

# Unity Presbyterian Church

## Yoke Newsletter ~ June 2017

### Church Calendar:

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

### Prayer Concerns:

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

## From Pastor Andrew :

### As the Spirit Gave Them Ability

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

(Acts 2:1-4 NRSV)

Pentecost Sunday is when we celebrate the Birth of the Church, the day God sent the disciples the Holy Spirit and they received the gifts necessary to spread the Good News of Christ to all the nations. **On Sunday June 4th it is appropriate to wear red which symbolically represents the tongues of fire resting on each of us, the body of Christ, a church answering the call to live a Christlike life.**

On Pentecost literal fire is not likely going to flare up from the Table or burst through the Cross window with a rush of violent wind to fill our worship space, but the Spirit will be there in our personhood and in our commitment to follow Jesus. We probably won't suddenly be speaking in different languages, but we do have many different gifts which the Spirit has already blessed us with to serve God faithfully.

Each of us are called to use these many and varied gifts in different ways. Whether we are gifted speakers, teachers, listeners, financiers, gardeners, prayers, artists, singers, dancers, protectors, mentors, doers, fixers, readers, tellers, sharers, comforters, healers, leaders, followers, writers, bakers, servers, sellers, buyers, mothers, fathers, parents, children, wives, husbands, riders, drivers, golfers, swimmers, hikers, campers, ropers, sewers, knitters, builders, operators, helpers or believers we are all called to use these gifts to the best of our ability to serve those whom Jesus served. How are you using your gifts to glorify God?

With the help of the Spirit we can use these gifts to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ; to serve the orphan, the widow, the poor, the hungry, and the stranger; to build up the body of Christ, in our church, in our community, and in the world. On Pentecost Sunday let's give thanks for the gift of the Spirit and for the unique and special ways we can make a difference, and commit ourselves to share these gifts in new ways in the year to come.

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

### Worship Schedule

June 4th — Pentecost  
Don't forget to wear red  
Youth Sunday Service & The Lord's Supper  
Inspired by Acts 2:1-21 & John 20: 19-23

June 11th — Trinity Sunday  
Sermon: "The Power God Shares" by Rev. Andrew Black  
Inspired by Genesis 1:1 - 2:4a

June 18th — 2nd Sunday after Pentecost  
Guest Speaker Dr. Roland Kohr

June 25th — 3rd Sunday after Pentecost  
Guest Speaker Paul Ellison

### Where in the World is Pastor Andrew

Friends in Christ, I am scheduled to have surgery on June 14th and will be out of the office from then until Sunday July 9th. I will be using accrued sick time and vacation from July 2nd - 8th. I hope to visit friends in Wisconsin if I am able to travel by then. This is all subject to change should the results of Dawn's tests and follow up from last month's ER visit and ICU stay require a more immediate course of treatment. Your prayers for us are greatly appreciated during this time away. I am also very grateful for the Elders of our session, Bess Enright, Dr. Kohr and Paul Ellison for all their help during this time away.

### Growth Giving Challenge for the Potts Food Pantry

Can we rise to the challenge and can we do a little bit more? Last year we did an amazing job as a congregation helping stock the pantries shelves each week. Just one extra item per person per week added to the one item we already bring can make a world of difference. By just adding a few more 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 Food Pantry currently serves about 12 families along with several emergency need bags each month and there is an ever increasing need in our community. Imagine the difference Unity could make if it could double the number of families we assist on a regular basis. With some creative thinking and your help in 2017 we might be able to do that. The pantry not only needs donations, it 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. I hope each of us can spend some time discerning how they might be called to help support the Food Pantry with our time and talents. Please let Pastor Andrew, Dawn Chapman or Jan Buffington know if you are interested in doing more to help us continue to answer Christ's call to care for and love our neighbors. ~Pastor Andrew

### **POTTS PANTRY RECEIVES LARGE GIFT OF FOOD**

On May 2nd, the Potts Pantry was given approximately 2,275 pounds of food from the Vigo County School Corporation's food drive for pantries giving food to families with children. The distribution was organized by the Salvation Army. I was very skeptical about receiving 100 boxes of food but Pastor Andrew was certain we could fit that much food in the pantry. With the help of Barbara Potter, Vern and Dawn Chapman, we found a place for everything in just a few hours. If you'd like to see the full shelves, drop by soon! Since the gift, we have had quite a few emergency bags given out and our regular distribution for May, we have used quite a lot of food. Pastor Andrew and I were very grateful for the help we received. **GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME.** Jan Buffington

**From CG&N and Deacons:**

**Congratulations to our graduates and good luck in your next endeavors. We would also like to express our appreciation to those who teach our Sunday School classes each Sunday.**

**A HUGE thank you to Sadie and Albert for stepping in and taking care of the Graduates and Teachers Appreciation Sunday.**

**We are now getting ready for VBS that is sure to be exciting and full of fun—this will take place Saturday, June 10, 2017, 8 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Please share this great news with your neighbor!**



**This Sunday is Pentecost, please wear RED!  
Thank you, Jane Kohr, for this beautiful Pentecost  
Banner as we celebrate the birth of the church.**

**From Janice McConkey and Linda Kellams:**

**Betty Florence Alcorn, sister of Linda Kellams and Janice McConkey passed away at 86 on May 5. We wish to thank our church family for their thoughts and prayers during this time of sorrow. We especially appreciate Pastor Andrew's visits to Betty at the hospital and giving a very memorable service at her funeral. Also, all who helped with the dinner after the funeral. Thank you, church family.**

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**Shirley Huber is in Meadows Manor East 3300 Poplar St., room 222, Terre Haute, IN. Visits would be appreciated, her sister, Mary Wilkie, posted this information of Facebook.**

### **Morning Glories**

**The Morning Glories will be celebrating summer by having lunch at Bob Evans on Tuesday, June 13, at 11:00 (note time change). Please come and join us if you are free.**



**Greeting Cards: We sent 5.89 pounds of cards to St. Jude Ranch. Keep those card fronts coming!! Save the front of your greeting cards as a mission/recycling project. There is a box in the back of the church where you can leave your cards.**

### **View from the Inside by Camille Church Mouse**



**After a wet month we are still here!**

**We had two more musical evenings at Unity. The Farrington Grove Chorale performed and Andrea Marlow presented an organ recital. I just closed my eyes and listened to the beautiful music that filled the room.**

**We celebrated our graduates and teachers this month. Congratulations to all and thanks to all the teachers for your service. The choir has wrapped up for the summer.**

**Vacation Bible School is coming, the fish fry is soon and other activities are planned. It is going to be a busy summer!!**

**Watch your bulletin and newsletter to keep up-to-date. Lots of activities are planned so come grow with us and be a part of the future.**

**God's blessings and joy to all of you!! Peace and love.**

## UNITY PRESBYTERIAN GIVING GARDEN

The Garden plots are now tilled and available. Please contact Vern and Dawn Chapman 812-917-5341 if you are interested in growing your own vegetables.

### Green Corner

We had the blessing of seeing our fox family playing back by the garden when we arrived for Andrea's recital last week. What a joy it was to see them playing on the property!!

There are also a couple of families of geese that live in the ponds along Poplar and at Deming Park that I get to see on a regular basis. Seeing these families grow throughout the spring is such a joy. I always am sad when they finally get big enough to leave because I don't get to see them. However it is part of God's plan and I always hope that I will see them again next year.

What a beautiful Earth God has given to us!!!!

We are so blessed to have this beautiful place to live. I don't think I could live in a place that didn't have green spaces to enjoy on a daily basis. But this does come with a price. We all have to do our part to keep this world as beautiful as God gave it to us. There are big and little things we can do to take care of this gift from God and we try to remind everyone of these as often as we can.

Reduce, reuse, recycle

Turn off the water when you aren't using it

Turn down your thermostat by just a degree

Use cloth bags at the store

Use reusable beverage containers

The list goes on and on. It just takes the commitment to keep this world as God gave it to us.

Unfortunately, there are those who don't share our sense of stewardship for God's gift and don't care what they do to ruin what has been given to us. Sometimes it's for profit, other times it because they think it's too hard. As God's people we need to be examples for these people and we need to be his voice. Continue to show others that we care for the earth by doing what you can to protect it. When you get the chance to make your voice heard, remind those who only want to profit from the Earth that they are ruining God's gift and sign petitions or write to our elected officials to let them hear your voice.

One of these days we will pass this planet off to the next generation. The future of the Earth rests in our hands and God expects us to pass it on in the same condition that we received it, or even better. Please do your part so future generations will have the blessings of baby foxes playing and baby geese growing up to fly away.

Peace and love! Be green!!!!