

The Messenger November 2018



Pastor on Vacation

Norman and Carol will be on vacation from November 19-26. Please pray for the Godfreys as they travel to Texas for Thanksgiving with daughter, Vickie and her family.



Thanksgiving Dinner

The Spiritual Growth-Outreach Committee will be sponsoring a Thanksgiving dinner on November 18, 2018, after the worship service. The committee will furnish the meat and drinks. You are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board. We hope you will join us. Any questions, please see or call Reva.



Open Door Pantry Concert

On Sunday, November 4 at 3:00 pm, the Open Door Food Pantry will hold its annual Benefit Concert at Zion Lutheran Church in downtown Hamilton. This has become a very popular and much anticipated event that brings together many denominations as participants and audience. Rarely in our community do we have such a roster of musicians (see poster on bulletin board), all of whom donate their time and talents on behalf of the Open Door Food Pantry. The major amount of the Pantry's funding comes from donations and the proceeds of this concert. Since 1981, the Pantry has served thousands of families and individuals in need by providing an emergency source of food.

Hanging of the Greens

November 24, 2018 at 10:00 am

We hope many of you will come and help decorate our church. Lunch will be served. Any questions, call or see Reva.



Respect the Deadline!



Newsletter Deadline
for December is
November 21st.



Ruth Esther Circle
meets Wednesday,
November 7th
at 10:00 am.



12 Barbara Mainous
13 Jerry Alvey
16 Bradley Shane
17 Bonnie Santel
20 Kym Smith



**Deacon's
Corner**

The Deacons want to express their thanks to those who contributed desserts and to all who helped out with the Chili Supper, from the cooks to the servers. Your help is much appreciated. We were able to raise almost \$900.00 to help with our Christmas Project. Thanks to everyone!

Don't forget, we will be needing canned meat for the month of November.

May the Lord bless you for your generous giving.

Westwood Financial Report - 2018

September:	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Current Funds	9,135.96	7,061.09	2,074.87
Per Capita	0.00	592.92	-592.92
Benevolence	0.00	22.00	-22.00
Total	9,135.96	7,676.01	1,459.95
Year-To-Date:			
Current Funds	63,728.50	67,769.01	-4,040.51
Per Capita	550.00	592.92	-42.92
Benevolence	427.00	1,186.00	-759.00
Total	64,705.50	69,547.93	-4,842.43

Attendance for September:

2nd	--27
9th	--28
16th	--32
23nd	--32
30th	--24
Total	143

*More detailed financial reports
are available upon request
from Steve Anglin
or the church office.*





FROM THE PASTOR

“A Statement of Faith”

As I continue to travel along in life, I have begun to spend a great deal of time thinking about what I really believe. Especially about what I believe about God, the church, the world and the meaning of life. As I reflect I am aware of how important our faith is. Faith brings us hope; it shines light on the dark paths which lie before us; it comforts our souls; it warms us with love, holding us as a mother does her babe. Without faith and my belief in a God who is with me, the purpose of life would elude me. Beyond that I would have nothing to look forward to.

Today, for me, as in no other time in our lives, we need to know what we believe and proclaim it through our daily interactions. Our world is in chaos. Unity is non-existent, except in the case of “us vs. them”. Anger and animosity is out of control. Violence in many cases is the first action considered. It's madness. So, what is the answer?

I believe the answer lies in each of us. We must pray for God's guidance. We must clarify what we believe. We must act on those beliefs, therefore giving an example of what it means to be a follower of God, the one who has the answers for life. Some may think us naïve or even foolish, but this is exactly what Christ has called us to do.

The apostle Paul urges us to “offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship” (Romans 12:1). I invite you to read the whole twelfth chapter of Romans. Paul echoes what Christ has called us to be and do, as we live a life of faith.

My hope, as I ramble on here, is that all of us will seriously reflect on what we believe, so that we will be able to share with others that which guides our lives. In doing so, there is the potential that others may see God through us so that they may “glorify Him” with you. In turn, if each of us would do this, we just might experience more of God's light all around us.

My prayer is that we all will let our light shine. Amen.

In Christ,

Norman



Deacons – November 7 – 1 pm

Administration – November 11– after worship

Spiritual Gr/Outreach – November 12 – 6 pm

Session – November 12 – 7 pm

**SERVING
THIS
MONTH**



Ushers: Loretta Otto
Karen Conrad

Worship Leader:
4 Steve Anglin
11 Andrea Estridge
18 Doug Gambrell
25 Bob Long

Sunday School:
4 Sandra Warren
11 Andrea Estridge
18 Reva Johnson
28 Marlene Sloneker

Coffee Hour:
4 Betty & Doug Gambrell
11 Carol & Norman Godfrey
18 Thanksgiving Potluck – Sp. Gr.
25 Dale Alvey & Dianne Hurst

Kitchen Duty:
Andrea Estridge

Communion Preparation:
Andrea Estridge

Communion Servers:
Steve Anglin, Marlene Sloneker
Cindy Anglin, Loretta Otto

Prayer Concerns

Hospice: Frank Dougherty (at home)

Cancer/Radiation Treatment:
Miriam Kridner (Helen's sister) liver
Nancy Price (Marlene's neighbor) - lung

Miscellaneous concerns:
Summer Estridge – health
Jeanette Skidmore (Reva's sister) health
Nate Griffin (Andrea)
Bonnie Martin -healing
Catherine (Treva's mom) declining health
Fred Conrad (Karen) – health
Tammy Platt - health

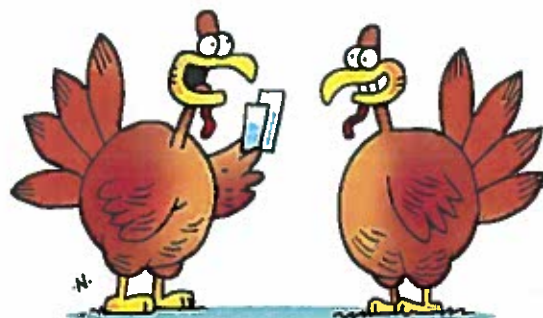
Shut-Ins: Dick Flynn
Ruth Mollett

In Nursing Home/Assisted Living:
The Knolls: Ellen Lowery
Maple Knolls: Mae Shane (Loretta)
Doverwood: Helen Belcher

National & International Concerns:
Our country, Natural disasters, violence, unity
Our armed forces worldwide
Missionaries across the world
Peace in our world

Local Concerns:
Our church
Cities of Hamilton & Fairfield
Serve City / Haven House / Community Meal Center
Churches in community

Congregational Prayer:
As we continue to pray for our sister churches in the Miami Presbytery, we are remembering Rushsylvania Presbyterian Church in Rushsylvania, OH and their pastor Rev. Mike Buker



"Let's fly south for Thanksgiving. I got two plane tickets online."

Comic by Scott Nickel



Thank you to our Coffee Hour hosts and hostesses. Special thanks to the
October volunteers:

Ruth Esther Circle, Marion Flynn, Loretta Otto, Donna & Jean Wright.

Thank you to the following who were Ushers for the month of October:

Dale Alvey and Bob Estridge.

Thank you to the following Sunday School volunteers for the month of
October: Marlene Sloneker, Sandra Warren, Andrea Estridge, Reva Johnson.

Thank you to all of our Kitchen Clean-up people. Special thanks to Marlene Sloneker for
the month of September.

Thank you to Reva Johnson & Marlene Sloneker for preparing communion for October.

Thank you to the following volunteers for serving communion:

Marlene Sloneker, Doug Gambrell, Bob Estridge, Cindy Anglin.

Thank you to the following volunteers who worked at the Community Meal Center on
Friday, October 19th: Bob Estridge, Loretta Otto, Marlene Sloneker, Traci Stevenson,
Marlene Sloneker and Sandra Warren.

Donations: Bob & Andrea Estridge, Estil & Bonita Gay, Loretta Otto, Marlene Sloneker,
Traci Stevison, and Sandra Warren.

Special thanks to Estil and Bonita Gay for their timely and inspirational
messages on the church sign.

Thank you to Bob Estridge, Estil Gay, Dale Alvey and Don for mowing our church lawn.

The Open Door Food Pantry needs your help!

We have an immediate need for volunteers in our pantry at 800 S. Front Street in Hamilton who are able to:

- Operate a small fork-lift
- Drive a small box truck
- Make basic handy-man repairs

We are also looking for people to help with one or more of the following activities:

- General office clerical work, customer data entry data management
- Stocking shelves and helping to keep things organized and clean
- Greeting shoppers and helping them with groceries
- Bilingual people (English and Spanish) to assist shoppers on Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:30

If you want to help feed the hungry and can donate a minimum of 2-3 hours per week, please call the Executive Director at (513) 330-2423 for more information. We are open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm and 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm Thursday evening.

Thanks 
FOR PITCHING IN!

Thank you to everyone who gave to the **Peace and Global Witness** offering on Sunday, October 14. \$105 dollars was collected and sent to the Presbyterian Church USA to support their efforts toward world peace. God bless you all.

Thank you again, to Bob Estridge for heading up Westwood's participation in this year's Hospice Walk.

Thank you to Steve Anglin who has been teaching the adult Sunday school class. The class which has focused on "Christianity and World Religions" has been informative as well as inspirational, as we have sought to understand those who worship differently than we do as Christians. Thank you Steve, you have been a blessing to each of us.

Thank you to everyone who made this year's **Chili Supper** a great success. \$890+ was raised to help families in need during the Christmas season. Special thanks goes to the Deacons for their leadership in organizing and guiding the process. (As your pastor, It was exciting to see everyone working together fulfilling our common goal, ministering to those in need.) Also, the Chili and Vegetable Soup were delicious.



“How I Love You”

Bill Welsh pastors a United Methodist Church in the desert of southern California. A member of his church had a little child who was subject to sudden, unexpected seizures. They were violent and painful, not only for the child, but for the parents and for those around who witnessed them. The father and child would come to church regularly, and the father's practice was to often hold the child.

One Sunday morning, in the midst of worship, the child underwent a major seizure. Welsh says the father gathered the boy up, carried him from the pew to the back of the sanctuary, where he stood rocking the child tenderly, speaking gently to him until finally the seizure abated and he was at peace again.

Welsh says that there was no sign of embarrassment or frustration of the father's face, only love for the child. “And all at once,” says Welch, “I heard God speak to my heart, 'That's the way I love you' “



**Time Change Takes Place
on Sunday, November 4.**
Remember to set your clock
back one hour on Saturday,
November 3.



We will again be taking orders for poinsettias this season to decorate our sanctuary for Christmas. Order forms will be available soon. Orders will need to be turned in by Sunday, December 9th. The cost will be \$7.50 for a 6 ½ inch pot. Any question, see or call Reva.



“DO NOT LOOK FORWARD TO WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN TOMORROW, THE SAME EVERLASTING FATHER, WHO CARES FOR YOU TODAY...WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU TOMORROW AND EVERYDAY. EITHER HE WILL SHIELD YOU FROM SUFFERING OR HE WILL GIVE YOU UNFAILING STRENGTH TO BEAR IT. BE AT PEACE THEN AND PUT ASIDE ALL ANXIOUS THOUGHTS AND IMAGINATIONS. AMEN.”



Dear Friends:

Thank you so much for your contribution of \$150.00 to *Hike for Hospice, Hamilton*, benefiting Hospice of Hamilton. We are grateful for your generosity. This year's Hike took place on Saturday, September 22, 2018 at our inpatient care center on Eaton Avenue, Hamilton, Ohio.

Contributions to Hospice of Hamilton make it possible to offer a full range of personalized programs, from expert symptom management and comfort care, to holistic options like music, pet, and art therapies to help patients live fully and appreciate the things they enjoy. Families are offered grief support, counseling, and memorial services commemorating their loved ones. Without supporters like you it would be impossible to offer these and other special experiences to our patients and families.

Sincerely,

Sandra Lobert
President and CEO
Hospice of Hamilton

Westwood Presbyterian Church
1068 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, OH 45013
Address Service Requested

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Reach, teach, care and share



November



2018