



SAT, DEC 7 | 9-11am
Faith Lutheran Church | 4505 River Rd N Keizer

Save a little cash and reduce your environmental impact this holiday season. Marion County Environmental Services is hosting a **FREE** toy swap! Bring any gently used, clean toys Friday, December 6th to Faith Lutheran Church from 9am to 1pm. Then on Saturday, December 7th from 9 am -11 am shop for free to find toys and gadgets for your loved ones.

mcrecycles.net



'Tis the season ... to count our blessings

BY LAUREN MURPHY
Of No Adults Allowed

Thanksgiving is the best holiday. Despite being overlooked for the more exciting December celebrations, Thanksgiving will always be my favorite.

Why, you ask, would your favorite holiday be one that most of the world doesn't even celebrate? A very good question, young reader, allow me to explain.

One of the reasons Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday is because it's one of the few original parts of American culture. While most of our holidays came over on the Mayflower (a ship that brought the first pilgrims to "New World") Thanksgiving is something

we picked up when we moved here.

There is some debate about where Thanksgiving comes from.

Some people think it started in 1619 as a religious observance, others think it started 1621 as a large dinner party.

The story goes that the winter of 1620 was extremely hard on the pilgrims. They probably would not have made it through, but Native Americans gave them food and supplies.

At the end of the harvest in 1621, the Pilgrims found themselves with an abundance of food (to have an abundance is to have more than you need). The pilgrims invited the Native Americans over for the first Thanksgiving dinner, because nothing says,

"thank you for keeping us alive last winter," like a nice home-cooked meal.

Another reason I love Thanksgiving is because it's one of the simplest holidays. My family tends to do things low key, but Thanksgiving is particularly relaxed.

We read Black Friday ads, watch football and eat enough food to put us into a food coma. Some years we spend it with extended family but, usually, it's just the four of us.

The patriotism and laid back atmosphere are nice; but the real reason Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday is because, in the midst of all the hustle and bustle every year, I find one quiet moment to count my blessings.



Build a rafter of turkeys for your table this year

I've collected a drawer of leftovers from the crafts I've done over the past years. I wanted to reuse them to create this craft because buying craft supplies is expensive.

Digging through the drawer I found clothes pins, construction paper, glue and sharpies.

Step one: trace the cap of the glue stick on brown paper to make the head. Carefully cut the circle out and glue it to the top of clothes pin.

Step two: fold a yellow piece of construction paper and cut it along the crease

into a triangle.

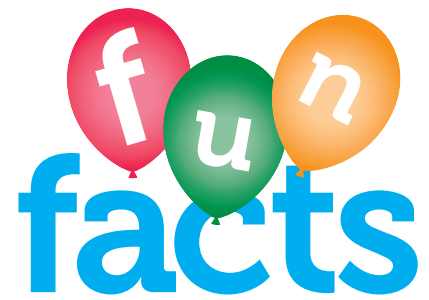
Step three: Glue the beak onto the head. Draw eyes on with a sharpie and we're almost done.

The final step is to find a

pretty leaf that looks like a turkey tail and put it in the clothes pin.

Did you make a turkey? Send us a picture at noadults@keizertimes.com

- Abraham Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving a national holiday on October 3, 1863.
- The first Thanksgiving was celebrated in 1621 over a three-day harvest festival. It included 50 Pilgrims, 90 Wampanoag Indians, and lasted three days. It is believed by historians that only five women were present.



- Venison, duck, goose, oysters, lobster, eel, and fish were likely served, alongside pumpkins and cranberries.
- About 46 million turkeys are cooked for Thanksgiving each year.
- Canada also celebrates Thanksgiving— in October.
- An estimated 50 million pumpkin pies are eaten on Thanksgiving.
- Male turkeys are called gobblers.
- Turkeys can run up to 25 miles per hour.
- Turkeys sleep in trees.
- Turkeys have two stomachs.
- Mashed potatoes are the most popular Thanksgiving side dish.
- There are four cities in the United States named Turkey: Turkey, Arizona; Turkey, Texas; Turkey, Louisiana; and Turkey, North Carolina.

jokeBOX

What side of the turkey has the most feathers?

The outside

