



HOME TEAM

SCOUTING REPORT

A Life Of Thanksgiving

*I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.
I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High. - Psalm 9:1*

When we search the historical documents and rewind back to 1621, we find America's first autumn harvest feast between the colonists and the Wompanoag Indians. Supposedly, it lasted for three full days in Plymouth, Massachusetts, at the close of their first successful corn harvest. It was a rough start for these Pilgrims and I'm sure they didn't call that feast, Thanksgiving. Between 1621 and 1863, American's struggled as they settled into a new land with new laws, and yet striving for new freedoms. It wasn't until 1863 that Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held each November.

Today, we live much differently than our forefathers, experiencing incredible conveniences and luxuries. So much has changed, including the celebration of Thanksgiving. Today, Thanksgiving has become more of a day to feast on good food, watch football, and enjoy time off with family. There is nothing wrong with those things, especially when thanks is given to God.

But what should Thanksgiving really look like for a Christian? Henry Van Dyke said, "Gratitude is the inward feeling of kindness received. Thankfulness is the natural impulse to express that feeling. Thanksgiving is the following of that impulse." Basically, it's a life transformation from the inside to the out! I can agree with that, especially as a Christian.

When we truly grasp the grace and mercy of God shown to us, and when we comprehend the forgiveness and act of Jesus Christ's sacrificial life, our hearts should be changed. The gift of forgiveness and eternal life should leave us speechless and at the same time praising God. It is God who satisfies, sustains, and saves. He provides food, shelter, family, friends, clothing, a job, and the strength we need for each of these things.

Thanksgiving is not a one-day Holiday, and it's more than a short season between Halloween and Christmas. Thanksgiving is a lifestyle of a godly person. Daily we can praise God for who He is and what He has done. Weekly we can gather with other believers and praise God for who He is and what He has done.

We thank God for what He has done in us. We also thank God for what He is doing through the ministry of FCA! Thank you for your faithful support, prayers, and kindness shown to our staff and volunteers! May God bless you for your generosity and love shown by supporting us.

As you celebrate the Holidays, take time every day to give God thanks! Let the Spirit of God transform your heart, creating a lifestyle of praise and giving thanks to God.

Rex Stump, Area Director

2024 Upcoming Events



Champions Banquet - March 24, 2024

An incredible night of celebration, praising and rejoicing in what God has been doing in NW Ohio and honoring our student leaders.



All-Abilities Camp - June 7 & 8, 2024

This two-day camp with adaptive activities is open to individuals with all disabilities - physical and non-physical. The experience is one where they get to be athletes and enjoy a time of utilizing their own special abilities that God has given to them. Campers are assisted by trained buddy volunteers.



Leadership Camp - July 13-17, 2024

FCA Camp is all about inspiration and perspiration! Students focus on learning practical skills for leadership, while being empowered in their faith!



Golf Scramble - September 21, 2024

Our fall annual fundraising event where the proceeds are used to cover the expenses of our FCA Leadership Camp.



Thanksgiving Prayers!

We don't always know the exact words of our students when they lead their teams in prayer, but we do know they often give thanks. After the competition ends, it is our desire to circle up and thank God for the opportunity to use the gifts He has given, as well as pray for healing and safe travels.



Team Times

Team Times, led by one of our staff, is a 3-5 minute talk in practice or at the end of practice to share positive characteristics of a competitor. It's usually something the players can use on the field/court and off the field/court.



Pictured Above: Patrick Henry XC team thinking about and writing out one negative thought they have during XC and another in their overall life. Then, writing down a positive thought to counter it. It all boils down to...they feel they aren't enough. The message? They are enough in Christ!



Pictured Above: Hicksville XC team using bicycle tubes learning what it means to be stretched in life during difficult times. Armed with God's Word, they can decide now how they will react during those hard times.