

THE HERALD

Listening to God's Heart from the heart of the city.



November, like every month, is a wonderful time to be thankful! Check inside to find more reasons to be thankful for all the amazing things God is doing at FUMC!

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

For the past several years, as November rolls around, I see a number of my friends making posts on social media, posting once per day about something for which they give thanks. Thanksgiving Day occurs earlier in November this year, and many people will only post for 22 days. I enjoy seeing those posts, but I wonder if we do ourselves a disservice by only making November a time of focused Thanksgiving.

Recently in Disciple Bible study, I was talking about the practice of contemplative prayer. I suggested that the practice of the examen could help us. Traditionally, the examen begins by reflecting on where you've seen God at work throughout the day (we do this practice at night), and where we've inhibited God's work. The examen is simultaneously thanksgiving/praise and self-reflection/confession.

I want to encourage you, this month, to make the examen a part of your evening routine. To do so, ask this question: what am I thankful for today? Give praise to God for those things. A follow-up question might be: what can I do to turn other circumstances today into opportunities to be thankful tomorrow?

Studies tell us that it takes at least 18 days to form a habit; if you begin this practice on November 1, by Thanksgiving, it could be a habit that you could continue throughout the year.

We have so much to be thankful for at First United Methodist Church, and I hope you'll take time this month to read through some of the things that we're thankful for, as well as some opportunities to give thanks. I hope you'll join us for one (or more) of them.

I'll start the list of things we're thankful for: I'm thankful for all of you, for the opportunity to serve in ministry with you, and for your expressions of appreciation during Pastor Appreciation Month. Your generosity inspires me to be more generous with my time, talents, and resources.

Grace and peace,



Pastor Jay

THE SUPPORT

A poem about the Women's Jail Ministry by Jessica Rose Hyatt

You women are a true blessing, what you do makes God proud,
Walking into the jail on Thursday, you are looking for a crowd.
The hope and uplifting words, gives us a sense of purpose,
You help us bring back to the surface, the life of Christ that was once prominent in us.
You help us find our footing when we are unable to walk,
You help us find our voice again, feeling us able to talk.
We are very lost, not even knowing which way is up or down,
The teaching of God's Word, to you, He has given His crown.
You are pleasing to my Lord, ministering and professing His profound love,
You take time out of your life and days, to care about our making it to "the land above."
I pray you are all well, and hopeful with each passing day,
You found God again in my heard, and with your help, He is there to stay.



THANK YOU

The family of Sidney Madison Iubelt (October 12, 2005 - September 24, 2018) wants to thank everyone for all their prayers, cards, gifts and kind words these last 11 ½ years. It has been a journey.

- David & Sandy Anderson

Thank you to everyone who came and supported or helped with last month's 2nd Wednesday Dinner.

- Nina Davis

"GREEN" BAKE SALE

The upper elementary class will hold a bake sale after the service on November 4 in the Narthex. Our goal is to help make our church building greener so we will use the proceeds to purchase recycling containers in the classrooms and around the building and also begin purchasing LED light bulbs to replace the less efficient ones in the Education Wing. If anyone would like to donate a baked good or to our project, please contact Gary Oxford at goxford67@gmail.com or call 544-7857. Our kids are grateful for your support!

2ND WEDNESDAY DINNER

Our November 2nd Wednesday Dinner is the annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Join us on November 14 at 5:30 pm. Turkey and ham will be provided; sign up to bring your favorite side dish to share with everyone! It's great opportunity to gather for fellowship and to thank God for our blessings!

LITURGISTS, USHERS & GREETERS

If anyone has any interest in being a liturgist, usher or greeter for Sunday morning worship there will be a sign up sheet at the welcome center. If you have any questions or would like request a certain month please contact Kirbie in the office.

JUST ONE

We offer a huge word of thanks to all who support the NOW Program! Kids' Shopping Days aren't until August 2019, but we're already collecting to support the 400 students we anticipate serving in 2019. So far, we've collected shampoo and bar soap during September and October. During November, we'll be collecting toothpaste. You can place your items in the bin outside the church office.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Please join in on the fun and fellowship during the "Hanging of the Greens" on Sunday, November 25. The Sunday School classes will work on their classrooms beginning at 10:15AM while others work on decorating the Narthex and Sanctuary. We will have a soup lunch after 11:00AM. An announcement will be made when it is ready. There is a sign-up sheet for soups, vegetables, finger sandwiches, and cookies at the welcome center. This is a great opportunity to get into the holiday spirit!

FOOD DRIVE FOR ARK OF THE COVENANT

Our friends at Ark of the Covenant Soup Kitchen have asked us to partner with them during the month of November in a food drive. If you would, please go to your local store (Walmart has these in a bulk-food aisle, and County Market has them if you ask; Sam's Club and other stores also carry them) and pick up a #10 can of vegetables (green beans, corn) or fruit (peaches, fruit cocktail, pears). Our goal is to get these items to the soup kitchen before their Christmas meal, so please drop of your cans in the narthex by Sunday, December 2.



THE FIELDS ARE RIPE FOR THE HARVEST

As we enter the month of November, we're about to complete the second year of our capital campaign. We know that the fields are ripe for the harvest, and that First UMC continues to move into the future boldly, sharing the love of Jesus Christ in tangible ways. Our church is reaching more people all the time! As you know, we've undertaken three projects in this capital campaign. We completed the first project within the first six months - purchasing and demolishing the apartment building next door - and we are poised for future growth and building expansion.

We're almost two years into our second project - paying off our debt (\$249,000). As of the end of October, we've paid \$158,805.41 toward the principal, and our loan balance is \$91,651.70. While this is great news, we anticipate only another \$63,000 in pledges in 2019, which leaves us at a balance of \$28,000+ on our loan. We encourage you, if you have not yet made a pledge or gift to the capital campaign, to do so. Pledge cards are available at the display table in the narthex. And, if you're already making a gift and would like to give beyond your original pledge, you're welcome to do so! Together, we can do this, and move on to our third project - expanded parking!

TRUSTEES UPDATE

In an effort to be kinder to our facilities and create a safer environment for our students, the trustees will be making some changes to room assignments. To help ease stress on the elevator and volunteers, the NOW Program will be relocating to the main floor, utilizing the storage room and stage in Asbury Hall. The area will be secure, but will enable our volunteers and staff to better serve people who need assistance. In addition, there has been concern for some time about the safety of our students, whose classroom on the third floor has no escape. The students will be moving to room 2103 (where Faith and Friends Sunday school class has been meeting), and the adult class will temporarily move to the library. We will be repurposing the old NOW storage room as an additional classroom space in anticipation of our continued growth. Look for these changes happening throughout November! Thanks be to God for our continued growth in ministry!

Also, the trustees are hoping to complete several projects before the end of the year. They are seeking bids to do repair work on the education wing entrance, to repair the leak in the bell tower, and to purchase materials to finish the ceiling in the basements. Preliminary estimates place costs of these items at \$20,000+. While the trustees have money in their budget lines to cover the bulk of this work, our operating fund is at a deficit this year. If you would like to contribute to help us complete these projects, we would be forever grateful!



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 11/1 Jaxon Ackman
11/2 Erin Thompson
11/3 Diane Crampton
11/5 Gary Rodgers, Zachary Hays
11/7 Debbie Tedford; Liam Midgett,
Vivienne Midgett
11/8 Stephanie Schmidlin
11/9 James McGahey
11/10 Megan Haber
11/14 Danielle Thompson
11/18 Elmer Harness, Betty Jean Malcolm,
Max Tedford
11/20 Jennifer Murray, Bob Bell,
Lainey Aydt, Brenna Aydt,
Laura Dhom
11/24 Chris Midgett
11/27 Bob Hutchens
11/28 Greta Lowry
11/30 Leonard Goff

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 11/4 Stacie & Pat McMillan



PRAYER REQUESTS

John, Jeremy, and Greg Markello;
Carol Wolf; Carl and Helen Blanton;
Michael Brady; Patty Steele; Cathy
Thomas; Judson Richardson; Jennifer
Newlin; Jennifer Null; Julie Zhang;
Bill Thompson; Michael Keene; John
Larrabee; Larry Nichol; Nicole Young;
Bev Turkal; Evan Prahl; Ray Dotson;
Bev Arrington Campbell; Margie
Moore McNamara; Richard Youngs;
Kay Young; John Poland; Joan Fulling;
Nancy Young; Tim Roth; Fred White;
Kip Davis; Vonnetta Shipman; Rodney
Denoux; Becky Goodwin; Caius Bell;
Nelda Dotson; Kim Collins; Bill
Hubbard; Brenda Wolfe; Ashley
Griffith; Claudette Mejean; Ava
Seaney; Demmie Long; Jaycie
Hoagland; Emma Bodine; Charles
Hough; Tonja Bradford; Charley
Clark; Dorothy Youngs; Sheltyn
James Henry; Coleen Roach; Lane
Kessler; Charlotte Crofton; Layten
Roy; Victims of hurricane Michael;
LeaVone Johnson; The family of
Larry Waldrop; Susan Rodgers;
Norris Adams; Rhea Adams family;
Shirley Stephens Family

NOVEMBER 2018

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

				1 9:30 am Jesus and the Gospels 4:00 pm NOW Bagging 6:00 pm Jail Ministry 6:00 pm Couples Small Group 6:30 pm Glory Handbell Rehearsal	2	3
4 8 & 11 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Confirmation Class 6:00 pm Evening Worship	5	6 Election Held in Asbury 11:00 am MATS 6:00 pm Jesus and the Gospels	7 6:30 am Refresh Breakfast & Bible Study 3:00 pm Kids' Club	8 4:00 pm NOW Bagging 6:00 pm Jail Ministry 6:00 pm Couples Small Group 6:30 pm Glory Handbell Rehearsal	9	10
11 8:00 am Praise Kids Rehearse 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 10:30 am Glory Handbells play at Otterbein 2:30 pm Heritage Health Service 6:00 pm Evening Worship	12	13 11:00 am MATS 6:00 pm Jesus and the Gospels	14 Office Closed - Leadership Training 6:30 am Refresh Breakfast & Bible Study 3:00 pm Kids' Club 4:00 pm NOW Bagging 5:30 pm Second Wednesday Dinner	15 9:30 am Jesus and the Gospels 6:00 pm Jail Ministry 6:30 pm Glory Handbell Rehearsal	16 4:00 pm Christmas Magic Festival	17 6:00 pm Christmas Magic Parade 7:00 pm LTC Basketball Church Night
18 8 & 11 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Confirmation Class 6:00 pm Evening Worship	19 4:00 pm NOW Bagging	20 11:00 am MATS	21 6:30 am Refresh Breakfast & Bible Study 3:00 pm Kids' Club	22 OFFICE CLOSED THANKSGIVING	23 OFFICE CLOSED	24
25 8 & 11 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 11:30 am Fellowship Lunch 12:00 pm Hanging of the Greens 6:00 pm Evening Worship	26 6:00 pm Glory Handbell Rehearsal with the LTC Choir	27 11:00 am MATS 6:00 pm Jesus and the Gospels	28 6:30 am Refresh Breakfast & Bible Study 3:00 pm Kids' Club @ LTC 6:00 pm Committee Meetings 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	29 9:30 am Jesus and the Gospels 4:00 pm NOW Bagging 6:00 pm Jail Ministry 6:30 pm Glory Handbell Rehearsal 7:30 pm LTC Performing Arts Dress Rehearsal	30 7:00 pm LTC Performing Arts Concert	



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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nineah3@gmail.com

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brennansethtracy@gmail.com

Music Director: Antje Pippin

antje2959@hotmail.com

Organist/Pianist: Brenda Graham

doubleg@mediacombb.net

Custodian: Amy DeDoming

Nursery Staff: Jennifer Boatman, Danielle Stuller,
Tiffany Beard