



Office of  
**Jason Crowell** State Senator  
The Crowell Connection

Senator Jason Crowell – Serving Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Madison, Mississippi, Perry, and Scott Counties.

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## Happy Thanksgiving

When the 102 men, women and children boarded the Mayflower back in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, they fled religious persecution in their homeland of England. Stepping foot on Plymouth Rock on December 11, 1620, they were met with the elation of religious freedom but also with the harsh reality of the winter season. They soon learned they were ill-equipped to survive, and the results were devastating. Only 55 members of the



Plymouth colony survived the first Winter. Yet in a remarkable act of faith, when the ship's crew sailed back to England the next spring, all 55 pilgrims decided to stay. Fortunately, Native Americans befriended the New World settlers and taught them

how to live off the land and survive the barren winter. The pilgrims were prepared when the next cold season rolled around, and for that, they were thankful. To celebrate, the Native Americans were invited to a feast of gratitude.

The Thanksgiving celebration was designated in 1863 by Congress to take place on the fourth Thursday in November as "a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens." Thanksgiving celebrations continue to reflect the New World settlers' spirit of humility and being together with those for whom we are most thankful — our family and friends.

The gathering of friends and family around a table allows us to share more than a feast.

With our loved ones, we can relay the instances of kindness that have made us smile over the year and the faith that got us through the tough days. And we can thank the good Lord for giving us one another. I wish you a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving.

### **Contact Me**

As always, I appreciate hearing your comments, opinions and concerns. Please feel free to contact me in Jefferson City at (573) 751-2459. You may write to me at Jason Crowell; Missouri Senate; State Capitol; Jefferson City, MO 65101, or email me at: [jcrowell@senate.mo.gov](mailto:jcrowell@senate.mo.gov) or visit me on the web at <http://www.jasoncrowell.com>.

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