

FPCC NEWSLETTER

FELLOWSHIP OF THE PENTECOSTAL CHURCHES IN CHICAGO

Giving Thanks

Rev. John Thomas

The summer of 2006 is finally over. We saw the arrival of the fall season with its magnificent display of colors all around us. We anticipate a beautiful winter season. We should thank God for His wonderful creation, not because we experienced this glorious change of seasons, but because we enjoy His presence daily in our lives. "Forget not all his benefits" the psalmist says in Psalm 103. Those benefits include sins forgiven, good health, friends, family, food, shelter, so on and so forth.

Thanksgiving is mentioned 140 times in the bible, and we know that Paul tells us to give thanks in everything (1 Thess 5:18). Daniel did not forsake his customs of praying and giving thanks, despite a change in the law of the land (Daniel 6: 10). David blessed the Lord with all that is within him (Psalm 103:1). Luke 17:11-19 tells us of a grateful leper who returned to give thanks to our Lord, and Jesus had compassion on this infected person. We are also the recipients of His compassion. It is that compassion that led him to give thanks on the night He was betrayed (1Cor.11: 23-24). So we, too, ought to be thankful.

We should be thankful for the essentials of life (1 Tim6:8), the elements of life, and everything in life.

For all things work together for the good of those who love God (Rom 8:28).

Jesus said, "In the world you will have tribulations but to be of good cheer" (John16:33). In the middle of trouble, our one source of comfort is our Helper to whom we look up. Looking up to the Helper makes us thankful people. It allows us to realize our dependence upon God. When the world is in a rat race for success, achievements, and status, can we focus on God with a thankful heart? Could we be content with such things as we have? Covetousness, greed, lusting for possessions, and the love of money are all traps that distract us from God. Being content is the remedy. Paul again says, "A thankful heart made him contented all the time" (Phil4:11-12). His contentment was not based on what he had, but Christ made him content in all conditions (v.13). Thankful people rejoice in what they have and refuse to be ruled by what they don't have. Thankful people realize that it is God that gives us everything we have. (James 1:17)

It is my prayer that we give thanks this season for the "benefits" we enjoy, as children of God, and our contentment in knowing Christ and serving Him.

Monthly Meeting

PLACE: **Hebron Gospel Center**
2430 Ballard Road
Desplaines, IL

DATE: **November 18, 2006**

TIME: **6:00 Pm**

List of Programs

Presided by	Sharon church
Malayalam songs	Ebenezer church
English songs	TBA
Psalm reading	Bethel church
Youth message	Gilgal Church
Main message	Pr. K. George-IPC Bombay
	Pr. Sam Ninan

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UPCOMING EVENTS

CCF youth meeting

- November 17, 2006 at 6.30 Pm
 - At ICAG
 - Speaker Pr. Sam Ninan
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ICAG fasting prayer

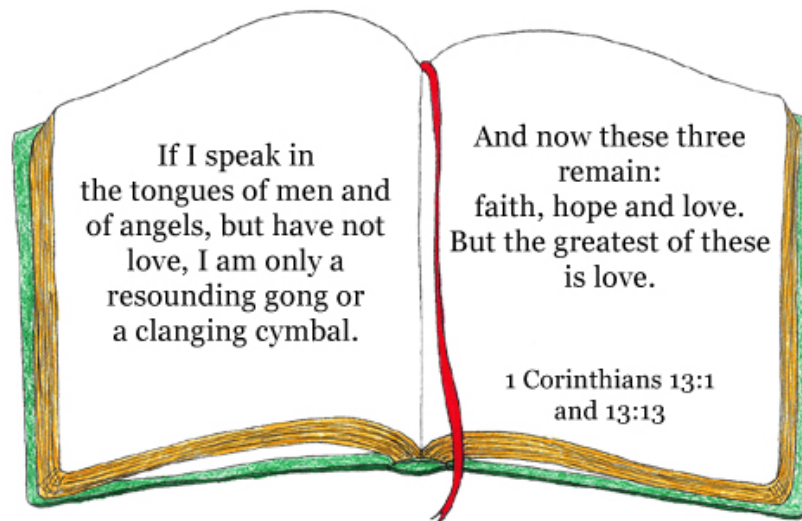
- November 20, 2006 thru December 10, 2006
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Chicago Sisters fellowship meeting

- December 9, 2006 at 10.00 Am
 - IPC Hebron
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FPCC annual committee meeting

- December 16, 2006 at 5.00 pm
 - IPC Hebron
 - Annual report
 - Selection of office bearers for 2007
 - Pastor and two reps from each churches are requested to attend
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