

Unity Presbyterian Church

Yoke Newsletter ~ February 2016

Church Calendar:

<http://unitypresbyterian.net/page/calendar>

Prayer Concerns:

<http://unitypresbyterian.net/prayer.php>

From Pastor Andrew :

The Gift of Love

With Valentine's day just around the corner let's take a moment to consider love. 1 Corinthians 13 is a section of Paul's letter's that describes the gift of love which is often used as part wedding ceremonies. In part it reads: *Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. (1 Corinthians 13: 4-7)*

These words offer wonderful advice and guidance when it comes to the relationship of a loving couple. We relate these words to the sacred relationship of marriage, but we can also apply them to our relationships with friends and family.

We will not always agree with our neighbors whether it is in business, church committees, social clubs, charitable organizations, or just chance encounters on the street. God made us a diverse and wonderful people with a multitude of passions, ideas, goals and dreams. We each have a unique way of engaging the world, and our way and the way of others will not always match up. If we are going to be Christians who commit to living the life that Christ calls us to, then we must always be ready to show love to our neighbors, yes, even the ones we disagree with. When we show patience and kindness we are more likely to have a positive experience interacting with others. When we refrain from boasting and let go of envy we make ourselves more open to someone else's unique point of view. Having hope and belief that the other is worthy of our love, breaks down barriers and allows us to really begin to have a meaningful relationship with our neighbor.

This is what Jesus wants for all of us, because God loves us in this same exact way. God is patient with our all missteps and doubts. Christ does not enjoy our wrongdoings but celebrates when we follow the way of Truth. God believes in us, more than we can imagine. That is why Christ came to Earth for us, and Jesus bears all our trouble and endures all our pains and worries with us and for us.

We are free to choose our own paths in this world, knowing that God loves us and Christ forgives us. Because of all the great and wonderful things God has given us it is easy to choose to love. The greatest of all things is LOVE.

May the Peace of Christ be with you,
Rev. Andrew Black

Worship Schedule

**February 7th — Transfiguration of the Lord
Service of Word and Table
Sermon: “Of Glory and Suffering” by Rev. Andrew Black
Inspired by Luke 9:28-43**

**February 10th — Ash Wednesday ~ 7:00 p.m.
Joint Service with Central Presbyterian Church
hosted at Unity Presbyterian Church
Sermon: “Why Bother?” by Rev. Andrew Black**

**February 14th — First Sunday in Lent
Sermon: “Temptations in our Wilderness” by Rev. Andrew Black
Inspired by Luke 4:1-13**

**February 21st — Second Sunday in Lent
Sermon: “Living Through Lent” by Rev. Andrew Black
Inspired by Philippians 3:17-4:1**

**February 28th — Third Sunday in Lent
Sermon: “Of Figs and Hope” by Rev. Andrew Black
Inspired by Luke 13:1-9**

Lenten Challenge for the Potts Food Pantry

As we approach the season of Lent it is a good time to consider the way we offer alms. What would it mean for our food pantry if each week during Lent we brought something to stock the shelves. Just one item per person per week. By just adding a few items to your weekly shopping list and dropping them off on Sunday morning we can greatly increase the efforts to feed those of our community in need. Keep watching the weekly bulletin insert for suggestions on the items the Food Pantry needs most.

The offerings of the Lenten season are not just of monetary or tangible gifts, but also gifts of time and service. The pantry needs YOU. There is a great deal of time and effort that goes into operating the food pantry each month. There is food to purchase, stock, pack, and distribute. Our current dedicated group of volunteers is amazing, but they need YOUR help. Please let Pastor Andrew, Dawn Chapman or Jan Buffington know if you are interested in doing something this Lenten season to help us continue to answer Christ’s call to care for and love our neighbors. ~Pastor Andrew

PIPE ORGAN DONATION

The Session, Worship Committee and Choir are requesting help in making a new organ possible for Unity! We have been given the opportunity to acquire a small pipe organ, in good condition, formerly used in Owens Hall at St. Mary of the Woods College. Paul Ellison learned about this opportunity through his position at Vigo County School Corp. Due to renovations of Owens Hall, the instrument was sold at auction. The individual who purchased it would now like to donate it to a church or school, but the recipient would have to pay for moving and installation.

The best bid for the moving/installation comes from the original manufacturers, Wicks Organ Company, Highland, Illinois. They estimate it would cost \$7,900, which includes travel for the crew, plus 4 days of lodging and other expenses. Several days are necessary because the instrument must be disassembled and reassembled piece by piece.

Session, at their regular meeting this month, were unanimous in wishing to take advantage of this opportunity. Our current electronic organ is not in the best condition and needs regular repairs. They feel that a small pipe organ would have many uses in worship, especially with the talents of our organist, and could be a great asset to a new sanctuary if that is in Unity's future.

Please prayerfully consider if you would be able to contribute or pledge to the cost of the new organ installation, and let Jan Buffington, Financial Secretary, know of your wishes.

UNITY'S ANNUAL FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER FEBRAURY 9 5:30 TO 7 PM

MENU: Pancakes, butter, syrup, sausage, bacon, iced tea, coffee and juice.

Before Lent begins, pancake flippers, Sadie, Albert and Jan, invite you to enjoy their delicious pancakes.

A free will donation will be accepted to cover expenses (any donations over expenses will go to the Potts Pantry).



SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 7th



Bring a can of soup for the pantry and stay after worship to taste great soups!

***VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE BOWL OF SOUP WITH
YOUR DOLLARS.***

(Proceeds benefit Potts Pantry!)

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Remember ALL that we do musically ~We are bringing Terre Hauteans through the doors with everyone's musical talent and our property outdoors. Let us continue to bring in different individuals. Everyone talks 'Music' no matter our birth language. Through our actions we are spreading God's Grace and energy. We have a goal of bringing the Organ to Unity and we can do that together. Much love to the Church Family of Unity. ~ Dawn Chapman

Unity received a thank you letter from the Wounded Warrior Project of their gratitude for your support in the amount of \$200.57 charitable giving in 2015.

We also received a thank you from 14th and Chestnut Community for the candy Unity gave to them from our Trunk or Treat left overs.

Morning Glories

The Morning Glories will meet Tuesday, February 9, at 10:30 at the church. Please read lessons 5 and 6. Join us for Bible Study, fellowship and remember your sack lunch!



View from the Inside - by Camille Church Mouse

We've had it all!! Snow, wind, sunshine with all the ups and downs.

It's been a busy time. We had a great Family Sunday and watched the movie "Inside Out" with popcorn and pizza. It was a lot of fun.

February will be even busier with Lent beginning on February 10th. The Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper will be the day before on February 9. Come join us for pancakes. They are delicious.

Souper Bowl Sunday is February 7 with our fabulous soup competition. Bring a can of soup for the food pantry, your appetite, and money to vote for the delicious soups. All proceeds go to the food pantry.

We will be entertaining The Good Cheer club on February 10. We need volunteers to help with the meal.

The Choir is working on the cantata for Easter and there will be more activities leading up to the celebration of Easter.

Be sure to read your newsletter and bulletin for future events. God's blessings and joy to all of you!!

2016 LENTEN SERIES

Central Presbyterian Church

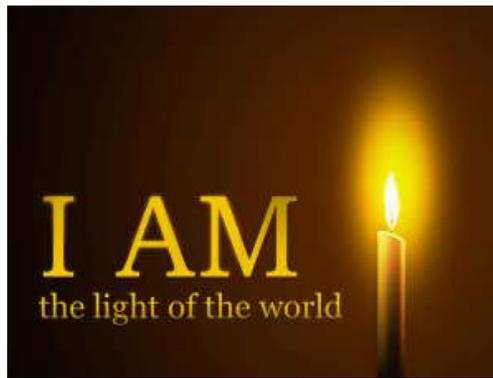
Each Sunday evening

February 14, 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20

Supper served 5:15 – 6:00pm

Worship 6:00 – 6:15pm

Classes for all 6:15 – 7:15pm



All ages will be studying

John: The Gospel of Light and Life

by Adam Hamilton

Adult class led by Alan Harder

Youth class led by Connor Scanlon

Children's leader is Cheryl Moles

Childcare for children age 4 and younger provided

Green Corner

Part of our mission as an Earth Care Congregation is to provide ideas to our Unity family on ways we can all help to take care of this wonderful gift from God. The following ideas may be new or old, however, they all give each of us ways to help with this important Unity mission.

Take re-usable bags when you go shopping.

WHY? Single-use bags are a waste of trees (paper) or fossil fuels (plastic). They contribute to water pollution during production and landfill overload at disposal. Re-usable cloth or paper bags reduce these problems.

HOW? Purchase sturdy, light-weight, re-usable cloth bags and remember to carry them with you in the grocery store or shopping. One way to remember your bags is to keep your shopping list in them, hung by the door, or keep spares in your vehicle, purse or case. Many Europeans shop this way and we can, too.

Conserve energy by turning down the thermostat a couple degrees in the house and water heater, turning off unused lights and computers, and following other tips below.

WHY? Not only will this lower your energy bills, but energy production from coal, oil and natural gas is one of the leading causes of greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change. In the Northwest, these climate shifts appear to reduce our snow pack and water supplies, cause more-frequent damaging storms and have other serious consequences.

HOW?

Home Heating: Reduce the house temperature one degree at a time, and wear a sweater or fleece to stay comfy. At night or when you're away, set your thermostat for lower temperatures. Keep your window drapes closed at night, and close doors to seldom-used rooms until you need them. Caulk windows and doors to keep heat inside and cold air out. Ask your utility company for a home energy audit to find out how to improve your home's insulation and energy efficiency. Purchase "green energy" when that option is available from your utility company. (Green energy is renewable and sustainable energy)

Hot Water: Insulate your water heater and pipes. Turn the temperature on your water heater down to 120 degrees or install an on-demand water heater. Even better, install a solar water-heater system. Take shorter showers and install low-flow showerheads and faucets. Wash your clothes in cold water unless they are heavily stained, and line dry if possible.

Lights & Appliances: The old adage "turn off the light when you leave the room" is still good advice. Install energy-efficient, compact fluorescent lights. They last longer and cost less in electricity. Turn off your computer when not in use for several hours or more. (According to Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, modern hard disks are not significantly affected by frequent shut-downs as the older models were.) Use your microwave, for one-third of the energy outlay of your conventional oven. Choose energy-efficient appliances (look for the Energy Star label).

Avoid unnecessary engine idling. Turn off your vehicle engine when parked for more than 30 seconds, waiting in lines or for passengers.

WHY? When you leave your car or truck running while it's parked or sitting still, the engine produces air pollution. This pollution contributes to problems like smog and global warming, besides being harmful to health. It is more gas-efficient to turn off most warmed-up vehicles than to idle for more than 30 seconds. Idling exhaust is especially hazardous to children around schools, as parents and buses wait for kids. Carbon monoxide reduces the ability of blood to bring oxygen to body cells and tissues. Children's asthma symptoms increase as a result of car exhaust and asthma is the third-leading cause of hospitalization in children aged 14 and younger. The risk of death is 17 percent higher in more polluted areas. Asthma is the most common chronic illness in children and the cause of most school absences.

HOW? A brief warm-up period upon starting a cold car may be necessary, but idling at every waiting location is not. To reduce air quality and health problems, it is recommended that you idle your vehicle no longer than 30

seconds -- not only around schools, but everywhere you drive. For more information on cars and buses, see EPA's anti-idling Web site.

Recycle paper, glass, aluminum, plastics, used oil, batteries, tires, appliances and yard waste.

WHY? Recycling saves resources, energy and landfill space and reduces air and water pollution. Paper comes from your forests and is often discarded to landfills after one use. This can waste landfill space and trees or forests that prevent floods, provide wildlife habitat, and protect your watersheds, streams and drinking water. Metals refined from mining ore leave poisonous mine tailings and require more energy to produce than re-refined, recycled metals. Careless dumping and dripping of used oil can accumulate to as much annual pollution as a tanker spill. Oil never wears out, it just gets dirty. So recycling used oil and buying re-refined oil, as opposed to carelessly discarding it, prevents pollution while conserving a finite resource. .

HOW? Call 800-RECYCLE or visit Ecology's 800-RECYCLE Web site to find locations near you.