

Bethankful

Colossians 3:15-17

In Wethersfield, Connecticut, in the old section of town, there is the First Church of Christ which was founded in 1635. The present brick Meetinghouse was built in 1761–1764 with its distinctive white steeple. George Washington attended church there on May 20, 1781 during a conference with Count de Rochambeau at the nearby Joseph Webb House to plan the conclusion of the American Revolutionary War.



Right next to the church is an old cemetery dating from the 1600s. On one of the tombstones is found the very unusual name of a girl. Her first name was “Bethankful.” We can only imagine what was said in her home: “Time for dinner, Bethankful.” “Time to do your homework, Bethankful.” “Time for bed, Bethankful.” “Bethankful, brush your teeth.” If anyone was ever reminded to be thankful, this girl was. They may have had a nickname for her, and perhaps called her “Be” or “Beth” (first four letters). We have no way of knowing if this girl developed into a God-fearing thankful person who rejoiced in all of God’s benefits to her, or if she lived her life always resenting the very unusual name she was given. God knows, but may her name remind us of how thankful we should always be: “And let the peace of God rule in your hearts... and be ye thankful. Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom...and whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him” (Col. 3:15-17).

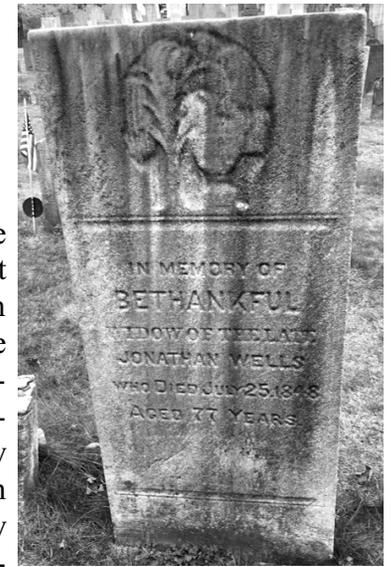
Henry Ward Beecher said, “Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul.” “In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you” (1 Thess. 5:18). “Giving thanks always for all things” (Eph. 5:20). **In short, “Bethankful!”**

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org

Bethankful

Colossians 3:15-17

In Wethersfield, Connecticut, in the old section of town, there is the First Church of Christ which was founded in 1635. The present brick Meetinghouse was built in 1761–1764 with its distinctive white steeple. George Washington attended church there on May 20, 1781 during a conference with Count de Rochambeau at the nearby Joseph Webb House to plan the conclusion of the American Revolutionary War.



Right next to the church is an old cemetery dating from the 1600s. On one of the tombstones is found the very unusual name of a girl. Her first name was “Bethankful.” We can only imagine what was said in her home: “Time for dinner, Bethankful.” “Time to do your homework, Bethankful.” “Time for bed, Bethankful.” “Bethankful, brush your teeth.” If anyone was ever reminded to be thankful, this girl was. They may have had a nickname for her, and perhaps called her “Be” or “Beth” (first four letters). We have no way of knowing if this girl developed into a God-fearing thankful person who rejoiced in all of God’s benefits to her, or if she lived her life always resenting the very unusual name she was given. God knows, but may her name remind us of how thankful we should always be: “And let the peace of God rule in your hearts... and be ye thankful. Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom...and whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him” (Col. 3:15-17).

Henry Ward Beecher said, “Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul.” “In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you” (1 Thess. 5:18). “Giving thanks always for all things” (Eph. 5:20). **In short, “Bethankful!”**

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org