

## Our Thanksgiving

In America the fourth Thursday of November is a special holiday called Thanksgiving Day. It is a time to be thankful for our lives and provisions. Some other traditions (entertainments, purchases) have become attached to the day and the weekend afterwards. The latest ZGBriefs.com weekly newsletter gives the following links to a 6.5 minute story about the history of the celebration. In case the links do not survive in the PDF version I will copy them in the letter.

### **The American Thanksgiving Story**

This video illustrates the history of the Pilgrims going to America and describes present day Thanksgiving celebrations. This would be effective in helping others understand American history and culture, improve English listening comprehension, helping to foster hearts of thankfulness and would be a very good lead-in to excellent small group discussions.

[YouTube \(English subtitles\)](#)

[YouTube \(Chinese subtitles\)](#)

[Youku \(English subtitles\)](#)

[Youku \(Chinese subtitles\)](#)

The holiday is also a time for families and friends to gather for a large dinner. My wife, Gail, and I went to the new home (but old house) of our son, Micah, and his wife, Paige. Paige's father and brother were there, having spent some days helping with minor remodeling of the home. They live in Louisville, Kentucky, the home of the famous Kentucky Derby horse races. Our younger daughter, Maren, and her family (including two of our grandchildren) were also there. Here are some photos of our dinner.



Our dinner food



Kitchen view. Refrigerator door at left edge.



Enjoying the food



Dessert: "Derby Pie" (pecan with chocolate) at left; sweet potato pie (instead of pumpkin) at right

Two days later (Saturday) we invited international students from Colorado School of Mines to our home for a similar dinner. There were two students from China, both Ph.D. candidates. There was a family from Iran, the father being a post-doctoral student. Soon after they arrived we went for a walk in the future park that I manage. Sara (the mother from Iran) gathered several dry plant tops for decorations. Her daughter, Setayesh, enjoyed visiting the nearby horses. We all shared additional things of interest.



Sara and Setayesh in park

This is the second year that we have had international students at our home soon after Thanksgiving Day. It seems like a good tradition to keep.



dinner time in our home

Ed Holroyd  
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