

Christ Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE CHRONICLES NOVEMBER 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

Pastor's Letter
President's Article
Annual Meeting update
Online Giving & Weekly
Newsletter Sign-Up's
Attending Worship &
Conducting meetings/classes
during COVID
Needs
Updates
Schedules, Opportunities &
Weekly Scripture Readings
Birthdays
Prayer Requests
Thanks
Chronicles Sign Up
Get Connected



PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Church,

Maybe I'm what kids today would call "basic" – but I *love* pumpkin flavored stuff. In fact, it isn't fall to me unless I drink at least one pumpkin ale. On a recent quest to my local *Pick-N-Save* it finally started to feel like fall. I had to bundle up and wear a light jacket. It was wet and cold outside. The sky was cloudy and dark. The leaves under my feet were sort of that soggy raisin-bran consistency. Then I was struck by something that made me think, "*Wait...it's actually fall?*" I noticed a blue mask in a pile of leaves and debris at the edge of the parking lot. This prompted me to touch my face and remember that I was still wearing one. Even though my senses told me it was fall, when I saw that blue mask in the orange and red leaves it filled me with a sort of dread. I realized...it's fall and we're *still* here!

This has been quite the year. The pandemic has caused many of us to lose our sense of time and normalcy. Our seasons haven't been marked by holidays but what we can and cannot do. COVID has required us to part with certain beloved traditions. There are lots of little reminders in our everyday lives that snap us back to the reality that we are not living in typical times. As a church, we continue to press forward as best we can amid the pandemic as well. It's fall and we're *still* here!

November is busy at Christ Church. This month we begin a new stewardship-themed sermon series, *Our Money Story*, in which we talk authentically about money and possessions. After all, Jesus spoke more about money and material stuff more than he did about faith and prayer. On November 8th we will celebrate our departed saints during worship for our Memorial Sunday. The service will be livestreamed for the first time ever. After worship that day we will also have our Annual Meeting. This year's meeting will be in-person and online – also a first in our congregation's 150-year history. We will continue to host Sharing-Our-Suppers every Friday evening in partnership with Divine Intervention. This ministry would typically only take place over the summer, but due to the pandemic there is an increased need for meal distribution in Bay View. Advent also begins on the last Sunday of November. What will a pandemic-Advent look like?



Although the pandemic has changed how we have had to navigate through the world, it has not slowed us down at Christ Church. We are just as busy as ever. For all the traditions we have had to part with this year, we will continue to move forward by trying new things together. *It's fall and we're still here!* I look forward to tackling November with you, Church. It may look differently than anything we have done in the past, but just as sure as the seasons change, we will get through these challenging times.

With gratitude for you,

-Pastor

PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE

For me personally, many times I read or hear scriptures and I cannot quite understand what message they are trying to convey to me. One topic in scripture, God's extreme love for mankind (Psalm 8:4 and Job 7:17 examples) has always meant to me that God created us and then simply felt responsible for us. This may be just an "aha" moment for me but I wonder if God's deep feelings for us are because we have both Christ and the anti-Christ living within us. Think about that. We are the same beings that send substantial aid and charitable contributions to disaster relief efforts around the world and still want war to work out our differences with other countries. We are capable of tremendously deep feelings of love for another person only to have those feelings turned completely around if the other person doesn't return our affection.

What if understanding that diverse range of emotions and the intense sorrow and confusion it causes is why God has promised, over and over again, to forget our transgressions and wipe away all our tears? It would make sense (to me) and follow that our Creator, who gave us heaven on earth in the Garden of Eden, would be quick to forgive and want us to know that a return to that paradise is available to us but only through Him and only at His appointed time. He sent His own Messenger, in the form of His Son, to tell us and show us what could be done through faith in Him and by following His example. My wife Pam would be the first to testify that I like glitzy cars, motorcycles, and boats but I can tell you that there is nothing I want to possess more than being with my lost loved ones again. Is there anything on this earth that you desire more than being united with lost loved ones in a realm of peace without sickness or death? How can we even envision that, right? We are told there is such a place and yet we cannot see or even comprehend that place. We are told it can be ours through faith alone even though in this world we receive nothing we don't earn. We are told to love each other unconditionally even though we may be hurt severely, even unto death, even though sickness and death are the things we fear most. We have the spirit of Christ in us but we also have the desires of sin wrestling with that spirit in our hearts and minds constantly. It's no wonder God has such compassion for us.

-Dean Kothrade

CHRIST CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE

I'm inviting all members of Christ Church to participate in this year's annual meeting on November 8th. Per our church bylaws the annual meeting must have a minimum of 40 people to conduct business.

The Covid virus situation has diminished in person church attendance so the Christ Church council has decided to add a "Zoom" element to our meeting. That means along with the 20 people we have been averaging for in-person worship, we would need at least 20 more members joining the meeting via "Zoom". A Zoom meeting is conducted via computer and allows 2-way conversation between the members attending the annual meeting at church, and each church member that logs onto the "Zoom" meeting. For those who have never participated before it is very easy and fun actually. First

you are sent an email invitation and given a link to simply “click” on. You will then download the “Zoom” application and follow a few prompts that are given to you on the computer screen.

You are then connected to and part of the annual meeting from wherever you and your computer are. Zoom has been used by many businesses and other organizations for many months and is safe, secure, and free. There may be occasional image pixelating (similar to receiving bad reception from a TV antenna – like slow motion imaging) but it’s momentary and does not affect the connection you have to the host (the annual meeting).

The first step to participating via Zoom is to send the church an email requesting an invitation to the annual meeting. The invitation and instructions will be emailed to you. We ask that you email the church by November 5th so we can be sure and get invitations and instructions sent to you in time for the meeting and so we know how many members we’ll have for the meeting.

The preference would be to have as many members come to church on that day as possible because there is ample social distancing seating available however if that is not possible, attending the meeting via Zoom is extremely important to the life and vitality of our church family. There are many decisions to be made including electing church leaders and adopting an annual budget. Please consider this option to a personal appearance if you would rather quarantine. – Dean Kothrade

ONLINE GIVING IN LIGHT OF THE CORONAVIRUS

Online giving is essential during this time! You can pay with an existing PayPal account. For first time users just go to the church website and click on the donate button and you can donate with a credit card. Feel free to contact pastor@uccmke.org or contact the church for assistance at 414-481-3530 or office@uccmke.org. Thank You!

ATTENDING WORSHIP DURING COVID 19

(A recording of the Sunday service will be posted online late afternoon or early evening as possible.)

*Welcome! Please **enter using the Lenox St. door only**. Please plan to arrive 15 minutes early.

***Sanitize** your hands upon entry either at the stairway or landing of the Lenox St. entrance.

*Have your **temperature taken** (must be below 100 degrees to attend worship).

*If your temperature is 100 or over you will be asked to return home to care for yourself

***Put on a mask** (You can bring your own or a disposable one will be provided)

***Register** with the usher. Provide your name and contact information.

*Using the **6ft social distancing** markers make your way towards the Sanctuary.

*If you need to use the rest room please sanitize the room according to the posted instructions.

***An usher will escort you to a seat**, (large print bulletins and hearing devices will be made available to those in need of them)

***Offerings** and envelopes can be placed in the offering trays on your way in or out of the sanctuary.

*On Communion Sundays you will be invited to take a **disposable wafer and cup** as you enter the sanctuary.

*After worship, the **ushers will direct you out of the sanctuary** using the Lenox St. exit.

*Please use the **hand sanitizer as you exit the Sanctuary**.

*An **outdoor informal coffee** hour will be held outside of the Lenox st. entrance following worship.

Additional Information

*Video Screens will be used for worship.

*Collection plates will not be passed. Donations should be placed in the trays upon entering or leaving the Sanctuary.

*Communion trays will not be passed. Disposable elements can be picked up prior to entering the Sanctuary.

*Prayer requests will be announced by the Pastor. Please submit them to Pastor Dan or Debbie during the week by phone or email.

*At this time there will not be any childcare or nursery care available.

*The only rooms currently open for use on Sunday mornings are the Sanctuary and restrooms.

*The Chapel will only be opened by an usher for seating if all seating is utilized in the Sanctuary.

CLASSES AND MEETINGS DURING COVID 19

If your group/class would like to return to meeting at the church building, please do the following so we can properly sanitize and prepare the room.

*Contact the church office to reserve a room for your desired meeting date.

*You will be assigned a room that will fit the size of your group for proper social distancing.

*Upon entering the building please wear a mask and use the hand sanitizer at the Lenox St. entrance.

*Sign the attendance sheet on the clipboard that will be found in your room.

*When your meeting is completed please clean all door handles, tables, chairs, and surfaces that were used or contacted during your meeting. Each room has a caddy equipped with wipes/spray, gloves and paper towels.

*Initial the attendance sheet that the room has been sanitized.

*Prior to exiting the building, once again, please use the hand sanitizer at the Lenox St. door.

NEED: BVCC FOOD & INFANT FORMULA PANTRY

You can still donate to the pantry as the Food pantry at the BVCC remains open.

All other activities and classes have been cancelled for the time being.

They are in desperate need of the following: Peanut Butter, Jams & Jellies, Pasta, Mac & Cheese.

You can bring your food donations directly to the BVCC @ 1320 E. Oklahoma Ave.:

Tuesdays thru Saturdays 9:30am-12:30pm.

DO YOU NEED FOOD ASSISTANCE? THE BVCC FOOD PANTRY IS HERE FOR YOU!

Typically, if you live in the following zip codes: 53207, 53215 (you must live south of Becher, East of 27th St., and your address must be 2000 and up), 53221, and 53235 you may come to the Food Pantry with a photo ID from someone in your household to receive food.



NEED: SHARING OUR SUPPERS (SOS) VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Every Friday our church is the food distribution site for 40 restaurant prepared meals, bottled water, and 45 bag lunches. Those who come for food are homeless or referred to us from Bay View Community Center. Since the pandemic, Divine Intervention has been unable to provide face to face services for the homeless in Bay View. Pastor Karen from Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church has coordinated this meal distribution through a variety of church contacts and organizations along with Jim Wick. The restaurant meals are provided through Meals Matter Movement and the lunches are prepared by individuals from churches in the support group for Divine Intervention.

How can you help?

Be the Christ Church building representative. Responsibilities include: Disinfect and set up of the outside serving table, signage and cones for distancing; bring up the water from the refrigerator and coolers for keeping food cold/warm; assist with meal drop off and distribution; Disinfect and return coolers, signage, table, to the basement and sanitize the areas used before leaving the church. The time required is 4:45 PM to approximately 6:15 PM on a Friday night of your choosing.

Donate heavy duty disposable plastic forks and knives. Please drop them off at church during office hours or on a Sunday. They can be left outside of the church office.

If you would like more information please contact Jim or Randene Wick, 414-614-2622, wickrl.51@gmail.com.

UPDATE: ENDOWMENT GRANTS

The Endowment Committee has begun taking Grant Requests for 2020. Request forms can be found in the church office or on the rack outside of the worship area. Deadline for submitting your requests is November 30. Forms can be given to any Endowment Committee member or turned into the church office. Prospective applicants should note that this is the only time Endowment Grant Requests are considered. Money available from various investments has been calculated and will be given out in this time frame. The Endowment Committee will meet in December to review the various requests and funds will be distributed shortly thereafter. The process begins again in the Fall of 2021.

UPDATE: CHRIST CHURCH BOOK CLUB

We would like to have every reader able to enjoy our book club discussions. We are going to see how the reopening at church proceeds and also small group meetings. While we all miss our time together for now the book club will take a break. When we do resume, we will give you enough notice so you can have time to read the book. Stay safe and healthy!

Carol Dohoney, Debbie Hansen and Mary Ann Mowery



SCHEDULES FOR UPCOMING WORSHIP, EVENTS & MEETINGS

Sunday November 1: Daylight Savings, fall back. Worship 9:30am. ?Coffee Hour.

Monday November 2: Tap lessons 5:00pm-6:30pm.

Friday November 6: DI SOS meal distribution at Christ Church 5:45pm-6:45pm.

Sunday November 8: Memorial Sunday, Worship with Communion 9:30am, Annual Meeting following worship, In person & via zoom. No outdoor coffee hour.

Monday November 9: Tap lesson 5:00pm-6:30pm, possible Property Committee meeting.

Tuesday November 10: Quilters 10:00am.

Friday November 13: DI SOS meal distribution at Christ Church 5:45pm-6:45pm.

Saturday November 14: Crochet Class 10:00am.

Sunday November 15: Worship 9:30am, ?Outdoor coffee hour.

Monday November 16: Tap lessons 5:00pm-6:30pm.

Tuesday November 17: Possible Council meeting.

Friday November 20: DI SOS meal distribution at Christ Church 5:45pm-6:45pm.

Sunday November 22: Thanksgiving Sunday, Worship with communion 9:30am.

Thursday November 26: Thanksgiving. Happy Turkey Day!

Friday November 27: DI SOS meal distribution at Christ Church 5:45pm-6:45pm.

Sunday November 29: Worship 9:30am, ?Outdoor coffee hour, Decorating the church following worship.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS/HAT AND MITTEN TREE/COOKIE DONATIONS

The social concerns committee would like to let you know that we will once again be doing Christmas gifts for children and adults through the Bayview Community Center. Details will follow in the November Chronicles. We will also be collecting hats and mittens that will be donated to the Bayview Community Center. As in previous years we will donate cookies to be distributed to seniors. They are requesting this year that cookies be wrapped by the dozen in a bag or container. This is so that there is minimal handling of the baked goods. Can you please contact the office to let us know if you are willing to bake a dozen or more cookies by November 1st so that we can supply a cookie count? Thanks, Debbie Hansen, Mary Ann Mowery, Sara Rogers and Randene Wick.

QUILTERS

The Piece and Plenty Quilters will meet at church on Tuesdays at 10:00am on November 10th. Randene Wick, Gloria Konkkel, Julie Oren and Joyce Zieman.



CROCHETERS

Crochet class will be held Saturday November 14th at 10:00am in the music room.
For information please contact Ken Klockow.

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

11/1 Jill Unglaub	11/8	11/15 Jill Unglaub	11/22	11/29
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USHER SCHEDULE

11/1 Mary Ann Mowery Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	11/8 Greg Mitchell Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	11/15 Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	11/22 Mary Ann Mowery Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	11/29
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WEEKLY SCRIPTURES

11/1	Joshua 3:7-17 and Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37	Micah 3:5-12 and Psalm 43	1Thessolonians 2:9-13	Matthew 23:1-12
11/8	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 and Psalm 78:1-7	Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 or 6:17-20, Amos 5:18-24 or Psalm 70	1Thessolonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
11/15	Judges 4:1-7 and Psalm 123	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 and Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12	1Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30
11/22	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	Psalm 100	Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:1-46
11/29	Isaiah 64:1-9	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	1Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL THESE WONDERFUL FOLKS!

NOVEMBER 2

Nancy Jonokuchi

NOVEMBER 4

Debbie Behling

Darrell Rasch

NOVEMBER 6

Sara Rogers

NOVEMBER 7th

Amy Waldoch

NOVEMBER 8

Sue Fine

NOVEMBER 9

Tyler Strausbaugh

Richard Tremarello

NOVEMBER 12

Gilbert Gwinn

NOVEMBER 13

Andrew Vail

NOVEMBER 15

Andy Behling

Todd Hansen

NOVEMBER 16

Mike Behling

Brian O'Brien

Brooke O'Brien

Marilyn Rasch

Helene Rondorf

NOVEMBER 19

Susan Brewer

Debbie Hansen

NOVEMBER 20

Paul Mayeshiba

Duane Rondorf

NOVEMBER 21

Cliff Blake

Cole Oleson

NOVEMBER 22

Peter Jorgenson

NOVEMBER 26

Richard Gaeth

NOVEMBER 28

Harvey Albertin

NOVEMBER 30

Mary Ann Mowery

Molly Reigert

Mary Veit

NOVEMBER 31

Nancy Kaye



PRAYERS

Hear Our Prayers, O God...For health & healing: *God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.* Ps. 147:3 We pray for:

- ~Don Antoniewicz, for his sister Sharon who recently passed away.
- ~Pam and Dean Kothrade, as Pam recently found out she has a brain tumor.
- ~Ernestine Faja, as she is having medical issues.
- ~Emily, daughter of Paul and Doris Mayeshiba as she has begun her radiation treatment.
- ~Maureen who has breast cancer.
- ~Jerry & Michelle from Diva/Divo who recently were displaced from their home for the next month or so from smoke damage from their basement dehumidifier starting a fire.
- ~Jean, sister of Doris Piacentine and her niece who both reside in a nursing home in Mi have COVID. The niece was hospitalized and is doing ok but has Cerebral Palsy and is having trouble breathing. I pray they will be ok. From Doris Piacentine.
- ~Carol, Mike & Debbie's mother/mother-in-law who has COVID and Debbie is caregiving for her.
- ~Ken Klockow's sister who has had to be hospitalized again and is very depressed.
- ~Kelley, friend of Nancy Charles who recently found out she has an early stage of Breast Cancer.
- ~Bernee, friend of Nancy Kaye who just received the news that she only has a couple months to live from Lung Cancer. She will be entering hospice soon.
- ~Joe and Laurie, son in law and daughter of Jackie Struck as Joe has been able to return home now from the hospital. Prayers for continued healing.
- ~Linda who resides in Connecticut, daughter of Jackie Struck who is getting wound care for bed sores. Prayers for continued healing.
- ~The person who lost her home to the city and bank. This was received in our outdoor prayer box. Continued prayers are requested.
- ~Dawn, daughter-in-law of Laurel and wife of Brad Dayton, as she has health issues from complications of Diabetes. Continued prayers are requested.
- ~Tracy, daughter of Nancy Kaye, who was released from the hospital is at home with Nancy awaiting Liver and Kidney transplants. She is doing well.
- ~Nick, Brad and Nancy Charles nephew, who is battling heroin addiction, is out of prison and battling the difficult transition back into "normal life". Prayers for his family as well.
- ~Family of Ken and Sue who live in California close to where the fires are happening as they are getting closer to them.
- ~Julene Flanagan's nephew who is dealing with Bipolar disorder and now out of the hospital struggling to get into a healthy daily routine.
- ~Julene Flanagan's husband's uncle from Alaska who is suffering from Kidney Disease and is now in assisted living and for his son who is going thru health issues as well.

THANK YOU

~For all of the prayers for my friend Kim who has been released from the hospital and return home.
From Mary Ann Mowery.



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NOVEMBER 2020



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