



November 18, 2020

Thanksgiving Greetings to you.

Thanksgiving is just a few days away. It is hard to believe that the holiday season is upon us. I feel that 2020 has just passed us by. In the last fce Flash a challenge was given to you to take 15 minutes each day and focus on FCE. To think about what you have learned, how you learned to think outside of the box and ways that you could give to others. With our country in the midst of the COVID Pandemic I am hoping that you found ways to give of yourself. The last few days I have seen on TV where a young girl is communicating with a mature adult neighbor by writing messages on a piece of paper and holding it up to her window to say Hi, what is your name, what is your favorite color, etc and the mature adult has been answering her back. What a great way to give of themselves and to have something to look forward to. We all need something to look forward to so hold onto this thought – your board is starting to plan for 2021 National Conference to be held in Erlanger, KY at the Cincinnati Airport Holiday Inn, July 29<sup>th</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup>. More details will be forthcoming and will be posted on our website.

Another way we can give of ourselves during this time is to check on our neighbors. A great way to do this is to use a colored paper system. A Green sheet of paper in the window means that they are okay, Yellow means they need help with running an errand, and Red is they have an emergency. This can apply to any age of neighbor for maybe a young couple needs some help or the mature person needs some groceries.

Thanksgiving is all about being grateful and kind plus the week of **November 22<sup>nd</sup> to November 28<sup>th</sup> is National Family Week.**

Since we were not able to have our 2020 National Conference, we are going to bring some of conference to you. Attached to this fce Flash are the 2020 Essay and Artwork winners and the 2021 National FCE Calendar.

It is the time of year that our Membership dues need to be collected and sent into National. They are due by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Your Pennies for Friendship, which funds our international organization ACWW can be sent in with your dues to national and then your national treasurer will forward them to ACWW.

The 2021 Essay and Artwork theme is “Responsibility”. All of the forms are on our website and can be downloaded from there. Since some schools are doing distance learning, hybrid or meeting in person this will be a time to think outside of your box to have the 4<sup>th</sup> graders participate.

Our FCE members have definitely been adapting to this Pandemic by making many face masks which we all should be wearing to keep from spreading COVID and the way that members are holding meetings. Some have held their district meetings with zoom, some have been in person bundled up for the weather outdoors and one state used a virtual platform for their state conference. What an inspiration our FCE members are in thinking outside the box.

I have attached an article from the land grant university in North Dakota (NDSU) regarding Dinner Parties Reinvented. Since thanksgiving may be different in many households this year this article gives us tips on how to gather in a new way. How about doing a virtual cooking time with your family, plan a great dinner and set a fancy table. This is important even if it is just yourself, we all need to feel special. Use your best china and glassware, placemats, fancy napkins and lastly add a lighted candle or one that you just turn on. Maybe even some special music that you do not always listen to.

If you are gathering as a family here are a couple of conversation starters for Reminiscing:

Name all of the different modes of transportation you have used during your life. (skis, dogsled, horses, etc.); How many states have you visited.

Now that you have eaten that great meal you will need to have a fitness break – lets reach up as if grabbing balloons out of the air or walk in place as if you were walking through chocolate pudding.

Holiday season is the time that lots of baking is done so here is some “Kids Baking” trivia – see if you can get the answers right

How many tablespoons are in a stick of butter – 4,8,12,16?

Crumb coat is a term used to describe an unfrosted cake – T or F

You should sprinkle confectioner’s sugar on fondant, so it doesn’t stick to your work surface – T or F

To measure flour, you should scoop directly from the bag or container – T or F

Eggs are required to make which fruit-based filling – compote, curd, coulis, jam?

Do you know what isomalt is – a type of salt, a sugar substitute, a freezing agent, used in homemade ice cream?

Remember to check the websites for National FCE, [www.nafce.org](http://www.nafce.org) and our international counterpart ACWW, [www.acww.org.uk](http://www.acww.org.uk).

**Hugs and Prayers for Everyone to Stay Safe and Healthy! Happy Thanksgiving!**

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