

Unity Presbyterian Church

Yoke Newsletter ~ November 2017

Church Calendar:

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

Prayer Concerns:

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

Thankful for God

Sisters & Brothers in Christ,

The seasons are changing; Autumn is here. The leaves are turning color, the air is feeling crisp, and the temperature is dropping. Everywhere there are signs that the Holidays are close at hand. The stores are filled with cornucopias, pilgrims, and turkey decorations in anticipation of Thanksgiving. Every year Thanksgiving is a time to consider all the blessings we have, the food that graces our tables, the homes that will warm us through coming winter, the friends and family we love and hold dear, and the opportunities we have to see Christ in our midst. It is right to give our thanks and praise to God.

While I am overjoyed with gratitude for all the blessings in my life, I am also deeply aware that the Holidays are not a joyful time for many. Countless people will go hungry, several will not find shelter from the coming snows, and too many people live in despair longing for blessings to be poured upon them. For many the holidays are a reminder of loved ones lost, or of relationships broken. For many the holidays bring up thoughts of what is missing instead of what is gained.

Psalm 28: 6-9 is a prayer offered up for thanksgiving, the words cry out to God to take care of those who are in need. A reminder to us that God is good all the time, and all the time God is good.

6 Blessed be the Lord,

for he has heard the sound of my pleadings.

7 The Lord is my strength and my shield;

in him my heart trusts;

so I am helped, and my heart exults,

and with my song I give thanks to him.

8 The Lord is the strength of his people;

he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

9 O save your people, and bless your heritage;

be their shepherd, and carry them forever. (NRSV)

I hope you will take a moment, as you read this passage, to thank God for all the blessings that have been bestowed upon you while keeping those who are

suffering or hurting in your hearts. During this holiday season I hope you will look for opportunities to reach out with the Love of Christ to someone in need, for these opportunities not only bless them, but also bless you.

If you count yourself among those who are feeling less than blessed, I pray that you find strength in God. I pray that the Peace of Christ will surround you and bring you comfort. Please know that I am here and that I want to be present with you to listen, discern, and pray together how God is working in your life.

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

November 5th — All Saints' Day Remembrance
Sermon: "Before the Throne" by Rev. Andrew Black
Inspired by Revelation 7:9-17

November 8th — 23rd Sunday after Pentecost
Sermon: "We Are Witnesses!" by Rev. Andrew Black
Inspired by Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

November 19th — 24th Sunday after Pentecost
Stewardship Sunday
Sermon: "Increasing What You Have" By Rev. Andrew Black
Inspired by Matthew 25:14-30

November 26th — Reign of Christ
Guest Preacher Rev. David Rosen

Where is Pastor Andrew?
Pastor Andrew and his family will be on vacation from November 20th - 26th.

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 are 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

CONGRATULATIONS KATHY MODESITT

On October 12th, Kathy Mosesitt received the Indiana State University Medallion in recognition of her service and dedication throughout her years at the University.

Morning Glories

We are continuing our Bible Study "Cloud of Witnesses" with lesson four, "In Community with God's Messengers." We will meet Tuesday, November 14th at 10:30 am at the church. Bring a brown bag lunch and join us.



Greeting Cards: 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.



**DON'T FORGET TO TURN BACK YOUR
CLOCKS SATURDAY NIGHT**

A Surprise Birthday Card Shower for Carl Wassink's 85th November 17

The Church Office received a call from Carl Wassink's daughter, Jennifer Wassink Baker asking if we, the congregation, could send birthday cards to her father for his 85th birthday which is November 17. Thank you for making this birthday special for him. Carl's address: 1933 S Center St Terre Haute, IN 47802.

VIEW FROM THE INSIDE BY CAMILLE CHURCH MOUSE



It's autumn and it's really cooled off. Leaves and rain and cloudy skies, what a wonderful day.

Enough of that! Loved the Craft Fair. I took care of some Christmas shopping. The Family Night was great with a fire for hot dogs and s'mores. Trunk or Treat was a nice evening. The dinosaur was great and you should have seen Candi's cousin J. I went as Wonder Woman.

The Chicken Noodle Dinner is coming and I'm ready to eat!! The choir has started working on the Christmas Cantata. Fall is definitely here!

Join us for Thanksgiving and Christmas time. Watch the Bulletin and newsletter for activities to come. Better yet, come and join us!! God's blessings and joy to all of you! Peace and love!

Green Committee

The Green Committee led the service on October 8. The theme of the service was helping others in their time of need. Unfortunately we have had several natural disasters in the last few months that have left Americans in real need. Jan Buffington explored the biblical text concerning our call to help others at times like this. We also learned about the kits that our church distributes to those in need and discussed what they contained and why. Hopefully our congregation will be able to work on making these for others. Thanks to all who helped make this a meaningful service.

Recycling in Terre Haute

Many of you know by now that one of the businesses that accepted recycling has closed until Spring. Goodwill is no longer taking recycling in preparation for a new location. This is just a reminder that there is a recycling center at Indiana State University, on north 9th street, that is still open. You need to sort your recyclables but it is available to the community. Check their hours on the website.

If you are in Terre Haute you can also get a recycling bin from Republic. They cost approximately \$20 every three months and are picked up every two weeks. You don't have to sort materials in the bins.

Remember to recycle your plastic, paper, aluminum, glass, and tin. Every one working together will help make this a better for all of us!