

## THANKSGIVING 2009

Dear Grace Church Family,

I hope and pray that this finds you well. When you think of giving thanks what first comes to mind? We have just come through the difficulties of a storm. Many if not most of our congregation lost something. Some lost just electrical power; others had some damage to property. All things that can be restored renewed or replaced. Thanks be to God all human life was spared. I shared recently that even in the midst of storms we can and should pray. When we do this, it empowers us because we are connected to the most powerful source of all: God. It is God who protects. It is God who provides. It is God who sustains. It is God who blesses. It is God who forgives. We should be thankful for all those resources and more.

Relationships are really the most important things in our lives. Our relationship with God. Our relationships with our family. Our relationships with friends. We cherish these relationships because when they are healthy they enhance us. They are reciprocal because they give and we give. We receive and they receive. This is true, even with God. Many of you ask the question, 'What can we give God?' Praise and thanksgiving is one of the greatest gifts that we can give to God. We can even bless God when we praise him. We can even minister unto God when we worship Him. This year, as in the past, we will give out complete Thanksgiving dinners to needy families. This year we are feeding 125 families. This is an ambitious undertaking, but because of your generosity we are able to do so. We depend very heavily on the Thanksgiving offering as we come to the end of the year. Please be generous the envelope is already in your tithe and offering box. The vestry has suggested fifty (\$50) dollars, but whatever you give will be used to continue the work of God's Kingdom. Happy Thanksgiving! I am

Faithfully,

Father Harold James Cobb, Jr. D.D.