

CELEBRATING THANKFULNESS: FINDING JOY IN EVERYDAY MOMENTS

November is often known as the month of gratitude, a time when we're encouraged to notice the good around us—no matter how big or small. While life can bring stress, tight budgets, and daily challenges, choosing to pause and appreciate simple moments can make a real difference in our outlook and well-being. This season, consider these five small but meaningful ways to celebrate thankfulness right where you are.

## 1. Notice the Little Things

Gratitude doesn't always come from big events. It can be found in a warm cup of coffee, a quiet moment in the morning, a child's laugh outside your window, or even the comfort of your favorite blanket on a chilly evening. Take a breath and let yourself appreciate small comforts—they add up.

#### 2. Keep a Gratitude Note

You don't need a fancy journal. A scrap of paper on the fridge or a note on your phone works just fine. Each day, write down one

thing you're thankful for. It could be something simple like "a good meal," "a kind neighbor," or "a sunny morning." Over time, these small notes can remind you how much good surrounds you.

## 3. Speak Kindness Out Loud

Gratitude grows when it's shared. Telling someone, "I appreciate you" or "Thank you for being a good neighbor" can brighten their day—and yours. Whether it's a family member, a friend, a staff member in the community, or someone you pass in the hallway, a few kind words go a long way.

# 4. Offer a Helping Hand

One of the best ways to feel thankful is to be a blessing to



someone else. Holding the door, checking on a neighbor, or lending a hand with groceries are small actions that build a caring community. Helping others reminds us that we're connected, and that we all have something valuable to give.

## 5. Create Simple Traditions

Gratitude doesn't require money—just intention. Maybe it's a weekly walk with a friend, a family night with board games, or making hot cocoa on a cold evening. These small traditions bring joy and something to look forward to.

This November, let's choose thankfulness not just as a holiday theme, but as a daily practice. In the middle of ordinary days, there are moments of joy waiting to be noticed. By slowing down, appreciating what we have, and caring for those around us, we can fill our community with warmth and gratitude—one small moment at a time.

# OLDEST PRINTED PUMPKIN PIE RECIPE (1672)

Recipe Adapted for Modern Kitchens

### **INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 cup Pumpkin purée (not pie mix)
- 1 cup Apples, peeled & chopped
- 2 Tbsp Raisins or currants
- 2-3 Tbsp Sugar or honey
- 1 tsp Cinnamon

- 1/4 tsp Nutmeg
- Pinch of Black pepper
- 1 tsp rosewater
- 1 Tbsp Butter
- Prepared pie crust



#### **Directions:**

#### 1. Make the Filling

Boil chopped apples in a small pot with a splash of water until soft (5–7 min). Add pumpkin and cook 2 more minutes. Drain well and lightly mash. Stir in raisins, sugar/honey, cinnamon, nutmeg, pepper, and rosewater/vanilla. Taste and adjust sweetness.

#### 2. Assemble the Pie

Preheat oven to 375°F (190°C). Line pie dish with bottom crust. Spoon in filling and dot with butter. Add top crust, seal edges, and cut vents.

#### 3. BAKE

Bake 35–40 minutes, until crust is golden. Cool slightly before serving. Enjoy warm or room temp, just like they did centuries ago.



# ASHLAKE TRAILS

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# **NOVEMBER CALENDAR 2025**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday 1
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2 Daylight Saving Time Ends	3 Rent Due	4 Election Day	5	6	7	8
9	10 Late Notices at 10:00 am	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 Dodson Pest Control	22
23	24	25	26	27 <b>Office Closed</b> Thanksgiving Holiday	28 <b>Office Closed</b> Thanksgiving Holiday	29
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# COMMUNITY CORNER

- Happy Thanksgiving to all!
- Daylight Saving Time ends November 2nd. Be sure to turn your clocks back 1 hour.
- A friendly reminder that rent is due on the 1st of the month. Please be sure you pay on time to avoid additional fees. Late fees for rent will be applied to rent not paid by 10:00 am on the 10th unless otherwise stated. \*\* If you pay your rent and water with your credit or debit card, remember to include the \$5 fee.
- The exterminator comes on the 4th Friday of each month with the exception of this month due to the holiday.
- Office Hours Update:

We are happy to serve you at both of our communities!

Ashlake Trails: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM Ashlake Commons: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

- ► Maintenance Requests: All maintenance requests must be submitted using a Work Order Form and placed in the Rent Drop Box. This ensures we handle your needs as quickly and efficiently as possible.
- ► The after-hours maintenance emergency number is (800)224-4787. This number is for use in maintenance emergencies only.