

# Unity Presbyterian Church

## Yoke Newsletter ~ September 2017

### Church Calendar:

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

### Prayer Concerns:

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

## From Pastor Andrew :

### The Barman Declaration, a response to nationalism.

The Declaration of Barmen is one of the Confessions we ascribe to as reformed Presbyterians. It was written in 1934 by delegates representing eighteen Lutheran, Reformed, and United churches from across Germany. They were contesting the imposition of Adolf Hitler's National Socialist agenda on the churches in Germany.

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) adopted the confession in two parts. The first, "An Appeal to the Evangelical Congregations and Christians in Germany," states the purpose of the declaration as uniting the church in obedience to the Word of God by the power of the Holy Spirit. The second part, "Theological Declaration Concerning the Present Situation of the German Evangelical Church," insists that the unity of the church stood imperiled by the alien principles being advanced by the so-called German Christians.<sup>1</sup>

With the Barmen we confess Christ alone is God's Word and that scripture bears unparalleled witness to who Jesus is. Trusting and obeying the Word is how the church may be saved, in grace and faith alone. The confession charges the church to be a witness for Christ in a sinful world and reject false instructions to the church that would undermine the message of the Gospel. Barmen rejects any ideology that places a totalitarian claim on that which is wholly God's.

Part of the Barman Declaration reads: "Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom, our righteousness and sanctification and redemption." (I Cor. 1:30.) As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures. We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords—areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him.

**At the time it was written the Barmen Declaration called upon the church to put its trust in Jesus Christ and obey the Word of God alone and not place its trust in the authority of Adolf Hitler. It was the 'enough is enough' stance of the church in the face of terrible atrocities. Today it continues to remind us that no person, nation, agency, office, or institution can replace our living God. We are called to reject all messages from any person, nation, agency, office or institution that contradicts Christ's commandment to love God and neighbor.**

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

**1 Book of confessions : study edition. Louisville, Ky: Geneva Press, 1999. pg 304**

### **Worship Schedule**

**September 3rd — 13th Sunday after Pentecost  
Guest Speaker Dr. Ronald Kohr**

**September 10th — 14th Sunday after Pentecost  
Guest Speaker Dr. Ronald Kohr**

**September 17th — 15th Sunday after Pentecost  
Sermon: "Calculated Forgiveness" By Rev. Andrew Black  
Inspired by Matthew 18:21-35  
Sunday School Kick - Off**

**September 24th — 16th Sunday after Pentecost  
Sermon: "Worthy Living"  
Inspired by Philippians 1:21-30**

**Where is Pastor Andrew? — Pastor Andrew is having the surgery on September 1st and will be out of the office through Sunday September 10th and will return during the following week. September 18th-20th Andrew will be attending a Synod meeting and will be out of the office but reachable by phone and email during that time.**

### **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

## **Our very own craft show!**

**Mark your calendars for Saturday, Sept 30. Get a jump on your covered bridge shopping and join us in the Unity Presbyterian Craft Fair. We have several area crafters selling their wares along with some vendors selling their home business items. Our Trustees will have a yard sale and the kitchen will be open with yummy food for breakfast and lunch. Wow! That is a lot going on in one place, be sure to stop by between 9-2 and check it out!**

## **Morning Glories**

**Our Bible Study is continuing on Tuesday, September 12, at 10:30 am at the church. We are studying "Cloud of Witnesses" about the community of Christ in Hebrews. Please read Chapter 2, "In Community with the Living God." 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.**

### **THANK YOU NOTE:**

**Unity received a thank you from 14th and Chestnut Community Center for the generosity of the Pentecost collection. Half went to them and the other half went to Seventh Sense Youth Group.**

### **Thank You!!**

**I hope you have noticed the work that has been done on our grounds this summer. The garden looks amazing with all the plants that are growing. The hosta garden has been turned into a memorial garden. The front flower beds are full of blooms. There is a very dedicated group that has worked hard this summer to make our property a blessing to us and to God. I hesitate to list names in case I forget anyone. To this group, please know that we appreciate your hard work!!! THANK YOU!!!**

## VIEW FROM THE INSIDE BY CAMILLE CHURCH MOUSE



Did you miss me? I took a few days off to go to the beach (Fowler Park that is) and get some R and R. It's not easy being a Church Mouse!! I have a lot of responsibility .

Old Business – the Hymn Fest was great and the ice cream was even greater. I also must say that the Blessing of the Animals was quite an experience. As Pastor Andrew blessed each animal it was very special. All the seeds were planted in a very special area. Thanks to all our members who made it special.

"Song and a slice" is coming. Get ready for great entertainment and pie! Rally Day is also coming along with a craft fair and yard sale on September 30!! The choir will start soon and that is always exciting.

Keep checking your newsletter and bulletin for upcoming activities. Come and grow with us!! God's blessings and joy to all of you! Peace and love!

## A Thank You to Unity Presbyterian Church:

Thank you for welcoming Mary Youman into the Unity Presbyterian family, Mary was very grateful to have been a part of such a caring ministry.

Our family is extremely thankful for the wonderful celebration of life for Mary that was held at the church. We are especially appreciative of the thoughtfulness and talents of Rev. Susan McGhee, Rev. Andrew Black, organist, Andrea Marlow and the trumpet player, Frank Harding.

The work of Jan Buffington and Secretary Bess Enright, was terrific. The food and helpers from the congregation and accommodations were exceptional. Your kindness will not be forgotten. Thank you very much

God Bless You, the Youman family

## AN INTERVIEW BY KATHY HACKLEMAN WHEN MARY YOUMAN ATTENDED UNITY, THOUGHT IT WORTH REPEATING

GETTING TO KNOW YOU..... You may have seen a lady driving a sporty PT Cruiser with wooden sideboards or maybe you remember a time in Children's moment when she surprised the children with lovely crosses. Or have you noticed her sitting next to Dawn in the front row of the church. Sometimes you will see William, her brother sitting beside her. Now you can put the name Mary Youman to the face and go up to her and introduce yourself. You'll be treated to a fascinating conversation. She is a Presbyterian minister in the Louisville Presbytery but is working on changing her membership to the Ohio Valley. I didn't know that ministers are not members of a congregation but of presbytery. When I asked her why she came to Unity she answered, "It was just a mile down the road." She hopes to come to Sunday school when her health problems get better. She feels her strengths are preaching and teaching. She has a collection of clocks and canes and many video and loves basketball. She used to enjoy cross stitch and bowling. She was born in Terre Haute, attended the Methodist Church and went to Indiana State when it was Indiana State Teacher's College. She felt called to be a minister but at the time she was told that women could not be ordained. So she taught English in high schools including 2 years at Gerstmeyer High. She got her master's degree from ISU and a PhD from University of Kentucky in 1976. She taught in KSU formerly an all black school. In 1981 her call to the ministry was reawakened and she went to seminary. She has been a pastor in Auburn, KY.; Alpina and East Jordan, MI; and Decatur, IL. When I asked what the church might do for her, she thought a minute and said, "I have been trying to think of what I can do for Unity. I can pray." It looks like Mary may have another calling. Welcome to Unity, Mary.

# SING OF OUR NIMALS SERVICE AT UNITY

A very meaningful service for our pets who are members of our family.



ORGAN RECITAL BY ANDREA MARLOW SEPTEMBER 24, 7:30 P.M. ~ All are welcome

A recital of organ music will be presented on Sept. 24, 2017, at Unity Presbyterian. Selections will include works by J.S. Bach, Louis Vierne, Marcel Dupre, and Calvin Hampton. The Bach Fugue is based on the early hymn, O God, our help in Ages Past. The pieces by Vierne will be a collection from his various works, including the Cantilene from his Symphony No. 3 for Organ. The Marcel Dupre "Cortege et Litanie" is a well-known work by Dupre and the Calvin Hampton Suite No. 1 is a more obscure work from the contemporary era.

## Green Corner

We just experienced the solar eclipse which reminded us of how God is in charge of this world that we share. Fortunately we live in a time when events like this are predicted and timed down to the second. Imagine how scary this event would have been if we hadn't known it was coming and the sun started to disappear!

This month's Green Corner shares some facts about solar energy from the Energy Matters website. Alternative energy is the energy of the future and a way to help protect the earth from the negative effects of fossil fuels. Hopefully in the future we will be able to use this technology to make the world a better place for all of us!

- The Earth receives more energy from the sun in an hour than is used in the entire world in one year.
- In 1839 Alexandre Edmond Becquerel discovered the photovoltaic effect which explains how electricity can be generated from sunlight.
- In 1941, Russell Ohl invented the solar cell, shortly after the invention of the transistor.
- It would take far less than 1% of the Earth's land area covered in solar panels to supply all of the world's electricity needs.
- Weight for weight, silicon solar cells generate the same amount of electricity over their lifetime as nuclear fuel rods – and are much safer!
- The amount of energy that goes into creating solar panels is paid back through clean electricity production within anywhere from 1-2 years.
- A solar panel can work for decades. Some installed in the 1970's are still generating electricity .
- Wind is a form of solar power, created by the uneven heating of the Earth's surface.

## Blessing of the Animals

The Blessing of the Animals was a special day for Unity. We worshipped outside with our companion animals at our side. There was barking, sniffing and panting all around with over ten dogs in attendance and one very brave cat. Yet, the animals all seemed to know that this was a special time and you could feel God's presence as we celebrated the joy of animals in our lives and the passing of those animals that have blessed us in the past.

Thanks to the Green Committee members and Pastor Andrew for leading this amazing service. Many thanks also to everyone who helped to set up, get everything back to the building, distribute water, and helped to create this service. Thanks to everyone who brought their companion animals to be blessed. It was such a joy to see them all there.

Our food pantry collection was for the Terre Haute Humane Society We collected over \$20 and over 50 food items for the shelter to help the animals.



**Friday,  
September  
8  
7:00 p.m.**

***A Song and a Slice***

**Unity Presbyterian Church  
1207 E Springhill**

**Tickets: \$10.00**

**(Extra Slices \$1.00 each)**

*Great entertainment and tasty pies.*

**Also A Silent Auction for Pies**

**To help fund Choir Scholarships and Supplies**