



Church Happenings

Communion	Sept. 1
Office Closed on Labor Day	Sept. 2
Outdoor Worship & Picnic	Sept. 8
Friendship & Talent- Luncheon	Sept. 11
Session Meeting- 4:00 p.m.	Sept. 18



SEPTEMBER SERVERS

LAY LITURGIST:

Laura Simmonds & Jeff Lincourt

GREETER:

Betsy Moll

USHERS:

Marilyn Woods & Dennis Shepherd

REFRESHMENTS:

Phyllis Hamilton

COUNTERS:

Larry Clark & Darleen Fox

Wally Words

Charity

I have previously written about grief and hope. So this month I find myself thinking about charity. Just what is charity? Is it a handout? A necessary embarrassment? Something I do that makes me feel good because I'm helping lift another's burden? I like to think of charity as essential to the life of faith, the sharing of blessings. Charity is both giving and receiving; for when pride gets in the way, we fail to experience life as a delightful sharing of God's abundance. But charity is a lifestyle. It's an attitude of grace, it's the expression of gratitude.

I want to share with you a very special story of charity. It's the story of how three faith groups in Omaha came together to build a shared campus there. A Community Church, a synagogue, and a mosque are sharing land. It's called the Tri-Faith Initiative. While most of us, when we hear "Omaha," picture sizzling steaks, or think of Peyton Manning calling audibles, faith leaders in Omaha built a home of interfaith dialogue and peace building. No joke... one day a rabbi, a reverend, and an imam walk into a parking lot.... Donations poured in enthusiastically and the campus is now complete. It started after 9-11, when members of the synagogue surrounded a local mosque to protect it from the Islamophobic attacks they were seeing in the news. Charity promotes charity. As the imam says, the difficulty of peace in the Mideast will not get in the way of making peace in the Midwest. The following is from their website:

The Tri-Faith Initiative is a unique and ambitious project in the field of interfaith relations in design, scale, and scope. It brings together into permanent residency a synagogue, church, mosque, and interfaith center on one 38-acre campus in the middle of America's heartland. By its very model it challenges people of faith and goodwill to be conscious and proactive about the assets of faith in civil life in a religiously pluralistic society. The Tri-Faith Initiative aims to create a more inclusive culture in which religious pluralism is socially normative.



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Presbyterian Women – Friendship & Talent

Ladies are welcome to come to Friendship and Talent on Wednesday, September 11 around 11:30 for fellowship and card signing, and join us for an always delicious lunch at noon. You will not get a call, but we will plan on the maximum number we might have as Kathy Denny will not be here to get us a count. Lois Laskowski will give our devotions this month.



Sunday, September 8th, 2019
at 10:30 am

Our Outdoor Worship Service will be held at the large picnic shelter at Lake Santee.

After the service, fried chicken and drinks (iced tea, lemonade, and water) will be provided. We are asking attendees to bring a side dish (salad, dessert, or whatever) to share.

There are a number of picnic tables in the area but guests should bring lawn chairs as alternate seating. The shelter is handicapped accessible, plenty of parking, and there is a brand new playground and restrooms nearby. The shelter is reserved until 6 pm that Sunday, so you can feel free to sit and chat after the service and picnic.

Jeff Lincourt, Worship & Music



IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY

Mike Gommel

AUTUMN IS FOR APPLES

By Wendy Dunham

Skunk has been waiting all summer long to harvest the fruit from his apple tree. Finally, fall is here and the fruit is ready. Skunk invites his friend Raccoon over to help him make a delicious apple pie. On his way, Raccoon runs into several of his friends. It seems everyone in Buttercup Grove is having a bad day. But Raccoon has the recipe to turn his friends' frowns upside down by inviting them to join him at Skunk's house. Skunk and Raccoon's forest pals learn that sometimes all you need to make a bad day better is the kindness of good friends and plenty of homemade apple pie!

IN HIS PLACE

By Harry C. Griffith

Charles Sheldon's WWJD was a significant challenge in its time, but God calls us to do more than wait until we are facing a decision and then choose to do what we think Jesus would do. We are to incarnate Christ in our time, being conscious of the presence and power of God within us in all of our thoughts and actions. This is what Pastor Steve Long wants his congregation to understand. When Long challenges his prominent but self-satisfied congregation to become a living force for Christ, he is blindsided by personal trials, including push-back from the church leadership and his son's teenage rebellion.

GOD'S INSPIRATIONAL PROMISE BOOK

By Max Lucado

A devotional offering various insights into various topics from personal relationships to wisdom to special needs.



PRAYER FOCUS FOR SEPTEMBER:

September 11th Anniversary

September 11, 2001 was certainly a low point in many lives. Even if we were not there to see the terrifying destruction, our television sets kept us viewing that sight for days. Our country and all that we love was under attack.

No one believes that God brought this on the people of America. We do stop to remember how much we want Him with us at times like this and others. Every single person has been through trying times, and many of us turn to God for comfort then. When we look back on troubling experiences we must try hard to see God and His love and care.

God we pray for all those who struggle at this moment. May they find the strength to stay true to your path. Amen

Polly Matlock, Care of Parish Team

Wally Words— Continued from page 1

The Tri-Faith Initiative is made up of three Abrahamic faith groups who have chosen to be in relationship together as neighbors on one campus, committed to practicing respect, acceptance and trust. Our three members are of the Jewish, Christian, and Islamic faiths: Temple Israel, Countryside Community Church (UCC), and The American Muslim Institute.

The Tri-Faith Initiative fosters empathy, invites understanding, and advances common action between people of diverse faiths through the shared efforts of intentionally co-located congregations of the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim faiths and an interfaith center on one campus.

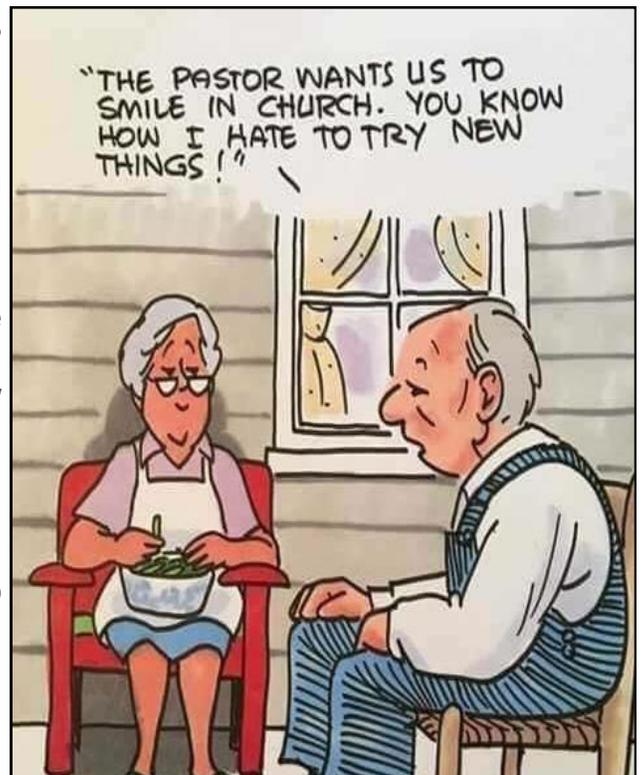
Communities and churches can do great things together as we serve God with similar visions. Churches that reach out in mercy to adopt refugees, protect one another, and support one another all grow together. They report receiving more in return in the form of love, fellowship, spiritual growth, and satisfaction.

Every once in a while, I hear someone say the Church always has its hand out, looking for money. And this is why! Money is the means to show compassion, to be the hands and feet of Christ. I am proud to lead, to sojourn, among you for a while. And if I can be proud about something, it is to be counted among the great Body of Christ, and to be a Presbyterian. Together we do charity. We worship to celebrate and give thanks for God's charity toward us.

Wally

765-278-3749 —Call or Text

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God's Green Earth: Toxic Waste

Hazardous waste has many sources, and a long history of dangerous pollution. Here's what you need to know.

HAZARDOUS, OR TOXIC, waste is the potentially dangerous by-product of a wide range of activities, including manufacturing, farming, water treatment systems, construction, automotive garages, laboratories, hospitals, and other industries. The waste may be liquid, solid, or sludge and contain chemicals, heavy metals, radiation, pathogens, or other materials. Even households generate hazardous waste, from items such as batteries, used computer equipment, and leftover paints or pesticides.

Toxic waste can harm people, animals, and plants, whether it ends up in the ground, in streams, or even in the air. Some toxins, such as mercury and lead, persist in the environment for many years and accumulate over time. Humans or wildlife often absorb these

toxic substances when they eat fish or other prey.

In the past, many hazardous wastes were only loosely regulated, allowing substantial contamination of communities and the environment. In the U.S., toxic waste has been overseen by the federal **Environmental Protection Agency** (EPA) since 1976, as well as state departments of environmental protection. The EPA now requires that hazardous waste be handled with special precautions and be disposed of in designated facilities. Many towns have special collection days for household hazardous waste. Fortunately for us, our special collection day is Saturday, September 7.

Violations of the law, like throwing away items on the Toxic list in your regular trash, not only hurts us and our environment, but may result in hefty fines or even jail time if caught.

REFERENCE:

Written by CLAIRE WOLTERS

Tox-a-way Day: September 7 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Shown here are the many toxic items that should never end up in a land-fill. These items will be accepted during **Tox-a-way Day** at the Decatur County Fairgrounds.



(To save time, forms for the Tox-a-way Day drop-off can be found in Reception Hall on the Information table.)

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by Serving Others*

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2019 Session

2019
Jeff Lincourt
Roy Simpson
Katie Prairie

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**



Agape News

During the month of July, the Agape Center helped 47 clients with rent or utility bills, for a total of \$3800. They also shared food and toiletries resulting in their supply of toilet paper being at an all time low. They are asking for help to replenish their TP supply.





PW Women cleaned the church kitchens.

