

The Sidney United Methodist Church

News-n-Views

Volume 2017 Issue 11

November 2017

November



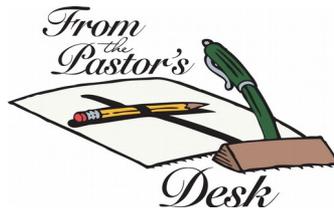
Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
9:00am-12:00pm

Pastor's Office Hours:
Tuesday and Thursday
10:00a.m.-12:00 p.m.
or by appointment

Sunday morning
Worship time:
10:15 a.m.



- Page 4: Pastor's Page
- Page 5: November Dates to Remember
- Page 6: SPRC Announcement
A Note of Thanksgiving
- Page 7: Thanksgiving Craft
Lay Leader's Letter
- Page 8: Youth Ministry Update
- Page 9: "Sauce and Cross"
Funnies
- Page 10: UMW News
- Page 11: A Visit to Utica
- Page 12: November Activity



Jesus also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud forming in the west, you immediately say, 'It's going to rain.' And indeed it does. And when a south wind blows, you say, 'A heat wave is coming.' And it does. Hypocrites! You know how to interpret conditions on earth and in the sky. How is it that you don't know how to interpret the present time?"

--Luke 12: 54-56

When I was a kid, I would love this time of year because the winds and rain and cool air of October brought with them frost, and that meant an end to the weeks of suffering from allergies to ragweed and pollen and to all the other allergens that had plagued me since mid-August. The sneezing would stop. The runny nose would stop running. The itchy eyes would find relief in the clear, cool October air. I could breathe again, and I liked it!

I no longer have allergies this time of year, but I still love this high-autumn season. I love the three-day celebration of All Hallows' Eve, All Saints (Hallow's) Day and All Souls Day. I love the World Series (especially this year because my team is in it!) I love the beautiful colors of the trees and the sound of rustling leaves as they fall from the trees and are scattered across the ground by the wind. And although I don't love what the changing season portends--winter--I do appreciate the urgency of preparation that's necessary, even in the modern day, in order to successfully navigate the upcoming cold and snow.

My favorite day of the year, in fact, is that first day in November when the trees are stripped bare and the sun is shining and the blue sky is resplendent behind the newly revealed browns of tree bark and branches. That day reminds me that we, stripped of our leaves, are essentially the same creatures of flesh and blood and bone and that we all live in the magical light of God's grace. High Autumn is an apt time of year to reflect on the essentials of who we are.

What characteristics, attitudes and behaviors are at the core of our being? When we take away what we do or did for work, who we're married to and who our children are and where our ancestors came from, we're left with the bare bark of who we are. It's very appropriate that we call the years past middle age the autumn years of life when, as we draw nearer to the end, we naturally review our lives and take stock of who we've become.

Another quality of the High Autumn season that is conducive to spiritual reflection is the decrease in daylight hours as we approach the Winter Solstice. Darkness allows us to limit distractions and focus on inward things. Darkness, and the silence that often accompanies it, allows us to shut down our more sensitive bodily senses and concentrate on ourselves. Are we comfortable with what we see there? Are we happy with who we are? What can we do to allow God to dwell more deeply within us?

So take some time to slow down this Autumn. Take some time to see what's around you and to look back on who you've become. Take some time to let God show what happening around you and what role God has for you to play in it.

*In Peace,
Pastor Tom*



November Dates to Remember

- All Saints' Day, November 1, 2017
- Daylight-Saving Time ends, November 5, 2017
- Veterans Day, November 11, 2017
- Thanksgiving Day, November 23, 2017
- Christ the King Sunday, November 26, 2017

SPRC Announcement

On behalf of the SPRC I wish to inform all of the congregation in regards to our change in service starting January, 2018. Our new Minister will be Cheryl Hine, starting January 1 until July 1, 2018. We will share her with Bainbridge Methodist Church. She is working $\frac{1}{4}$ time there or 10 hours. Cheryl will be working $\frac{1}{2}$ time for us or 20 hours and will be available on Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Cheryl would leave early on Tuesday, in order to get home before dark. She will be available for emergency, funerals and weddings.

All of our meetings need to be held on Monday evenings. Cheryl resides in Trumansburg and also has a home in Afton and hopes to make that her permanent residence in the future. This, I feel, is an opportunity for us to see how a $\frac{1}{2}$ time minister would work out for us in the future, keeping in mind that our congregation is much smaller and we would save half of that salary, which is a significant amount.

Since Cheryl will be serving both Bainbridge and Sidney, a change in our worship is necessary. Cheryl will be starting her worship in Bainbridge at 9 a.m. and our service would change to 10:30 a.m.

I think you will all like her and give her your support.

Mary Braun

A Note of Thanksgiving

"We want to thank you for the prayers being said for Mike as he fights his pancreatic cancer. He had a follow up appointment two weeks ago with the oncologist at Strong Hospital in Rochester. We are very happy to report that Mike put on six pounds in the four weeks since his last appointment! The 'tumor marker' from the blood work went from 121 down to 84. That indicates that the tumor has not grown. More good news. Please continue with your prayers as we believe you are going to see a miracle with his health. We continue to find blessings each day as we travel on this difficult path.

Thank you again.

Phylis and Mike Winn



Holiday Place Mats

Add fall décor to your family's Thanksgiving table by making these festive place mats.

What you'll need:

- Large pieces of paper
- Several large leaves
- Crayons in fall colors
- Fine-tip permanent marker

What to do:

- Working on a flat surface, place the leaves underneath the paper.
- Peel the wrappers off the crayons and rub them sideways over the paper, so the detail of the leaves become visible.
- Use other crayons to add additional detail, if desired. With the marker, list what you're thankful for and a Bible verse about thankfulness.
- Optional: Laminates the place mats so they're reusable.

Lay Leader's Letter

We gather together this Thanksgiving to honor our Loving Father. Father we want to thank you for this beautiful new morning you have given us. Thank you Lord for our church family, our friends, and family. Father with many thanks we give to you on this Thanksgiving, for the many blessings in our lives. Thank you Lord, for giving us our lives. You gave us the freedoms to live our lives for you and to do your work. You gave us many joys, and blessings to share with others.

O' Lord, you are the giver of life and the giver of love. Thank you Lord for providing us with everything that life gives to us, and the godliness. Make us, Lord to be the instruments of light to this dark world this Thanksgiving, and a blessing to all your nations around the whole world.

Thank you Lord, for everything you have granted us this Thanksgiving. In Jesus' name we pray, AMEN

Lay Leader,
Echo Adams



Youth Ministry Team Update

Children's Program: This has been a busy year for the Sidney UMC Youth Ministry Team. Our focus has been on building relationships with the children and families of the Sidney community. The core team members began with Sharon Bassett, Terri DeRoche, Barb Doyle, Peggy Stilson, Sue Olmsted and Echo Adams. We have added more members as we have proceeded this year, Nancy Bookhout, Debra Hromada, and Becky Helm.

We are so grateful to all of the congregation at Sidney UMC who support this important ministry through your prayers, gifts, and participation in our programs. There is such blessing in seeing the smiling faces of youth as relationships are being built and the love of Christ is shared.

In December of last year we held our first monthly children's program called Birthday Party for Jesus. This was a great start for our ministry with 14 youth attending. January through June we held 4 more programs for an overall attendance of 48 youth. We have found that most parents stay with their children and help with crafts.

In July our VBS program Camp Edge was a huge success. Over the four days 36 youth attended. We had many adults helping out and we could not have had a successful program without everyone's help and donations. We watched these youth come to us with little to no knowledge of Christ. By the end of the 4 days the youth were answering questions about the Bible stories and asking more questions. We know we have planted many seeds and pray that they will be nurtured further either here at Sidney UMC or some other community of Christ.

As fall approaches we are planning our future monthly children's program and reaching out to more families. Our mission is to provide a place where these children and families can come to have fun and learn about the love of Jesus Christ. Our prayer is that these families will find an open and welcoming community of Christians who care and support them where they are in their lives.

October 28 - Celebrating Halloween

Halloween, October 31 @ 5:00 pm - Trunk or Treat in the parking lot

November 11 - Celebrating Thanksgiving

December 9 - Celebrating Christmas

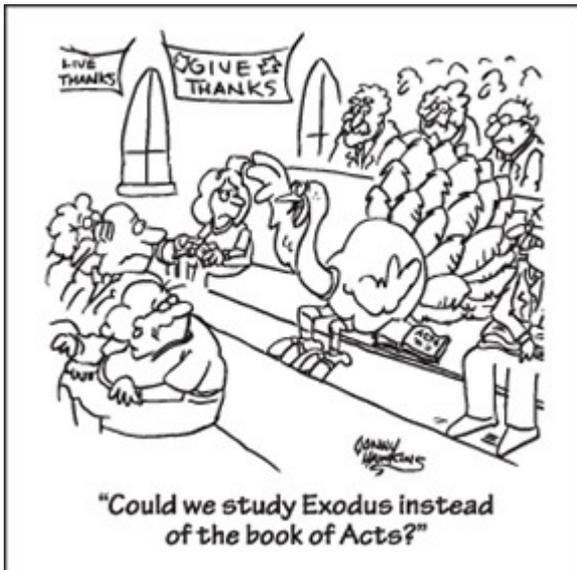


Sauce & Cross

Feeding the Body and Soul

In addition to the monthly children's programs, a small group has been meeting monthly for worship and discernment seeking God's guidance for how we can reach out further to the community. Beginning October 5 every first Thursday of the month we are offering Sauce and Cross spaghetti and praise service. This program will be held from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. We begin with a spaghetti dinner for the first 1/2 hour. Worship begins at 6 pm. Anyone can attend and it is an informal praise service. We are reaching out to the community of Sidney and extend an invitation to anyone who would like to experience the love of Christ through "Sauce and Cross". On October 5, God brought 15 non-Sidney UMC individuals to Sauce and Cross. We had a total of 31 attend. What a great start! Our next Sauce and Cross is November 2. We are also seeking musicians for the "Sauce and Cross" service. If you are looking for a place to play your instrument or sing, this is the service for you. If you or someone you know is interested in being on the planning team for either of these programs please contact Sharon Bassett at esbassett@gmail.com or 607-353-7978.

In Christ's Service
Sharon L Bassett





The United Methodist Women will meet on Thursday, November 9, 2017 at 1:30 PM in the Harvester Room. We will have our World Thank Offering program. After the meeting and program refreshments will be served. Everyone is invited to attend any of our meetings and programs.

Lydia Craft Circle will be resuming our craft sessions on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 1:00 PM in the craft room upstairs. Anyone interested in making Christmas crafts for our next bazaar is welcome to join us at any time.

“Celebrate the Season Bazaar” will be held Friday and Saturday, November 3rd and 4th with a luncheon from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM on Friday with donuts and coffee available in the morning. Our pancake breakfast will be held from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM on Saturday morning. As in the past there will be many areas where we need help. Donations are also needed for the various booths:

Attic Treasures: Your trash could be someone else's treasure. No clothing or furniture please.

Kids' Korner: Children's books and “previously owned and loved” toys and stuffed animals.

Sweet Shop including homemade baked goods, jams, jellies, pickles, and candies

Variety: Any handmade items (knitted, crocheted, sewn, etc.)

Christmas & Crafts: Christmas crafts.

Nature: Plants, seasonal fruits & vegetables, as well as wood crafts.

Donations for the bazaar may be brought to the church during the week of the bazaar. If you would like to volunteer at the bazaar, or if you have any questions, please call Peggy Stilson 563-1055 or the church office 563-1921. The proceeds from the bazaar will be used by the UMW to fulfill the important goals of our Outreach Programs. These include local and worldwide missions, several within our own church and community. The UMW also makes an annual pledge to our church, as well as maintaining the kitchen, including the purchase of equipment and supplies, and furnishes the basic needs for coffee hour.

A Visit to Utica, NY

"The Neighborhood Center is doing God's work on the front line, fighting poverty, hunger, drugs, etc." (A quote from an individual from a church in Hamilton, NY).

The Neighborhood Center, Inc. has been enriching the lives of individuals and families throughout Central New York starting in 1906 for the Italian community in Utica, NY. This center is financed through the United Methodist Women, other donations and some insurance.

They provide help through Child & Family Care and Behavioral Health Care Services. They have a mental health Clinical & Crisis department which serves many counties, including Delaware and Otsego counties. They have a staff of professionals that have developed strength-based outpatient treatment plans. Discounts for services are based on family size and income, although some clients do have insurance. They do offer some scholarships for their day-care and after-school programs. They also have a Healthy Home Children's Care Management team which assists with unique and complex health needs for persons up to age 21.

They assist those with mental illnesses with the methods to learn and develop independent living and job skills. They have an assistance program to help others to achieve employment and education goals. They provide crisis counseling and short-term assistance to families with home placement provision.

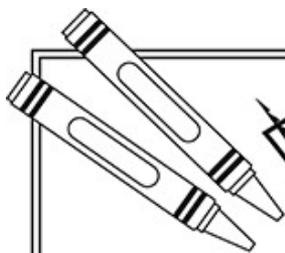
The United Methodist Women world wide help support the endeavors of the Neighborhood Center to supplement other personal or organizational donations. There also is an Annual Auction and Dinner on Nov. 17, 2017 which augments their operating funds. There is a cost to attend this function. To augment their funds, sponsor donations of varying amounts (such as \$1500-\$125.00) can be sent for ads in the program for this event.

Having been there and seen the operation personally with seven other Sidney UMW members, where we saw first hand two ongoing projects (basketball hoops for their gymnasium and an outdoor patio which would be where persons could just sit in a safe environment), however they still need funds to finish them. In light of these needs, I would like to ask this congregation to make any donations they wish for a special collection to be taken next Sunday, 9/29/2017. Please bring your donation (coins bills or checks) in an envelop earmarked for The Neighborhood Center. (Any donations which are sent to the church the first 2 weeks of November will also be included in our totals) Our UMW will then match that collection and forward it to Utica for their ongoing building projects.

Keep in mind you may always send a donation to them directly by mail or by bequests. Any donation helps continue their tradition of helping families become stronger and for the community to flourish. Their address follows. The Neighborhood Center / 624 Elizabeth Street / Utica, NY 13501. Phone 315-272-2600.

For those of you who have cell phones: the first ever cordless phone was created by God. He named it "prayer". It never loses its signal and you never have to recharge it. You can use it anywhere.

Prayer: Our Heavenly Father, We may not understand how everything will work out, but we trust You when we don't see a way. We have faith that at this very moment You are touching hearts, opening doors and lining up the right breaks and opportunities. Things may look dark and bleak now, but we have faith that the dawning is coming. In Jesus' Name. Amen!



PUZZLE

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

God gives us many blessings every day. How can we thank him?

Directions: To complete the Bible verse below, follow the code and fill in the blanks.



A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, E=5, F=6, G=7, H=8, I=9, J=10,
K=11, L=12, M=13, N=14, O=15, P=16, Q=17, R=18,
S=19, T=20, U=21, V=22, W=23, X=24, Y=25, Z=26.

" _____ will _____ 16 18 1 9 19 5

_____ ' _____ name in _____ 7 15 4 19 19 15 14 7

and _____ 7 12 15 18 9 6 25 _____ 8 9 13 with

_____ 20 8 1 14 11 19 7 9 22 9 14 7 "



Sidney United Methodist Church
12 Liberty Street
Sidney, New York 13838