
Christ United Methodist Church

October/November
2007 Newsletter

Rev. Bruce McDaniel, Pastor



Dear Friends,

In my daily devotions a few days back I ran across a phrase which said, “that which you do not choose will choose you, and that which you fear will find you . . . it’s not that we do not realize that we must make choices; for most of us it is the fear of making the wrong choice . . . the failure to choose is the result of the fear of letting go of the old for the new . . .”

The passage goes on to say, “what we do not realize is that choice is a divine teacher . . . we learn, when we choose, that nothing is ever put in our path without a reason . . . it holds a lesson for us . . . choice teaches us how to listen.”

I find this idea very intriguing - the idea that not choosing and fear is really still a choice and that even if we think we have skirted an issue, a problem, a challenge we haven’t really. Why? Because of our “not dealing with it” mindset has all kinds of consequences. Most of the time we choose not to deal with people or things because we believe we will not choose wisely. The author I’m reading for my devotions says that this failure to choose arises

because we wish not to let go of the old in order to reach for the new.

What usually happens is we clutch on tighter to the old, we come up with all kinds of reasons and ways that the old could be adapted and retooled. But usually what needs to happen is that we need to realize the old just won’t work like that anymore. What I think we do not do well (probably because we have never been taught how) is to let go of the old, honor it for what it has done and reach out for the new, welcome its coming and trust where it will lead.

Whatever choice we face – is there for a reason , and it is my belief that that choice and the process that goes with it is a divine teacher. There is much about listening, about dying and rising, about following where one is led present in each choice we make.

May we begin to view the choices in our lives with such reverence and sincerity. May we see a divine lesson in each choice, a divine revealing of God’s love as we learn to trust God’s leading and calling.

In Christ,

Bruce

Rev. Bruce McDaniel

A NEW STUDY: “God’s Politics: A New Vision for Faith

Pastor Bruce will offer a new study class for those interested on Monday’s – both morning and evening. The text is a 2005 book by evangelical author, Jim Wallis, editor of Sojourners Magazine and a renowned preacher. It is called God’s Politics.

The following blurb from the book’s jacket cover is an intriguing introduction to what the book covers. It says, “While the Right in America has hijacked the language of faith to prop up its political agenda – an agenda not all people of faith support – the Left hasn’t done much better, largely ignoring faith and continually separating moral discourse and personal ethics from public policy. While the Right argues that God’s way is their way, the Left pursues an unrealistic separation of religious values from morally grounded political leadership. The consequence is

a false choice between ideological religions and soulless politics.”

Wow! I hope that introduction whets the appetites of many of you. I hope it gets you wondering where he will go with discussion. I am looking forward to engaging in conversation around the issues he raises. What I believe he offers is a way to bridge the gap between these political and religious divisions that exist. Hopefully we can move to a place of living out our faith through political involvement that benefits us all.

I am planning on a six to eight-week study at this point. The book can be purchased on-line, and for those who plan to take the course – you will need to have read the first three chapters before the first class.

The class will begin on Monday, November 5th and be offered both at 10:30am and 7pm. Then it will

meet November 12th –December 17th but we will have to skip the week of November 19th because of a District fall Ministry Event offered on that

evening. (see related article) Please sign up in the narthex after worship or call the church office to register for either the morning or afternoon class.

FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Christ Youth Fellow will be sponsoring a Fall Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 20th, starting at 5:30 p.m. Upon arriving we will all contribute our frozen veggie of choice to a “Hobo Stew.” Cider from the Rahrigs will be some of the drink provided. Around 6:00-6:15 p.m. we will all be ladled out some stew. Other activities to go on that

evening are carving pumpkins, bobbing for apples, playing games, making ‘smores, a hayride and a bonfire to end the evening.

So pack up your coats and your families – invite friends - and come for the fun of it all.

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

On Wednesday, November 21st, we will be worshipping for Thanksgiving Eve. The worship will begin at 7:00 p.m. This service is a way for us to prepare ourselves for what often becomes

a day of over-indulgence. This year’s service will focus on our thankfulness of another harvest and the gifts God has given the entire world through the Earth.

WORSHIP

The **Worship Committee** would like to purchase worship furnishings (advent candle/wreath, banners, etc.) for the church/altar. If there is anyone who would

like to donate money personally or from a memorial, please contact Nancy Shrider, chair of the committee, or Reverend McDaniel.

Nancy Shrider

UNITED METHODIST MEN’S BREAKFAST

The United Methodist Men’s next breakfast will be Saturday morning, November 3, at 8:00 a.m. More information will be given as to what we will be doing as a group of

United Methodist Men. The meeting/breakfast will be one hour in length. You will be on your way by 9:00 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON OUTREACH

The committee has been busy setting up volunteers for the Wood Lane Homes. Their staff has been very complimentary of each volunteer and grateful for the extra attention given the residents. Also, once a month two persons from our church help the Wood Lane residents who attend our worship services. Responsibilities are posted on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board. The committee is working on designing a brochure for our church to distribute to persons moving into the surrounding areas

informing them about the church and including vital information concerning the community. Start up monies for this project has already been received. Church members have responded by contributing time and money for the CROP Walk, Festival of Sharing, area flood victims and much more! We are also looking into the Stephen Ministry Program – but more about that later. How exciting to be in God’s service!

Note to committee members: regular monthly meetings have been changed to the first Tuesday of each month from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Barbara Brandeberry, Chair

IN APPRECIATION

A “thank you” letter received from Christian Resources International for the 126 lbs of literature (used) that Reverend McDaniel delivered to their office in Fowlerville, Michigan, is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. The literature is sent all over the world to help spread God’s Word.

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU to everyone who contributed items for the Festival of Sharing Kits. We were able to send 112 school kits, 43 infant kits, and 47 Health Kits to be distributed to those persons who have not been blessed as we have been.

THANK YOU from the United Methodist Women to everyone who contributed pies and cakes and help for the Baked Steak Dinner. It was very successful.

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped in any way to make the annual Red Cross Blood Drive at Christ UM Church so successful by donating blood and/or working wherever needed. Our goal was 40 pints of blood and 57 pints were given. After many years as the organizers of the blood drive Ray and Marilyn have stepped down. Please express your appreciation to them for their faithful commitment in this important area.

After many Sundays of conducting the Children’s Church Jay Deutschman has stepped aside to give someone else the pleasure and satisfaction of working with the children, ages Kindergarten through Third Grade. THANK YOU, Jay, for your commitment to the children.

KIDS’ NIGHT SCHEDULE

Listed below are the dates and times for Kids’ Night for October and November:

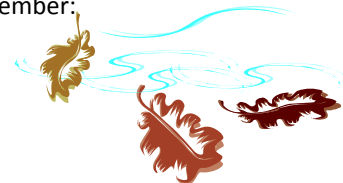
- October 18:..... World Communion – What is Communion? An explanation
- November 1:..... All Saint’s and All Soul’s Day: A Class Cookbook
- November 15:..... Giving Thanks: Pumpkin Pie Cups and A Family Feast
- November 29:..... Advent: Stir-Up Sunday Cakes/Making Advent Calendars

All times are 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Listed below are the dates and times for Youth Fellowship for October and November:

- October 21..... Corn Maze
- November 4..... 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
- November 18..... 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.



BISHOP OUGH TO VISIT

On October 16, Bishop Ough will be visiting with the laity of our district. You are invited to First UMC in Perrysburg from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. to share an

evening with the Bishop. Also presented that evening will be lay ministry opportunities by George Howard and a chance for dialogue.

MINISTRY EVENTS

Our District Superintendent, Rae Lynn Schleif and Assistant to the District Superintendent, Reverend Mike Denman will be leading ministry events through the district during this Fall season. During these events Laity and Clergy from every congregation will work together in determining where you are on the “Life Cycle of the Church,” what mission, vision and values drive your

congregation, what a next step will be for your congregation in light of this work together and finally celebration of ministry. Rae Lynn and Mike are looking forward to spending this exciting time with you. The date is Monday, November 19, 7:00 p.m., at First UMC, Bowling Green. It is for all members of the church.

LEADERSHIP IN MISSION

Plans are developing for a tremendous day on Saturday, December 1st. We will celebrate the ongoing mission work of our congregations locally and globally. Also included will be leadership training opportunities for the laity and clergy. Highlights include presentations of our conference mission partnerships, introduction of the new Lay Ministry Certification Academy, leadership training

for the team and committee members of the church and a great luncheon banquet. Registration information will be available soon. Our gathering will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the day will conclude by 4:30 p.m. Tentative location is Maumee UMC. Something for everyone – new chairpersons for 2008, youth, missions teams.

CHURCHES AND TAXES

During this Summer our district was blessed with an intern, Mr. Tom Keller, who researched tax issues for us. Mr. Keller will be presenting this information to our district on Saturday, January 12, 2008, at First UM Church in Perrysburg, his home church. Every

congregation needs to be represented at this training. Clarification on sales tax and taxable income for churches. A must for every church who collects money from church events or facility rentals or has a day care center.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER



November 4, 2007 – Daylight Savings Time ends

November 6, 2007 – Election Day – Don't forget to vote!



EARN FREE MONEY FOR CHRIST UM CHURCH

If you shop at Kroger (even if only occasionally), you can earn free money for the church. The Kroger program is a gift card you must purchase from the church. All cards have a preloaded balance of \$5.00.. Simply “load” your card at Kroger, using cash, check, or your favorite credit. Then use that card to pay for your purchases. Each time you load your

card you earn 5% for the church. The card can be used at the fuel station and the pharmacy, also. As long as there is a balance on the card it is good. Cards that have had a zero balance for 90 days are deactivated. Also, on Wednesdays, people with Golden Buckeye cards get a 5% discount at Kroger.

A TRIBUTE TO ELEANOR DEUTSCHMAN

This should have been said at the dedication of the shelter house, but I didn't realize we would be given a chance to speak.

My husband and I saw Eleanor as a teenager grow up in the Evangelical United Brethren Church. Get married and raise a family. She was one of the folks who got the Jacob and Rachel Class started; met in the old parsonage. She and Katiebell for years and

years were head of the homemade ice cream on Memorial Day.

Leonard asked her if she'd like to sub for him on the mail route. She did and whether he wanted a day off to farm or go some place, Eleanor never let him down. She was really trustworthy and a dependable person.

She helped with our communion for a number of years.

She did our breakfast for several years on Easter.

She was in our skits for the Mother-Daughter banquets. What I really remember about Eleanor is – I'm sure she, Katiebell and Madelyn planned one huge surprise on Leonard and I. They knew we had an anniversary coming up but didn't know which one (was our 44th). Leonard was manager of our church dart ball and also the soft ball team. Even though all the players had grown up and got married and some moved away, they managed to get nearly all of them together for our big day. They got out all of their trophies and had their picture taken. They furnished all the refreshments and got Calhoun (Ray) Keys and Marilyn to furnish entertainment. What a day! What a surprise!

I'll never forget Eleanor and the wonderful things she did for Leonard and me and our church. I'm sure there's a good many people in our congregation that will always remember Eleanor for all she and Richard did for our church to keep it moving.

Margaret Davis

AN INVITATION

The Cocoon Shelter is holding its third Annual Fall Harvest Gala on Saturday, November 3, 2007, 6:30 to 10:00 p.m., at the DC Ranch in Perrysburg. There

is more information on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Micky Allen
Jo Amos
Madelyn Amos
Cody Bame
Troy Bame
Vern Bame
John Bankey
John Bankey
Red Bankey
Joey Boltz
Jared Brandeberry
Joshua Brandeberry
Betty Brown
Tom Brown
Pat Canterbury
Edna Cessna

Don Converse
Jim Copus
Brenda Daniels
Blythe (Skeeter) Drain
Dianne Freeman
Nancy Gillian
Hazel and Jack Goodwin
Mrs. Hanely
Pam High
Fred Holloway
Virginia and Bud Housholder
Lee Kinney
Darnell Kirschner
Barbara Maidment
Delma Marten
Bob Miller

Tim Moore
Wanda and Ronnie Myers
Shane Parsons
Mike Patten
Vesta Patton
Abe Perez
Betty Perez
Judy Price
Paul and Jean Rausher
Mrs. Renner
Cindy Rossow
Steve Sanders
Jerry Serrato
Rudy Serrato
Hugh and Lois Sheline
Amanda Simon



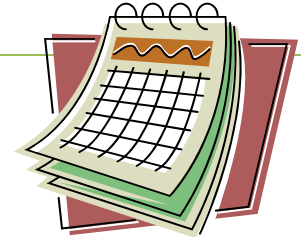
Rev. Robert Simmons
 Todd Smith
 Ed South
 Jenny Sugg
 Lucy Swank
 Jim Tatham

Family of Sally Thiebaut
 Dean Treier
 Cindy Yeasting
 Mackensie Zarecki
 All Service Men and Women
 Our Nation/Leaders

Flood Victims everywhere
 People of Afghanistan
 Leaders/People of Iraq
 People of Darfur
 Stop Genocide in Darfur
 Entire Middle East Turmoil

Although names have been removed from the above list, please continue to pray for those persons.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



October 7	1:30 p.m.	CROP WALK, BG City Park
October 8	7:00 p.m.	Lions Club
October 9	7:00 p.m.	Trustees Meeting
October 10	6:30 p.m.	Children's Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	United Methodist Women Meeting
October 14	9:30 a.m.	Laity Sunday/Children's Sabbath
October 15	7:00 p.m.	Pastor-Parish Committee Meeting
October 17	7:00 p.m.	Administrative Council
October 18	7:00 p.m.	Kids' Night
October 20	5:30 p.m.	Fall Festival
October 21	9:30 a.m.	World Communion Sunday Observed
October 21	6:30 p.m.	Youth Fellowship Corn Maze
October 23	7:00 p.m.	Worship Committee
October 29	7:00 p.m.	Charge Conference, Christ UM Church
November 1	7:00 p.m.	Kids' Night
November 4	12:00 p.m.	Monthly Church Potluck
	6:30 p.m.	Youth Fellowship
November 6	7:00 p.m.	Outreach Committee
November 14	7:00 p.m.	United Methodist Women Meeting
November 15	7:00 p.m.	Kids' Night
	7:00 p.m.	Garden Club
November 18	6:30 p.m.	Youth Fellowship
November 19	7:00 p.m.	Fall Ministry Event at First UM Church
November 29	7:00 p.m.	Kids' Night

Each Sunday: Worship at 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School at 11:00 a.m.

BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER



1	Dorothy Bittikofer Dick Coulter Clarence Kidd	3	Jean Wack	9	Kurt Lee
2	Jenny Bechstein Anne Deutschman Martha Musser	5	Lauren Deutschman Amy Ducat	10	Millie Broka Mary Lou Loose Kirk Summersett
		6	Deena Deutschman Jennifer Graffin	11	Katie Keys
		7	Kristen Zorecki	12	Elie Krassow
				15	Stuart Foes

16	Linda Allen	22	Sylvia Dill		Robin Espen
	Jim Wickard	25	Michael Allen	30	Pat Watkins
18	Greg Amend	28	Connie Deutschman	31	Sally Amos
	Amanda Jones		Lynn Gillian		Judy Bressler
	Maria Roberts	29	Regina Amos		Carla Carney
21	Ron Bechstein		Jeff Avery		

ANNIVERSARIES IN OCTOBER

4 Kellie and Mike Daniels
 Rosemary and Stan Patten
 8 Pat and Murray Watkins
 13 Katie and Richard Boltz



21 Amy and Rex Lee
 26 Jane and Gary Wulff
 30 Vicki and Brian Cramer