

3443 West 12600 South, Riverton, Utah 84065, Phone # (801) 446-6828

Church Events

December

Every Sunday

- Sunday School - 9:45am & Worship Service - 11am

Every Sunday Night

- Home Fellowship Study & Dinner (@ Head's or Coleman's Home) - 6pm

Every Wednesday

- Midweek Study - 7pm

2nd – Hockey Game
Night Out – 6pm

4th – Communion
- Fellowship Potluck
(after service)

7th – Dinner & Study – 6pm

8th – Women's Bible Study
Beth Moore
Series – 7pm

9th – Christmas Party/
Square Dancing -
6pm

11th – Church Business
Meeting (after
service)

14th – Dinner & Study – 6pm

22nd – Women's Bible Study
Beth Moore Series –
7pm (tentative)

24th – Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service –
6:30pm

25th – **Merry Christmas!**

**12/09/11 – Christmas Party/
Square Dancing**



Come on in and join us for a night of square dancing at the South Valley Baptist Christmas Party '11! There will be a light dinner, pie contest, and prizes!

Thanksgiving, a blur?

What has happened to the Thanksgiving Day Holiday? Of course, it will always be around. However, at times it feels as though we sort of get it out of the way to prepare for Christmas. Department stores even start their visual preparations as early as the end of September. This year, some Thanksgiving meals were interrupted because people had to work on Black ... Thursday? Christmas music starts playing in the beginning of November. On KLOVE (Christian Radio Station) there was a discussion on the subject, how early is too early to play Christmas music? Some argued that we can play Christmas music all year long and others argued we need to

set aside a time of thanksgiving before Christmas music is even played. More importantly, as a nation, do we leave room for thanksgiving within our hearts or do we focus solely upon our own selfish pursuits? Is thanksgiving residing within our own individual lives, flowing outward toward God and others, or is it unappreciated and really just a blur in our lives?

Think about Thanksgiving for a moment. What is the first thing you honestly think about when you think about this Holiday? Turkey, right? It's not to condemn, it could just be what our culture pushes. That's the very first thing this author thinks of. Perhaps you think

about ALL of the fixin's, pumpkin pie, football, or family. These things can be a blessing; however, they really have nothing to do with an actual thanksgiving. We consume thousands of calories in a sitting and say, "By the way God, appreciate the abundance of feed. We'll see ya later." Question, what if we were without the abundance? Would we still have a thanksgiving within our hearts, one which flows outward toward God and others?

Within scripture there is a thanksgiving that is described as a sacrifice, it is done of a willing heart, and the LORD is the prime focus:

... when ye will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving unto the LORD, offer it at your own will. On the same day it shall be eaten up; ye shall leave none of it until the morrow: I am the LORD. Therefore shall ye keep my commandments, and do them: I am the LORD. Neither shall ye profane my holy name; but I will be hallowed among the children of Israel: I am the LORD which hallow you, That brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I am the LORD." (Leviticus 22:29-33)

Does this resemble in any way our own Thanksgiving? It's understood that Leviticus is not talking about a Holiday, however, it is talking about a true thanksgiving. The (Puritan) "Separatists" who

established the Plymouth Colony in Massachusetts in the year 1620, escaping the grips of the corrupt system of the Church of England, knew what true thanksgiving was. About a hundred pilgrims set sail on the Mayflower for New England, hoping to find a new home where they could live out their Christian faith freely. What did their thanksgiving look like? History has it that when they first made it to the new land, life was very hard. Due to the harsh conditions and lack of abundance, history gives us a different story than what is commonly shared with our children. There was actually a point in time where more graves were being dug out by the pilgrims than huts were being built. However, they

were truly thankful toward God, and they shared what they did have with others, even to the natives of the land. They did leave room for thanksgiving within their hearts, even in spite of everything they had faced.

As prayer was found in the heart of David when the LORD revealed to him His plan to build a house (2 Samuel 7:27), is thanksgiving found in your heart, in light of all that the LORD has done and will do in your life? Would it be found in spite of what your situation is, good or bad? Is it found on Thanksgiving Day AND on any day of the year? **(Continued on Pg. 2)**





"... thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

~ Paul the Apostle, thankful on the hope of the resurrection



South Valley Baptist Christmas Party '11

Come and enjoy a celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Dec. 9th @ 6pm at SV! It's going to be a great opportunity for us to gather and have a good time, celebrating our God who took upon human flesh to save us from our sins and to reconcile us back to Himself. In our celebration we will have a light dinner (various sandwiches w/ various sauces, drinks, and snacks), a time of square dancing (w/ a professional caller), a baked dessert contest (judged by our pastor), and prizes!

Thanksgiving, a blur? (Continued)

Paul wrote about a true thanksgiving we should have, instead of worry, when we approach the LORD with prayer and supplications: "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)

Within our culture, where me - myself - and I are the prime focus, it is all too easy to forget about being thankful to our great God. Let us never forget and let our thankful hearts toward Him not only be revealed by our lips, but may they be revealed by our lives. The Thanksgiving Day Holiday has come and gone, however, as Christians ...

"Let us (continually) come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods." (Psalm 95:2-3) ~ **Chris J.**

Church History – Quick Facts on the Baptists

What was the first official "Baptist" Church?

- The first Baptist church was founded in 1611 or 1612 in London, England by a John Smyth, who had come under the influence of the Mennonites in Amsterdam.

Who were the first main groups of "Baptists?"

There were two main groups of Baptists:

- General Baptists, named for their Arminianist (founder Jacobus Arminius) theology of general atonement (Christ's sacrifice was for all in general).
- Particular Baptists, named for their Calvinistic (founder John Calvin) theology of particular atonement (Christ's sacrifice was solely for the elect in particular).

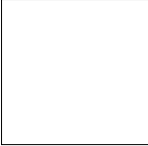
What was the first Baptist Church of America?

- The first Baptist church in America was founded by a Roger Williams in 1638 in Providence, Rhode Island (which state was just forming).

Did you know that there are basically three main theories on our roots?

- We have always been completely separate from the Roman Catholic System.
- We came from the Anabaptist (re-baptized) Movement.
- We came from the Puritan Movement, the "Separatists" of this Movement.

In reality though, the recent "Movement" is secondary. We are simply one group of a number of Christian groups that desired to get back to the simplicity of Jesus Christ, found solely in the Scriptures.



SouthValley Baptist Church

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***"Speaking the
truth in love."***

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