Increasing Gratitude

14 We do this because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will also raise us with Jesus, and he will bring us into his presence along with you. 15 All these things are for your benefit. As grace increases to benefit more and more people, it will cause gratitude to increase, which results in God’s glory.

16 So we aren’t depressed. But even if our bodies are breaking down on the outside, the person that we are on the inside is being renewed every day. - 2 Corinthians 4:14-16 CEB

Even in the midst of so much strife in our world, we have much to be grateful for. Paul understood what a life lived in gratitude was. He was a man who was beaten, jailed, mocked, shipwrecked, and laughed at for what he believed and yet he was a man who was filled with gratitude. He was grateful to the believers in various churches who were supporting his ministry, the ministry of the Church of Jerusalem, and who were living out their faith in their own communities every day. Paul was grateful for the call God placed on his life to preach the Good News to the Gentiles, and he was grateful to live a life honoring God. As he shared with the Corinthians, we need to hear too: As grace increases to benefit more and more people, it will cause gratitude to increase, which results in God’s glory.

God’s grace is abundant and available to each of us. God has poured his grace out into our lives and he has given us his Spirit to guide and direct us as we seek to follow Jesus and be obedient to his call. When we mess up, God’s grace is available to set us back on a path that leads to him. When we fall short, God’s grace is enough to forgive us. Do our lives reflect this outpouring of grace? Do we live in gratitude? Do we speak truth and allow others to experience God’s grace in us? Do we offer random acts of kindness? Do we show others respect instead of impatience and frustration? We have the wonderful opportunity to help others experience grace and love in the midst of the strife the world offers. Paul knew this, and this is why he could proclaim that as grace increases gratitude will increase resulting in God’s glory.

So often I hear people say that what our world needs is God. We, Christians, followers of Jesus, are what the world needs. The world needs to see us living out our faith under the grace God has given us. The world needs to experience in us the love God has for us, so the world can be changed. God is what the world needs, and we need to look at our lives and see how it is that we are representing God. We have the power, because of God’s grace and the Holy Spirit at work in us, to make a difference in the lives of everyone we interact with. It is up to us to allow grace and gratitude to fill us and overflow from us, so the world can see God at work in the Church. How are you living a life of gratitude? How is gratitude increasing in your life resulting in God’s glory? I pray that this isn’t only a “holiday” way of life, but an everyday way of life for each of us.

See you Sunday,
Pastor Amy
Administrative Council

Present: Annette Gower, Aaron Gower, Jon Stevens, LeAnna Noble, Pastor Amy Covington, Frank Montgomery, Mike Snyder, Penny Hinsky, Mike Boyd, Pastor Joe Andrews, Tana Sheets, Bev Stuck, Lowell Martin, Joan Bollinger, Roger Thompson, Nancy Thompson

October 23, 2018

Loving:
Penny asked for God sightings and opened with prayer. Pastor Amy served communion. Penny shared devotions telling that discipline, hard work and faith are necessary for growth and change.

Leading:
1. Minutes: Tana Sheets spoke about the curriculum at Kids First and how the Christian faith is taught on a daily basis. She gave examples and showed a daily lesson plan. Annette will rescind her complaint that there is not a Christian curriculum. Motion for approval of the amended minutes (Frank, Jon). Motion carried.

2. Finance: Aaron reported that tithes to the conference are paid through September and the 2019 budget will be determined next month.

3. Board Structure: Jo presented information about steps to change our structure that might need to go before a special charge conference. Amy explained that our District Superintendent advised that the changes being proposed would not require a special called charge conference. If a new structure is approved it will be voted on at the regular charge conference. Lowell expressed concern about how finances at the Hope Chest would be affected. Aaron said that there has been some discussion about moving all accounts to one bank at some point in the future. There was open discussion about the proposed changes. Pastor Amy explained that non-profits under the church’s 501 (c) (3) status need to have ministry “teams” rather than having separate changes (Mike Boyd, Aaron). Motion carried. New structure will be in place beginning January 2019. It was stated that implementing these changes effectively will take a period of time.

4. Staff Parish: Mike Boyd explained that staff salaries will remain the same in 2019 and that health insurance for the senior pastor will be increased according to conference guidelines. Motion was made (Frank, Aaron) and carried to accept this recommendation.

5. Nominations: Pastor Amy explained that the nominations team has been waiting to know which structure we would use. Work will now begin to fill these positions.

6. Upcoming events:
   - Oct. 28 – New 50 year members acknowledged
   - Oct. 31 – Trunk or Treat Wed. from 6 to 8 pm in 6th St. parking lot
   - Nov. 4 – All Saints Day
   - Nov. 11 – Veterans Day – Cam Collier speaking both services
   - Nov. 18 – Cereal Sunday (bring cereal for St. Mark’s food bank)
   - Nov. 20 – Golden Meadows Thanksgiving Service Tuesday, 6:30 pm
   - Nov. 25 – Christmas decorating begins after 2nd service through Sat., Dec. 1

7. Pastor Joe closed with prayer.
November Birthdays

11/01  Amy Covington
11/01  Joe Hawkins
11/04  Carol Pettibone
11/06  Abby Brune
11/07  John Hopkins - G.M.
11/08  Jennifer Sims
11/09  Cindy Heimann
11/09  Betty Langohr
11/09  Kyle Snyder
11/10  Mickey Friedt
11/10  Emma Knaub
11/10  Peggy Werling - G.M.
11/11  Ryan Dotson
11/11  Faye Haggard
11/11  May Moore
11/12  Emma Littler
11/12  Phyllis Ulman
11/13  Nan Everett
11/16  Shanna Burgin
11/16  Kacie Wallace
11/18  Amberly Gutierrez
11/19  Carol Cummings
11/19  Sarah Rash
11/22  Lawrence Bradburn - G.M.
11/23  Ryan Bassett
11/23  Karen Darling
11/23  Joe Wolpert
11/24  Esther Kline
11/26  Jeremy Jones
11/28  Mary Hefner

G.M. - Golden Meadows

Equipment Leadership Conference/
Charge Conference

Saturday, November 10: 9 am-1 pm
Equipment Leadership Conference

Charge Conference
1:15-3:00 pm
National Military Museum
5634 Co Rd 11A, Auburn, IN 46706
I-69 Exit 326

Bring A Team
Cost: $25.00 per person - includes lunch
A church with 6 or more attending: $20 per person

CEREAL SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 18

Decorating for Christmas
This year the Advent season begins on Sunday, Dec. 2. We
will have a week to complete the decorating from after
worship service on Sunday, Nov. 25 through Saturday,
Dec. 1. There will be different groups decorating different
areas of the church. The areas are: Sanctuary Christmas
tree, Sanctuary pews & windows, Sanctuary nativity scene,
Narthex (lobby), Chapel, Outside nativity scene, North
entry (elevator entry), Downtown flower pot. If you can
help in any area, please call the church office or see Nancy
Thompson. Thanks!
CHILDREN AND YOUTH PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITY!

HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS? THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH WILL BE PUTTING ON A CHRISTMAS PLAY. WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOME ADULTS INTERESTED IN ACTING TOO. THE PLAY WILL BE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH AT 10AM. PRACTICES ARE GOING ON NOW DURING SUNDAY MORNING JR. CHURCH AND WILL CONTINUE EACH SUNDAY BETWEEN NOW AND THEN. CONTACT ANNETTE GOWER OR JOLIE LEE IF YOU'D LIKE MORE INFO ON HOW YOU OR YOUR CHILD OR YOUTH CAN PARTICIPATE.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

AGAPE EXPRESS PUPPETS PRESENT "WISE GUYS AND STARRY SKIES"

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH AT 6PM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
502 W. MONROE STREET
The Hope Chest
The Little Shop
With a Big Heart

We have lots of new items for winter coming in every day. Stop in and check things out. We are getting ready for the holidays, so be sure to stop in.

NOTICE
BAKE SALE
Please bring goodies
MONDAY, OCTOBER 29

CHRISTMAS
OPEN HOUSE
NOVEMBER 16 & 17
Tana’s Colorful Words

The Magic of Play
Very young children aren’t yet able to grasp the world around them. They may often make up their own magical explanations as to how things work. Infants use their senses (touch, sight, and sound) to explore their “new” world. Pre-schoolers use their knowledge combined with a growing imagination to come up with fantastic ideas as to why and how things might happen.

Here are a few ways to encourage Imaginative play that begins in your child’s mind.

• Go along with it: They leap in the air saying “I’m flying.” Ask, “What do you see on the ground?” Or “Can you rest on that nice puffy cloud?” You are encouraging their fantasy.

• Read to your child: Ask questions while reading. “What do you think will happen next?” “What’s your favorite part of the story?” This encourages imagination, promotes language skills, and fosters their interest in books and reading.

• Schedule downtime: Make sure kids have free time. This encourages creativity and teaches them to use their own resources.

• Limit electronic toys and television. As they grow, their creativity will translate into art, music, creative writing and critical thinking. Tools that will help turn them into decision-makers and problem-solvers who will make you proud as they mature into their teen years.

Until the CRAYONS come out again!

It’s A Fact

Cause and Effect

When playing many things can cause an expected or unexpected effect!

“What will happen if I jump in that water puddle?”

And the moment, a toddler spies that tantalizing pool of water, there’s something in their psyche that urges them to make a splash. And guess what? It’s really good for them (even if it means soggy clothes for you). Lively outdoor play activities are important for each child’s development of independence and autonomy. Here’s how to help your youngsters understand cause and effect, or the idea that one thing leads to another.

There is always something new to learn when we play in nature. Point out something that happened with the water puddle. When the sun comes out, keep track of how long it takes for the puddle to evaporate (increase vocabulary)!

Also their sneakers being soaking wet. Now, take turns naming other possible causes. Stretch their thinking by being creative.

An age appropriate and teaching moment begins the thinking process and helps to understand cause and effect.

That’s A Fact
Poinsettias
Flower Garden Fund
Spring Mulch Project
If you would like to order a beautiful poinsettia and donate to the Flower Garden Fund or the Spring Mulch Project, please fill out the form below. Then return it and payment in the offering plate or to the Church office by **December 3rd**. Honorees and donors will be listed in the bulletin on Sunday, December 23, then flowers can be picked up after candlelight service on Christmas Eve.

**Poinsettias**

- Medium 6 ½” pot $15.00
  - Circle one
  - Red, white, pink, burgundy, fancy

- Large 8 ½” pot $30.00
  - Red, white

*********************************************************

**Spring Mulch or Donation**

- per Scoop of mulch $18.00

- Garden Fund $_______

**TOTAL** $_______

In Memory of ____________________________________________

In Honor of _____________________________________________

Given by ________________________________________________
# November 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>All Saints Sunday</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:15 &amp; 10:00-Worship</td>
<td>6 pm-Faith 101</td>
<td>9 am-MamaTalk</td>
<td>5 pm-Fishes &amp; Loaves</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:15-Alpha &amp; Omega</td>
<td>6:30 pm-Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts</td>
<td>3 pm-Bible Study</td>
<td>6 pm-A Better Life</td>
<td>Brianna's Hope</td>
<td>9:00 am-1:00 pm-Equip Leadership Conference &amp; 1:15-3:00 pm-Charge Conference at the National Military Museum, Auburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:15-Discipleship Groups</td>
<td>7 pm-A.A.</td>
<td>6 pm-A Better Life</td>
<td>Brianna’s Hope</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Veteran's Day</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:15 &amp; 10:00-Worship</td>
<td>6 pm-Faith 101</td>
<td>Pastor Amy out of office</td>
<td>5 pm-Fishes &amp; Loaves</td>
<td>Newsletter Deadline</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:15-Alpha &amp; Omega</td>
<td>6:30 pm-Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts</td>
<td>November 13 &amp; 14</td>
<td>6 pm-A Better Life</td>
<td>Brianna’s Hope</td>
<td>10 am-5 pm-Hope Chest Christmas Open House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:15-Discipleship Groups</td>
<td>7 pm-A.A.</td>
<td>Brianna’s Hope</td>
<td></td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Cereal Sunday</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:15 &amp; 10:00-Worship</td>
<td>6 pm-Faith 101</td>
<td>9 am-MamaTalk</td>
<td>6 pm-A Better Life</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Day (Church office closed)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:15-Alpha &amp; Omega</td>
<td>6:30 pm-Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts</td>
<td>3 pm-Bible Study</td>
<td>Brianna’s Hope</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday (Church office closed)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:15-Discipleship Groups</td>
<td>6:30 pm-Thanksgiving Service at Golden Meadows, 7 pm-A.A.</td>
<td>3 pm-Trustees</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:15 &amp; 10:00-Worship</td>
<td>6 pm-Faith 101</td>
<td>3 pm-Bible Study</td>
<td>5 pm-Fishes &amp; Loaves</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:15-Alpha &amp; Omega</td>
<td>6:30 pm-Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts</td>
<td>6:30 pm-Trustees</td>
<td>6 pm-A Better Life</td>
<td></td>
<td>6 pm-A Better Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:15-Discipleship Groups</td>
<td>7 pm-A.A.</td>
<td>7 pm-A.A.</td>
<td>Brianna’s Hope</td>
<td>Brianna’s Hope</td>
<td>Brianna’s Hope Worship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5-7 pm-Youth, Nov. 25-Dec. 1-Advent Decorating</td>
<td>7 pm-Praise Team rehearsal</td>
<td>7 pm-Praise Team rehearsal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world

CONNECT—GROW—SERVE

November 4
All Saints Sunday

November 16 – 10 am-5 pm
November 17 – 10 am-4 pm
Hope Chest Christmas Open House

November 18
Cereal Sunday

November 20
Golden Meadows Thanksgiving Service
6:30 pm