

A Time to Reflect...



2016-2017 Board of Directors
Back row: Jonathan Vest, Lynwood Allen, Wesley Goff, Kevin Hubbard, James Shortt **Front row:** Daniel Grim, Rhonda Turpin, Shelby Quesenberry, Russell Stump

At this time of year, it is easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the holidays, the gift buying, the parties, family events, and checking off the "To Do" lists. I thought it would be appropriate to take a few minutes to slow things down and take into account all the things we have to be grateful for.

Unfortunately, we may not always realize how truly fortunate most of us are. Most of us have more than enough.... and that's okay. Be proud of what you have accomplished and grateful for the opportunities that you have experienced and the friends you have met along the way. I encourage you to relax, breathe, and take stock of what you have and the things that are truly important.

Should you lose every material thing you own in an unexpected moment, what would you be left with? Your family, your friends, your health, your faith, your heart, your intelligence? These are the core of who you really are. Be thankful for the things money cannot buy. Be grateful for the abilities you have to help others throughout the year. Be especially grateful when someone helps you.

As I take a moment to reflect, I am grateful for all of you: our members, our Board, our viewers, our employees, our neighbors, and our family and friends. Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home and a stranger into a friend.

I wish you all the best in this holiday season.

- Greg Sapp



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Holiday Tree and Light Safety Tips



Tree Safety

- Never use candles as decorations.
- Keep trees away from heat.
- Never use a cut tree in a place of public assembly (apartment or hotel lobbies, restaurants, etc.)
- Water a cut tree daily.
- Use a "non-tip" style tree stand.
- Use only fire retardant decorations.
- Never leave a lit tree unattended.
- Dispose of your tree properly, soon after the holiday, before the needles dry out.
- Artificial trees should have a fire retardant label.
- Never hang lights on a metallic tree.

Light Safety

- Unplug all lighting before retiring for the evening or leaving the house.
- Purchase lights and electric decorations which are listed by an approved testing agency such as Underwriters Laboratory (UL).
- Check all lighting for frayed wires, broken plugs, sockets, etc.
- Never overload outlets. Use no more than three strands of lights on a single extension cord.
- Never use candles on trees, near live or other flammable decorations.
- Blow out candles before leaving the room. Don't leave candles burning unattended.
- Consider buying new energy efficient LED lights that don't get as hot.
- Always use appropriate weatherproof lights outdoors.