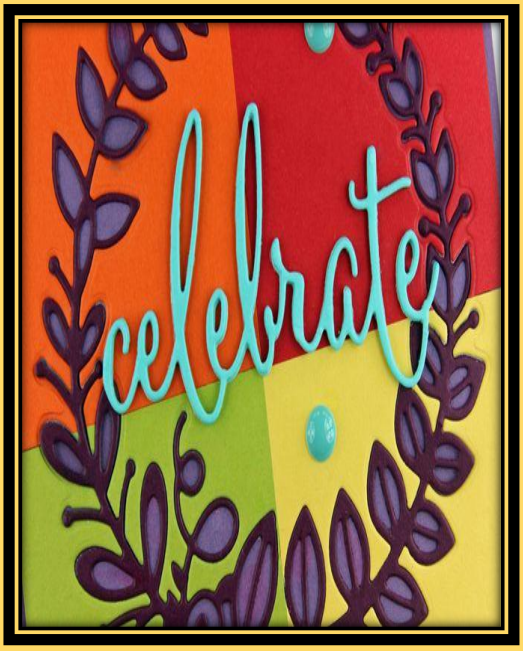




NOVEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

Micha Murray – 1
Cathy Lutz – 2
Carol Banowsky – 3
Karri Garcia – 3
Mia Lopez - 7
Jody Prather - 9
Jai-Lin Patterson - 10
Kendall Martinez - 12
Annabeth Lopez - 16
Al Ramsey - 19
Kevin Patterson - 19
Andrew Davila - 21
Jane Chevalier - 25
Roxanna Brockmeier - 26
Finix Lopez - 30



ANNIVERSARIES

Tim & Melissa Bates – 12
David & Carla Chipman - 15
Terry & Victoria Schwab - 27

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The 2026 Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 15th, at the very beginning of the Worship Service. The purpose of the meeting is to cast your vote to approve the Officers nominated to serve in 2027 and also the 2027 church budget.

And so you'll know who you will be voting for, below is the 2027 Slate of Officers:

Moderator:	Scott Shackelford
Vice Moderator:	George Phair
Treasurer:	Terry Miller
Secretary:	Mary Ramirez

Elders:	Charlotte Phair
	Dixie VanEydne
	Marilyn Shackelford
	Joan Miller

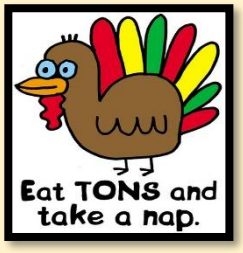
Deacons:	Marsha Johnston & Jerry Kelley
	Juan & Mary Ramirez
	Bill & Roxanna Brockmeier
	Betsy Hart & Betsy Morgan

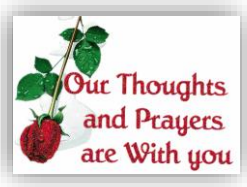
Trustees:	Juan Ramirez
	Marsha Johnston
	George Phair

The meeting will be very brief, worship will follow, and then we will get to enjoy the.....

Thanksgiving Potluck

The church is providing the turkey and ham so we are asking all of our wonderful cooks if you would bring one of your favorite holiday side dishes to share. This is one of the best Potlucks, if not the best, we have all year because the food is always so exceptional.





Please continue prayers for Sam & Melody Rodriguez – Sam is receiving PT at home and is doing better. Also for Roxanna and Bill Brockmeier. Roxanna is recovering well and we hope to see her soon. Marilyn Shackelford (aka Snaggletooth) is also healing well but needs a lot of repair work. And lastly, Ann Underwood who had a pacemaker implanted on 10/27. Please continue to remember these special people in your prayers.

POINSETTIAS & DECORATING

Christmas is coming and the holiday poinsettias are now on sale for $12.00 a piece. Order forms will be on a table just outside the Sanctuary and payments can be given to Marsha Johnston or the church office.
Also, if you wish your purchase to be in "honor of" or in "memory of" someone, please indicate their name(s) on the form.

Also, we will be decorating the church for Christmas on Monday, November 23rd starting at 10:00 a.m. and we need volunteers so please plan to come and help – it will be very appreciated!!

Now something to make you smile – this never gets old.....














HELP!




HAPPY THANKSGIVING!














The “Pre-Thanksgiving” Talk...
Look, when the family comes over for Thanksgiving, it’s literally going to be raining food. People drop things, peas roll off plates, gravy drips, things happen. So stay alert!






So Very Thankful



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 am – Bible Study 10:30 am Worship Service All Saints Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 9:30 am – Bible Study 10:30 am Worship Service	9	10	11	12	13	14 8:30 am – Men's Breakfast
15 9:30 am – Bible Study 10:30 am Worship Service Potluck Congregational Mt	16	17	18	19 6:00 pm – General Board Meeting	20	21 10:00 am – CWF Meeting & Luncheon
22 9:30 am – Bible Study 10:30 am Worship Service	23 10:00 am – Decorate Church for Christmas	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day	27 5:30 pm - Bulverde Christmas Tree Lighting Downtown Bulverde 3:30 pm to 8:30 pm for volunteers.	28
29 9:30 am – Bible Study 10:30 am Worship Service First Sunday of Advent	30					











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