

November 2019

Wakarusa United Methodist Church

Newsletter

From the Pastor

PILGRIMS THANKSGIVING

In 1621 the Pilgrims celebrated the 1st Thanksgiving after surviving the first winter in the New World, at Plymouth.

Gov. Bradford's Thanksgiving Proclamation:

"Inasmuch as the great Father has given us this year an abundant harvest of Indian corn, wheat, peas, beans, squashes, and garden vegetables, and has made the forests to abound with game and the sea with fish and clams, and inasmuch as He has protected us from the ravages of the savages, has spared us from pestilence and disease, has granted us freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience. Now I, your magistrate, do proclaim that all ye Pilgrims, with your wives and ye little ones, do gather at ye meeting house, on ye hill, between the hours of 9 and 12 in the daytime, on Thursday, November 29th, of the year of our Lord, 1623, and the third year since ye Pilgrims landed on ye Pilgrim Rock, there to listen to ye pastor and render thanksgiving to ye Almighty God for all His blessings"

NATIONALLY

In 1789, Pres. George Washington issued a Thanksgiving Day Proclamation: "Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor—and whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me "to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness." Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be—That we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks—for his kind care and protection of the People of this Country..."

Happy Thanksgiving from Pastor Greg and Terri

If you wish to reach Pastor Greg
outside of his office hours:

Cell Phone: 765-481-1910

E-mail: greg.way@inumc.org



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THANK YOU FOR JOINING OUR BIBLE SCHOOL CELEBRATION

Sunday October 13th, we had a combined service at 10 am. Thank you to those of you who attended. We invited all the children and families from our Fall Bible School. During the service the kids sang songs from Bible School. Millie & Lila Abel, Lucas Mullett, Dottie Pogue & Myleigh Geleske read the scripture and retold the Bible Stories we learned. Mission Commander Mark and EP-320 the robot were on hand to tell jokes and enjoy the service too. Afterward everyone gathered in the Fellowship Hall for a kid-friendly meal of hot dogs, chips & cookies. Thank you to Laura Zell and the Fellowship Team for putting the meal together.

Each Sunday evening our "voyagers" were given a personal mission to complete during the next week. One week it was "take time to say hello and get to know someone who may look or speak differently than you." Another week they had to go look at the stars in the sky with their family and thank God for his creation. If they completed the mission, they turned in a mission ticket. Because they turned in over 200 mission tickets, the voyagers got to dump Orbeez on the Mission Commander. It was a great way to end our Bible School Voyage!



HARVEST WORSHIP, OFFERING & DINNER SET FOR NOVEMBER 17

On Sunday November 17th the church will have one service @ 10 am. During the service we will be collecting a special "Harvest Offering" and ask that if you have extra money to give you would consider giving it to the church. The children will be collecting "noisy offering" and you are welcome to bring your loose change to add to the collection.

As we have done in the past, we will have a carry-in Thanksgiving Meal. The Fellowship team will provide Turkey, gravy and mashed potatoes. Please bring whatever you would like. In an effort to make sure we don't end up with 10 green bean casseroles and no stuffing, there is a board with tags on it by the welcome center. The board is covered with a wide variety of options. You may choose a tag (or two) and bring the item listed for our dinner!

Please consider inviting friends and neighbors who may not have somewhere to go for a large Holiday meal!

CURRENT ADULT STUDIES & GROUPS

To make room for the many other events we wanted to highlight. This list has been simplified. Please check our webpage for updates

SUNDAY MORNINGS

- Faith Classroom 9:30 –Discussion led by Pastor Greg
- Hope Classroom 9:30– Discussion led by Judy Briganti
- Love Classroom 9:30– Discussion led by Mark Mikel & James Geleske

THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

- **Men's Group**, 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month, 8 am @ the church
- **S.P.A.** –Women's action group meets @ 6:30 pm, 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month, led by Caryn Hershberger
- **IF: Local:** Women's discussion group. Led by Joan Rhoades, meets once a month, This month November 19th 7pm @ the home of Caryn Hershberger
- **Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study:** 1:30 pm every Wednesday at the church in the Faith Classroom, led by Pastor Greg
- **UMW:** United Methodist Women meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Kitchen. Bring your lunch along November 20th @ Noon
- **Coffee, Christ & Conversation:** meets every Wednesday at 6:30 pm and concludes just in time for Choir practice at 7:25 pm, so you can do both! Led by Pastor Greg.
- **Knit & Crochet:** Join the Pastor's wife Terri every Tuesday at 1 pm to work on knitting and crochet projects. No supplies or experience needed. Contact Terri Way if you have questions: 765-481-5129

MISSIONS COMMITTEE- TIME FOR A CHANGE?

This missions committee will meet on Monday November 4th @ 7pm. They will decide how to distribute the \$11,860 that was raised at the Nappanee Apple Festival in September.

Our current Missions Committee leaders have been serving in this capacity for many years. Dick Letherman, Wade Snider, John Merry have worked especially hard for many years to raise money to help others in our community. In order for this great project to continue we need new leaders to begin stepping up and filling their roles.

Serving on the committee involves procuring supplies for the sausage sandwich booth, setting up for the festivals (Maple Syrup in the spring and Apple Festival in the fall), sharing supervision of the booth, soliciting volunteers and then tearing down and clean up.

Through the Sausage Sandwich booth we are able to give many more funds than we could personally donate to local outreach and charities. Please consider if joining our Missions Committee would be a fit for you. Contact the church office if you are interested.

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. -Galatians: 5:13

SERVANT HIGHLIGHT

This month, we would like to take time to say thank you to Bob & Laura Zell.

The Zell's have been attending WUMC for about 40 years. They started coming shortly after their oldest daughter Abby was born. They wanted to have a home church that would be a place for their family to grown and learn. Their family has certainly grown, Abby is married to Mike Moran and they live in Cincinnati with their children Will & Maisie. Their son Eric also lives in Cincinnati with his wife Melanie. Their youngest daughter Annie is married to John Palinski and they live in Annapolis, MD.

When they aren't travelling to visit the kids and grandkids they are a very active part of WUMC. Laura sings in the choir, is the treasurer for UMW and currently leads our Fellowship Committee. Bob is currently the chair of the trustee board. Serving the church is one way they enjoy being with all of the friends they have made here in the last 40 years.



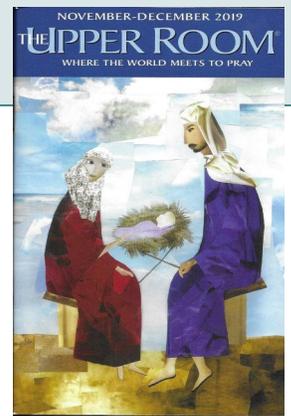
Outside of church, Bob is very involved with the Elkhart County 4-H fair and Laura is active with the NorthWood Scholarship foundation. Bob is still actively working as a veterinarian. Laura volunteers once a week at the Elementary school and makes time to visit her 96 year old mother in Indianapolis often. We appreciate the way they are both willing to dedicate a sizable amount of their time to organizations they believe in. They are truly an example to be followed for all of us!

BUILDING USAGE

The trustees met in September and one of the items on their agenda was Building and equipment usage. Use of the church is free to members of the church; however all dates and equipment must be cleared through the church office staff. Please make requests early as our calendar does fill up. Also, if you are just planning to borrow tables or chairs, this also must be requested in advance with set dates and times for pick up and return. In addition to getting prior approval, it is the expectation that all will be returned and left in the condition it was found. Thanks for your understanding.

TAKE HOME A DAILY DEVOTIONAL

The church has a subscription to the Upper Room devotional and anyone is free to pick up a copy to take home. It is a 2 month magazine and the November/December issues just arrived. Last month we had a large amount leftover and we are going to decrease our order in the future. Please make sure to pick up a copy soon if you want one so we can have an accurate count for our next order Large Print Copies are available too!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

For the first time our church is participating in Operation Christmas Child! This mission through Samaritan's Purse was chosen by our SPA group. Gift items for children are collected and then packed into shoe boxes. These boxes are sent all over the world and are accompanied by the Good News of Jesus Christ. The SPA ladies were excited about the generosity of our church (*see the picture below of the items collected already*).



On Saturday November 2nd our kids and youth will be shopping with money from past Super bowl sub sales to acquire the remaining items needed. Then SPA will meet to pack the boxes and send them on their way. Thank you for your donations!

NURSERY SCHOOL UPDATES

Grandparent's day was a success! Many grandparents came. It was a lot of fun for the students and teachers. We received so many compliments on our church and Nursery School program.

The 4 year old classes enjoyed a field trip to Wakarusa Fire Station for a fire safety program and the 3's class had a fire safety day at school.

We are working on number books with the 4 year old class and the 3 year olds have begun to work on their counting books.

We ended the month with Fall parties. It is fun for the kids to dress up and guess who each other are.

Our theme for the month of November is Home and Family. We will be talking about families, our homes and Thanksgiving. We will have special show-n-tells. Kids will bring something that belongs to their mother and then something that belongs to their dads. We will also talk about the first Thanksgiving and string beads, make headdresses and shakers. We even put a little face paint on our cheeks and pretend we are Indians.

We hope all of you will have a chance to spend time with your families this Thanksgiving!

-Mrs. Casteel



The Wakarusa Nursery School will be selling Krispy Kreme Donuts this month to raise funds for our school!

Sale starts Monday Nov. 4!!!

GO: outreach & service

A TIME FOR GIVING



Special Articles

On Sunday November 17th the church will be collecting a "Harvest Offering" In past years, when the church has had a financial surplus this offering was given to local charity organizations. So far in 2019 we have had an income of \$132,560.45. Our main source of income is your tithes and offerings. This is used to pay for great and inspiring outreach like our Fall Bible School and also for the not-so-inspiring electric bills, paper for the copier and staff wages. During 2019 money was transferred. from memorials to pay for much needed improvements to the parsonage. As of September 30, 2019 our expenses have been \$161,348.25. As a church we think it is important to have transparency in all we do and share that we are not as financially strong as we have been in the past. We ask your help to solve this problem. There are 2 ways you can help:

2019 Statistics	
Giving by offering so far:	\$132,560.45
Other income from memorials for Parsonage Improvements:	\$19,403.74
Expenses so far:	\$161,348.25
Difference:	-\$8,384.06

1. Give to our Harvest offering on Sunday November 17th

The offering plate will be passed as usual on this day. There will be a special envelope to place your check or cash in. In addition to the plate our children will collect a "noisy" offering of coins. They will bring tin cans around to collect your spare change. Have a jar on your counter you've been saving for a rainy day? Please consider giving it to the church

1. Consider tithing to our church

Without regular giving we cannot continue the same ministries we currently offer at WUMC. 2020 offering envelopes will be available for pickup soon. Please pick up the set with your name (or request a set if you don't have one) and make giving to the church part of your regular budget.

"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

—Proverbs 3:9-10

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Saturday Nov. 2	1-3 pm	O.C.C.– youth shopping trip @ Erskine Plaza Target
Sunday Nov. 3	ALL DAY	Time change, sleep in before church!
Monday Nov. 4		KRISPY KREME FUNDRAISER STARTS FOR THE NURSERY SCHOOL
	7:00pm	Missions Committee Meeting
	7:00pm	Hand bell Practice
Wednesday Nov. 6	1:30 pm	Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Coffee, Christ & Conversation
	6:30 pm	SPA group
	7:25 pm	Choir Practice (Cantata followed by regular)
Saturday Nov. 9	8:00 am	Men's Group
Sunday Nov. 10	6:00 pm	Charge Conference @ Nappanee UMC
Monday Nov. 11	ALL DAY	Veteran's Day
	7:00 pm	Hand Bell Practice
Wednesday Nov 13	1:30 pm	Afternoon Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Coffee, Christ & Conversation
	7:25 pm	Choir Practice (Cantata followed by regular)
Thursday Nov 14 & Friday Nov 15		PICK UP YOUR KRISPY KREME ORDERS
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 17TH 10 AM HARVEST WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP MEAL		
Monday Nov. 18	7:00 pm	Finance committee Meeting
	7:00 pm	Hand Bell Practice
Tuesday Nov. 19	7:00 pm	IF: Local– meets@ Caryn Hershberger's
Wednesday Nov. 20	12:00 pm	United Methodist Women– UMW
	1:30 pm	Afternoon Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Coffee, Christ & Conversation
	6:30 pm	SPA group
	7:25 pm	Choir Practice (Cantata followed by regular)
Saturday Nov. 23	8:00 am	Men's Group
Sunday Nov. 24th	6:00 pm	"Hanging of the Greens"
Monday Nov. 25	7:00 pm	Hand Bell Practice
Wednesday Nov. 27		No Wednesday Activities at the church
Thursday Nov 28	ALL DAY	THANKSGIVING DAY



LOOK AHEAD & SAVE THE DATE

- ◆ 12/7/2019 COOKIE WALK
- ◆ 12/8/2019 Children's Christmas Sunday
- ◆ 12/8/2019 Pastor Greg & his wife Terri will host an open house at the Parsonage 4-7 pm
- ◆ 12/15/2019 Choir Cantata

Sunday School Children are in
PURPLE
Please take time to send them a card!

BIRTHDAYS

- 11/3 **Caine Odiorne**
Susan Vandegrift
- 11/5 John Merry
Laurelyn Street
- 11/7 **Ashlyn Hammond**
- 11/11 Judy Briganti
- 11/14 Betty Smith
- 11/15 Mark Mikel
- 11/20 **Anderson Bickel**
- 11/23 Jerry Helvey
- 11/24 **Lila Abel**
- 11/27 Jan Truex
Deb York
- 11/29 Rick Abel
- 11/30 Mandy Sellon

We are in the process of updating our Birthday & Anniversary Lists.

Please let us know if there is an error by e-mailing the church office

WAKARUSA
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

MAKING DISCIPLES OF
JESUS CHRIST FOR THE
TRANSFORMATION OF
THE WORLD

GLOWING WITH
CHRIST'S LOVE

GROWING IN FAITH
TOGETHER

AND

GOING TO SHARE GOD'S
LIGHT

ADVENT IS COMING

The Advent season is fast approaching. It is a wonderful time to invite friends and neighbors to church with you. Make sure to add these special events to your calendar and someone else's as well.

- * Saturday December 7th 9 am WUMC Annual Cookie Walk
- * Sunday December 8th 10 am Children's Christmas Worship
- * Sunday December 8th 4-7pm Open House at the Parsonage
- * Sunday December 15th 10:30 am Choir Christmas Cantata
- * Tuesday December 24th 11 pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service



We will also be collecting items for local families in need, watch the welcome center for information soon



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**Visit us on the web:
www.wakarusaumc.org**

Sunday mornings schedule:

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Discussion groups and classes for all ages

10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE