

# THE CALL



## Church Happenings

<b>Communion</b>	<b>Nov.. 3</b>
<b>Worship &amp; Music- 4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Nov. 6</b>
<b>Friendship &amp; Talent Luncheon-noon</b>	<b>Nov. 13</b>
<b>Session Meeting- 4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Nov. 13</b>
<b>PW Praise and Thank Service</b>	<b>Nov. 17</b>
<b>Thankfulness Banquet</b>	<b>Nov. 20</b>



## NOVEMBER SERVERS

### LAY LITURGIST:

Mike Gommel & Cathy Lincourt

### GREETER:

Marilyn Woods, Dennis Shepherd

### USHERS:

Anne Westhafer & Linda Simpson

### REFRESHMENTS:

Marilyn Woods, Kathy Denny

### COUNTER:

Marilyn Woods and Roy Simpson

## Wally Words

### "Living In the Season"

Kay and I took a few days' leave to visit our son David and his wife Eun in Washington, D.C. It's a long trip, but so worth it to spend time eating and visiting with family. You can find any kind of food in D.C. We had exceptional German, Korean, and Yemeni cuisine... all good! As a bonus, we got to see our older son for a half hour in between his arrival and departing flights. Family comes first.

Family, for us, is the joy of Thanksgiving. While stores clamor to get the jump on our Christmas dollars, we simply stay home and do some things that have become family tradition. Thanksgiving reminds us to stop striving so we can be content, grateful for our blessings. There are so many ways to express gratitude: Be a bell ringer for the Salvation Army; deliver Meals on Wheels; extend heartfelt warmth to those who must seek the women's shelter; pay for someone's dinner; reach out to someone you know who is alone with their grief. Or just enjoy the thoughts of how fortunate you are to be part of the family.

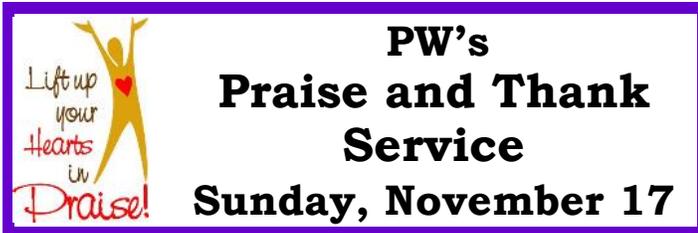
A church we served for 15 years in West Virginia set up a "hat & mitten tree" which was decorated with hats, mittens, and socks for poor children in the Mountain Project. We delivered these items to the Presbyterian pastor at the Mission project on the Sunday preceding Christmas so he could distribute it to the children most in need. Some churches show their gratitude by serving meals. I recently read a strange article about the city of Malibu, CA, which asked a local church to stop serving meals to the homeless, on the



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

### Presbyterian Women — Friendship & Talent

Join us for the Wednesday, November 13 Friendship and Talent lunch and brief meeting. A delicious lunch will be served at noon. You may come around 11:30 a. m. for card signing and fellowship before eating. Kathy Denny will be giving devotions.



### Thankfulness Banquet

The third annual **Thankfulness Banquet** will be held Wednesday, November 20. You are welcome to invite non-church members as in past years, but the church office needs to know the number of attendees by Friday, November 15.

To avoid any confusion, it should be noted that this church function is not open to the public at large but rather by invitation from members. Reservations ahead of time are necessary to assist our Mission, Outreach, Marketing (MOM) Committee to prepare for the event properly.

A sign-up sheet can be found on the Information Table in the Reception Hall. You can sign if you plan to attend and how many will be in your party. There is also a sign-up sheet for donations of food for the dinner and if you wish to help with the dinner.



### IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY

Mike Gommel

This month, instead of telling you of new additions to the Library, I want to write about one of the longest lasting groups in our church: the women.

They have had many names: Women's Foreign & Home Missionary Society, Women's Auxiliary, Friendship & Talent Guild, and so on. But whatever their title, they have been a constant and hard-working presence.

The earliest evidence of their work in our archives is a copy of an article from *The Greensburg Repository* on July 25, 1846. This article tells of a "Fair" held by the women to raise money for the purchase of the church bell.

It was the women of the church that raised the money in 1878 for the stained glass windows. It was they who purchased and installed the pipe organ in 1896. Even the chandeliers in the sanctuary, originally gas-lit, were converted to electricity at the suggestion of the women. The furnishings for the Reception Hall and the Memorial room were the result of their work.

But their most important achievement has been the money they have raised year after year for mission work. There is scarcely an organization in the county that has not benefitted from their efforts.

On the third Sunday of this month, November 17, the worship service will be turned over to the Presbyterian Women for their annual **Praise and Thank Service**. Our attendance at this service is a fine and easy way for us to say: Thank You. Thank you for your dedication, your hard work, and your inspiration. Thank you, ladies.

## Wally Words— Continued from page 1

premise that their program increased homelessness. I suspect that in truth the officials were embarrassed to have to see all these homeless people emerge from their alleys, displaying their neediness while the city did nothing. Go figure! Unless a church's ministries are actually harming someone, those ministries should never submit to outside pressures to desist. We are called to live with such gratitude for God's goodness that our gratitude overflows in acts of kindness.

Very soon - in just one month - Advent will begin on December 1. This is a time of waiting, of preparing for the miracle of God's love. In our hurry-up society, with the pressure of "making" Thanksgiving and Christmas, what a gift it is to be able to step back, to reflect, and allow God to be God. Let God transform you, and me, and this

Church so that we, by grace, may become the people God created us to be.

Standing with God's people of every age, we look to God who alone is faithful. Our future is with God, who as Sovereign calls women and men to faith and ministry. We are grateful for this loving, caring church.

*Wally*

765-278-3749 —Call or Text  
revwwilson@gmail.com



Korean Food



### PRAYER FOCUS FOR NOVEMBER:

#### **The Meaning of Thanksgiving**

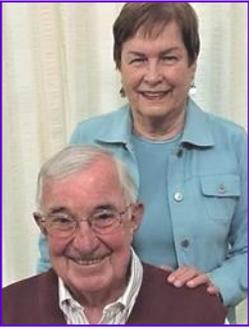
*Tis the season of Thanksgiving  
For abundant harvest near,  
But so much we are receiving  
From our blessed Lord, it's clear  
That in gratitude, our living  
Should give thanks all through the year.*

J.T. Bolding

Thanksgiving is so big, we should not put it just in the month of November. We should let it fill the atmosphere throughout the year.

The first Thanksgiving in America took place in 1621 with the idea to set aside a special day to give thanks to God for his bountiful harvest. *1 Thessalonians 5:18* "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

Families will find joy if they take a few minutes to share what they are thankful for at their Thanksgiving dinner. Thanksgiving will have a new dimension if we spend more time being aware of our blessings.



## Our Journey Together - Joe and Anne Westhafer

Joe Westhafer was born on May 26, 1936 in Greensburg, Indiana to Alden and Dorothy Westhafer. He had three brothers and two sisters and they were all raised in Greensburg. The Westhafer families were members of the Greensburg First Presbyterian Church and that is where Joe was baptized. Joe was very active in church growing up and graduated from Greensburg High School.

Anne Bragdon was born to Hoit and Margaret Bragdon in Jacksonville, Florida. Anne's uncle was a Baptist Minister who directed a home for children, and Anne and her friends liked to hang out there. Anne's dad was baptized in the Methodist church and her mother was Baptist. She and her brother grew up in a Southern Baptist Church. Church was very important to her, and she was very involved with the youth group. Her Dad never joined the Baptist church, so Anne and her brother went to church with Mom. Except for a couple of summers at a girls camp, Anne spent most of her summers with her Mom and brother at Queens Farm in Waynesville, North Carolina, and Dad would come on weekends. While in high school, Anne was a Lionette (a precision marching team that did formations on the field). She graduated from Landon High School in Jacksonville Florida in 1955.

Anne went on to college at the Florida State University. Joe started out at the University of Cincinnati on a basketball scholarship, but transferred to Florida State after his freshman year. Joe and Anne did not meet until towards the end of Anne's first year of college. They shared a class, and one day Joe came up to Anne in a coffee shop and introduced himself saying they were in the same math class. He asked for her help to pass the course. They dated off and on the rest of that year.

The next couple of years Joe and Anne went their separate ways. Joe was the assistant director of the Westminster Fellowship, and Anne had to deal with all the restrictions that Florida State put on women back then. Some of those were: girls could not go home to visit for the first eight weeks; no shorts on campus (if you played volleyball, you had to cover up your shorts); No men in dorms; and No drinking alcoholic beverages (If caught you would be expelled).

In their senior year Joe, who was studying for seminary, interned in Jacksonville, Florida. This was Anne's home town so they started talking again with Jacksonville being a common bond. Joe asked Anne to go to a fraternity outing and they continued dating for the rest of their final year in college. The summer of 1959, following college, Joe worked as a student pastor at a Presbyterian church in Quincy Florida while Anne took a trip out west. When she returned, Joe asked Anne to marry him, and they were married on September 5, 1959.

Following their marriage, Joe went to Seminary. He found he didn't like it, so he dropped out and fulfilled his ROTC commission in the Army. After short stints at Ft. Benning and Ft. Jackson, Joe shipped out to Korea and was gone for a total of 16 months. While stationed in Korea, Anne was able to join him in Japan for a couple of weeks during that time. When Joe returned from the Army in 1962, they moved to Greensburg. His father had purchased "Cyclone Fence" to build a business, which became "Indiana Wire," and he needed Joe's help. This is when Anne became a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Greensburg and they became very active in the church.

Over the next ten years Joe and Anne had four children, son Mike, and daughters Kathy, Pam, and Susan. The kids were Anne's pride and joy. She stayed home with her kids and raised them to be independent and self-sufficient. As the kids grew older and went off on their own, Anne did a lot of volunteer work in the community and held several positions in the church. She was director of Sunday school for a year, was Clerk of Session for 12 years, and Treasurer for three. She was also delegate to Synod for three years as well. Joe was the first moderator of the Whitewater Valley Presbytery, for which he received a plaque, and has been an elected elder serving the church in many rolls throughout the years since 1963.

Joe and Anne just celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on September 5, 2019. They are now the proud grandparents of nine grandchildren (five granddaughters, three grandsons, and one grand-dog).

When asked about their favorite scriptures, Joe stated: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever." *Hebrews 13:8*. Ann's favorite is: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." *John 3:16*.

**First Presbyterian  
Church**  
202 N. Franklin St.

Phone: 812-663-2197  
Fax: 812-663-9381  
E-mail: fpcgburg@etczone.com



*Seeking to Live God's Word  
by Serving Others*

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## Poinsettias

This holiday season we will be decorating the Sanctuary of the church in red poinsettias with gold foil and ivory ribbon. Would you like to donate a Poinsettia, in memory of your loved ones, to beautify the Sanctuary this Christmas?

Now is the time to order if you wish to get a poinsettia from Rotary. Cost is \$10 per poinsettia. (If interested, see Greg Rust or call the church office.)

## 2019 Session

**2019**  
Jeff Lincourt  
Roy Simpson

**2020**  
Dave Schlemmer  
Polly Matlock

**2021**  
Mary Stradley  
David Narwold  
Judy Rust  
*CLERK OF SESSION*  
Darleen Fox  
*PASTOR*  
Rev. Wally Wilson

### THINKING ABOUT VOLUNTEERING YOUR TIME TO HELP A LOCAL ORGANIZATION?

- Bread of Life · 812-662-4887
- New Directions · 812-662-8822
- Meals on Wheels · 812-663-6099
- AGAPE Center · 812-222-4273
- Champions of Youth (formerly BB) · 812-663-7556
- Kids Closet · 812-663-2084
- Decatur County Special Olympics · 812-663-4690
- Decatur County United Fund Adult Literacy Program · 812-560-3820
- Hospice of South Central Indiana · 812-314-8000

Per Capita for 2019 **\$40.72**

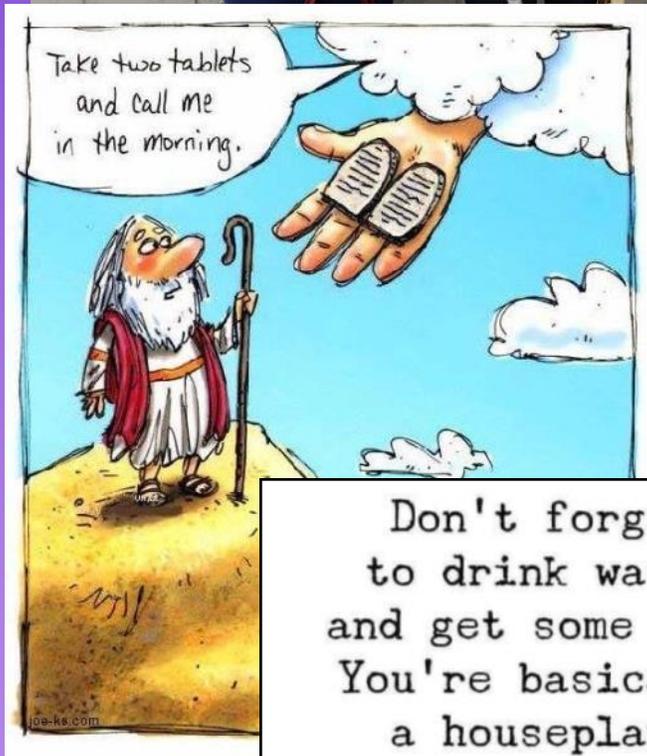
**How others see you,  
is not important**



**How you see yourself  
means everything.**



Marguerite Roller turned 103 this year. Some of our Presbyterian Women traveled to Bloomington to help her celebrate.



Don't forget to drink water and get some sun. You're basically a houseplant with more complicated emotions.



**The prophetic tasks of the church are to tell the truth in a society that lives in illusion, grieve in a society that practices denial, and express hope in a society that lives in despair.**  
**-Walter Brueggemann**



From Pastor Wally's Collection