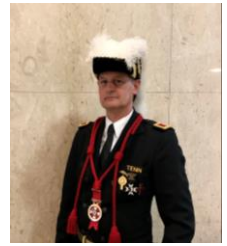




# Tennessee Knight Templar News

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Tennessee – Robert B. Beam, Grand Commander

November 2022, A.O. 904



**“O Give Thank unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever.”**

– Psalm 136:1

*We wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving and we especially thank all our Veterans who serve or have served in our Nation’s Armed Forces.*

## General Order No. 5

October 31, 2022

Knoxville, Tennessee

*To the Officers and Knights of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Tennessee, and to the Officers and Knights of the Constituent Commanderies thereof:*

Sir Knights,

The month of November includes two days of tremendous importance to our nation and in particular to us as Christian Knights – Veterans’ Day and Thanksgiving. Veterans’ Day began as a remembrance of the Armistice that ended the fighting during World War 1, and to honor those who fought in that conflict; it was later expanded to include veterans of all wars, and is a day we appropriately thank those who serve in our Nation’s Armed Forces.

Thanksgiving Day has a long history, beginning with the legendary first Thanksgiving celebrated by those who came here in search of religious freedom. President George Washington issued the first official proclamation for Thanksgiving, to give thanks for the ending of the Revolutionary War and the establishment of our new Constitution; President Lincoln established in 1863, as a day to “heal the wounds of the nation.” On Thanksgiving, then, it is appropriate not only to give thanks for those material blessings we have received from our Father, but also to give thanks for the shared heritage of freedom that we enjoy as Americans.

While we enter this time of reflection and gratitude, let us do so in faith and humility, as we are taught by our Order; faith in God, for it is he who has provided for all our necessities, and humility toward him and love toward our fellow man.

I call upon every Commandery and each individual Knight to engage in appropriate expressions of gratitude during this time, toward those who serve and have served our nation so faithfully in the various branches of our military, and gratitude to God for providing for us and preserving us a Nation. As we observe Veterans’ Day, let each of us find a small way to say “Thank You” to a Veteran. As we observe Thanksgiving, let us render thanks to God for his many blessings and the freedoms we enjoy. As Christian Masonic Knights, let us set the example to the world of what it means to live a life of gratitude, faith, and humility.

Courteously,

Courteously,

Robert B. Beam, Grand Commander

**Upper East Commanderies support Veterans, Ministers**

**Kingsport Knights Hold Veterans Observance**

Six Knights from Kingsport Commandery held a Veterans' Day Observance at Johnson Lodge No. 274 in Fall Branch recently. The Knights appeared in full uniform (minus sword) and wearing their Templar Aprons. Kingsport has a long tradition of holding these observances at various Lodges in the area.



**St. Omer Hosts Fundraiser Dinner for Holy Land Pilgrimage**

On October 7, St. Omer Commandery hosted a fundraiser breakfast dinner in support of the Holy Land Pilgrimage. The dinner was open to the public and area ministers were invited to attend so that they might learn about the program. The guest speaker was Pastor Bill Christian of New Life Baptist Church, who was sponsored by the Grand Commandery to

participate in the Pilgrimage in 2021; he shared his experiences and a number of slides taken by him in the Holy Land. The dinner was well attended, including three area ministers, and helped promote this important philanthropy of our Order while raising over \$400 for the Endowment Fund. The Knight Templar Pilgrim for this year is Rev. Drew McCallie from Hixson.

*(submitted by SK Tim Sutton, EGCC)*

Well Done, Knights!

**Tennesseans support Social Order of Beauceant Grand Assembly**

Mrs. Chuck (Susan) Thames, Supreme Worthy President of the Social Order of the Beauceant, held her Grand Assembly in Atlanta in September. Among those in attendance to support her and the Social Order of the Beauceant were Robert Beam, RE Grand Commander; Robert Waldron, RE Southeastern Department Commander and MW Grand Master; Terry Plemons, RE Grand Prelate for the Grand Encampment. Also in attendance was ME Grand Master David Kussman as well as representatives from jurisdictions nationwide. Mrs. Thames represented Tennessee very well during her term as Supreme Worthy President, and we congratulate her on a successful year.

Pictured are: Supreme Worthy President Mrs. Chuck (Susan) Thames introducing ME Grand

Master Kussman; ME Grand Master Kussman with the Grand Commander and Grand Master; and RE Grand Prelate Plemons delivering the evening devotion.

