

# Christ United Methodist Church

*Living Christ's Ways and Exploding With Love and Service!*

Weekly Update Tuesday, November 18, 2013

**Gratitude--** For these gifts and more, we give thanks to God...patches of sunlight, kindred spirits, hope for the future, a good night's sleep, creativity, wide open spaces, healing, God's presence from everlasting to everlasting, the good kind of tired after a job well done, safe returns, strength to walk and not grow weary, grandparents, redbud trees, rivers, lakes, and ponds, the preciousness of life, hugs, uncles, silent nights, playgrounds, smooth stones, and seashells, church suppers, bread that's more than bread, faithful friends, psalms, hot chocolate, purple pansies, candlelight, teachers, good neighbors, faith to live into our callings, shooting stars, memories, parents, ...relationships that deepen through the years, starry skies, good books, movies and conversations, ...friends who catch our tears, aunts, ministering together, smiling eyes, holy moments, mentors, forgiveness, ...sitting at the table together, sons and daughters, solitude, ...expectancy, overflow of gratitude, wind of God's Spirit, birthday parties, , finding what was lost, ...those who tug us toward justice, strength for today...for these gifts and more, we give thanks to God.

*With thanks to author Sharlande Sledge for help with this list to which you may add those things that are moving you to gratitude today.*

1. On Sunday, 128 worshipers gathered. The Rev. Jim Pollard brought a message about being "People of Indestructible Hope." What are we building that will last ? A good question to ask ourselves in our own lives and in our life together as Christ Church. The Praise Team and the Choir enriched our worship and Melanie Rodgers brought us into God's presence and touched our hearts with her music accompaniment and a special postlude played with her daughter, Kristin. We were definitely sent out with joy! Appreciation was expressed to Melanie for playing for worship during the interim. Our thanks also goes to Mac Sabol who with his gifts for faith, music and encouragement has not just kept our choir going, but opened a way for a fresh wind of the Spirit to move through and enliven our choir members. On Sunday, November 24, we will welcome Mr. Kevin Durkin as our Minister for Music. It will be another exciting Sunday at Christ Church! Don't miss out....

2. The Uganda Mission Team continues their travels. Brief calls home, including a call from BJ this morning, tell us everything is going well. Kathy Weaver, Joe Fort and Pastor BJ (and Rev. Claire Mosher) along with our Uganda friends continue to be close in our prayers. Also pray for and encourage their families here at home. They arrive home late Friday.

3. Continue to keep in your prayers for healing and recovery...**Phyllis Nicholson** and **Guy Castellino**, **Mitch Mooney**, **Nicky Sebastiano**, **Glenn Hurst**, **Dick Ball**, **Bim Rowlands** and **Linda Shupe**. Also hold in prayer **Rosemary Kochen**, whose father died last week and **Jean Meier**, neice of **Diane** and **Chris Klenk**. Jean's husband David died last week. Also pray for all those who are caregivers for others. They need our encouragement and perhaps some phone calls or cards.

Remember those who serve: **Ian Johnson (US)** and **Alex Dunbar (Afghanistan)**, both serving in the Navy.

4. Today we welcome **Janelle Martin** as our new Office Manager. Please introduce yourself and give information for your groups and ministry teams to Janelle.

**5. Memorial Service for Mildred Anderson** - Saturday, November 23, 2 pm at the church. A reception will follow. *Those who are assisting with the reception are asked to be at the church by 1 pm.*

6. **Church Treasurer needed** - A volunteer treasurer is needed for the church. Donna Yungbluth will be leaving that position at the end of December. Questions and interest in the position should be expressed to Donna 626-5598, or to Brad Loliger 829-9418, leader of the Stewardship & Finance Team. Knowledge of QuickBooks would be a plus.

7. **Special Church Conference - Sunday, November 24 at noon**. Don't miss this opportunity to meet together for the purpose of discussion and decision regarding the opportunity to purchase the property located directly behind the church on Harwood Drive. All of the information we currently have is available in print form at the church. You may pick it up to read in advance. District Superintendent, **Rev. Wayne Butler**, will lead that meeting following worship. All church members may vote.

**8. Thanksgiving Communion - Wednesday evening November 27 at 7pm.**

**9. Daily Bible Reading -**

November 18- Psalm 124, 2 Corinthians 11-13

November 19- Matthew 1-4

November 20- Matthew 5-7

November 21- Matthew 8-10

November 22- Matthew 11-13

November 23- Matthew 14-16

10. **November birthdays this week:**

Tuesday, November 19 - **Ashley George**

Wednesday, November 20- **Jim Beller**

Thursday, November 21- **Evelyn Cole**

Friday, November 22- **Reid Lesswing**

Saturday, November 23 - **George Voskerchian**

11. **New!** Seat Cushions are now available in the worship space for your added comfort. The ushers will assist you.

12. **Beds Needed** - If you or someone you know has a twin bed frame please call the church office and let us know. We'd like to assist Gateway-Longview in supplying beds for children. Donations for purchasing beds and mattresses are also accepted. Call 839-2460.

13. **Only 34 more shopping days until our Christmas Pageant, **BED BETHLEHEM & BEYOND!****

Mark your calendar for **Sunday, December 22 at 11 am.** **AND** make it a **Bed & Breakfast** morning!

You are invited to join us for a continental breakfast following the pageant.

**I'll see you when the church gathers!**

With JOY,

*Sally*