




Messenger

Uniondale United Methodist Church November 2015

5857 N. Main St.
P. O. Box 115
Uniondale, IN 46791

Pastor Troy Drayer
260-543-2256

Website: www.uniondaleumc.com
E-mail: troy.drayer@inumc.org
 UniondaleUnitedMethodistChurch

Sunday Worship Service – 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School – 10:15 a.m.

November



Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 4 – Ernie Barclay
Leonard Bartel
Mallory Horne
- 8 – Jeff Espich
Dave Bennett
- 17 – Alison Herstad
- 22 – Don & Elda Mae Weaver
- 24 – Roger McAfee
- 30 – Lura Burke

Upcoming Events

- Sunday, Nov. 1 – Daylight Savings Time Ends (Fall back 1 hr.)
Communion Sunday
PPR Committee Meeting during S.S.
Charge Conference (Ossian UMC) 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 8 – Children leading the Church Service
11:30 am Third Annual Chili Cook-off/Carry-in
- Monday, Nov. 9 – Companion Cluster Group Bluffton First 6:30 p.m.
325 W. Washington St., Bluffton
- Saturday, Nov. 14 – 1:00 p.m. Faith Circle Recipe Exchange
- Sunday, Nov. 22 – Community Thanksgiving Service UUMC 6:30 p.m.
Refreshments afterwards – Need help providing
and serving.
- Thursday, Nov. 26. – Happy Thanksgiving!
- Sunday, Dec. 5 – Communion

Don't forget

- * Save your pop tabs and can tabs. Collection can at the back of the church.
- * Save your change for Children Changing the World
- * Cut out your "Box Tops for Education"
- * To sign up for CHURCH DUTIES on sheets at back table.



"Our soul waits for the LORD; He is our help and our shield. For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His holy name. Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You." Psalm 33:20-22 (ESV)

We were already late. I could feel tension building in the back of my neck as I stared at the long road ahead and wondered, Will we make it in time?

My son's basketball game was starting in 30 minutes, and we were still 20 minutes away from the gym. The team was counting on Carson to show up and play. Carson was counting on me to get him there on time. Then it happened. Up ahead I could see the stream of cars slowing down. Within seconds we were forced to a snail's pace and then a complete stop. Noooo! Not now. Not today!

With a heavy, nervous sigh I glanced at my watch, hoping the time would miraculously come to a standstill like my car. But it didn't and as the clock ticked, I began to panic. Minutes seemed like hours as we waited ... and waited ... and waited. There must be an accident up ahead. Maybe a car broke down. Surely it's something major to cause all this traffic on a Saturday morning!

Finally, the traffic started moving again. I kept looking ahead waiting to discover the reason for all the road congestion. But nothing materialized, and my panic turned to frustration. I wanted to see a tangible reason — something to blame — for all that waiting, waiting, waiting.

It's ironic how my life can be that way sometimes. I'll be moving along, making progress in my journey, when all of a sudden things come to a standstill. But instead of slowly maneuvering my way through temporary traffic, I find myself parked in the proverbial Valley of Wait. Not seeing a tangible reason or knowing how long I'll be there can be frustrating.

Selfishly, I want immediate answers, and I'm quick to ask, "Why Lord? I don't understand."

It's in those situations and difficult seasons of life that I need to remember the truth of today's key verse: *"Our soul waits for the LORD; He is our help and our shield. For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His holy name. Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You" (Psalm 33:20-22).*

As my soul waits in the valley, I am not alone. God is there. Helping me. Shielding me. Protecting me.

As my soul waits in the valley, I can experience His gladness instead of my own frustration. Simply hearing the whispers of His holy Name fills my heart with joy.

As my soul waits in the valley, I can trust in God's goodness by remembering His faithfulness in seasons past.

As my soul waits in the valley, I have hope despite all that's around me because God's unfailing love rests upon me.

It's taken me a long time to learn this valuable lesson: I would rather live in the Valley of Wait with Jesus than journey through life on my own. For my soul can only find true rest in His presence. Where He is ... that's where I want to be. I may never discover all the reasons why I needed to tarry there, but with God by my side, I'll know it was meant to be.

Heavenly Father, I love You and I'm so grateful You love me, too. I never want to be apart from Your presence. I want to experience every moment of my life with You, even if that means living in the Valley of Wait. You are everything to me. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

TRUTH FOR TODAY:

Lamentations 3:25, "The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him." (ESV)

Isaiah 30:18, "Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him." (ESV)

Forever Thankful

Being forever thankful,
Is what God wants from us,
Never forgetting from where we came,
Or His boundless, saving love

All of heavens blessings
Poured down from heavens gates,
Everything we have in life,
He's given with extra grace

We need to always thank Him
For this, and so much more
Not only for tangible things,
But because He is our Lord

Thanksgiving is the key
For His blessings to increase,
If we've not got thankful hearts,
His blessings soon will cease
Don't ever start complaining
At what you may not have,
Look around at what you see,
Then be thankful and glad

© By M.S.Lowndes



Please remember:

Mary Etta Blessing
3890 W. Oak Rd.
Bluffton, IN 46714

Bernie & Lura Burke
3505 E. 800 N.
Ossian, IN 46777

Betty Cary
300 Caylor Blvd. Apt.#200
Bluffton, IN 46714

Barb Cook
100 Caylor Blvd. Apt. #100
Bluffton, IN 46714

Jeanette Gilbert
100 Caylor Blvd. Apt. #115
Bluffton, IN 46714

Mrs. Doris Emley
300 Caylor Blvd. Apt. #214
Bluffton, IN 46714

Opal Gilbert
Christian Care Retirement Comm.
720 E. Dustman Rd.
Bluffton, IN 46714

Margaret Hasler
37446 Carson
Farmington Hills, MI 48331

September 2015 Budget Summary	September	September	September	Year to date	Year to date	Year to date
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance
TOTAL INCOME	3,208.21	4,469.58	(1,261.37)	38,734.16	35,756.64	2,977.52
TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES	4,868.88	4,486.26	(382.62)	38,215.27	40,185.10	(1,351.79)
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	(1,660.67)	(16.68)		518.89	(4,428.46)	

Faith Circle met on Saturday, October 3, at 1:00 p.m., at UUMC. Sharon Espich hosted this first meeting, treating us to delicious apple and pumpkin pies. Devotions were led by Connie Hix. We had a brief study of Deborah, as our new monthly woman from the Bible. As a fun icebreaker activity, each attendee was asked to paint a fall leaf around a cross that Connie Hix had already painted on a canvas panel. The finished painting was won in a drawing by Mindy Drayer. It is now on display in the church sanctuary.

Our next meeting, the Holiday Recipe Exchange, will be held at the home of Mindy Drayer, on November 14, at 1:00 p.m. Those planning to attend are asked to bring a favorite dish, along with copies of the recipe for all to share. All women are welcome at our meetings. They are guaranteed to be a time of good food, fun times, and great fellowship in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ! Please join us!

Uniondale Leadership 2016

Church Council

Church Council Chairperson	Larry McAfee
Lay Leader Chairperson	Roger McAfee
Recording Secretary	Natalie Swineford
Financial Secretary	Sharon Espich
Treasurer	William Hix
Trustees Chairperson	Bryan Swineford
Pastor Parish Chairperson	Kim Chaney
Finance Committee Chairperson	Larry McAfee
Education Team Chairperson	Jennifer Cook
Mission & Ministry Chairperson	Mindi Herstad
Nominations Chairperson	Pastor Troy
Worship Chairperson	Kent Herstad
Faith Circle Chairperson	Connie Hix

Trustee Committee

2016	2017	2018
Gerry Houtz	Bill Hix	Roger McAfee
Kent Herstad	<i>Bryan Swineford</i>	Amanda Drayer

Pastor Parish Relations Committee

<i>Kim Chaney</i>	Sharon Espich	Tim Evans
Linda Houtz	Bob Imel	Claudia Thompson

Nominations and Personnel Committee

Connie Hix	Coralee Bowley	Natalie Swineford
<i>Pastor Troy Drayer</i>	Connie Andorfer	Tonia Evans

Finance Committee

Bill Hix	Sharon Espich	Kim Chaney
<i>Larry McAfee</i>	Pastor Troy Drayer	Roger McAfee

Mission & Ministry Committee

Sue Chaney	Kim Bennett	Kent Herstad
<i>Mindi Herstad</i>	Jennifer Cook	Connie Hix Pastor Troy

Education Committee

Elaine McAfee	Natalie Swineford	Connie Hix
Tonia Evans	Mindy Drayer	<i>Jennifer Cook</i>
Coralee Bowley		

Worship Committee

Worship leaders	
Pastor	Troy Drayer
Song Leader	Mindy Drayer, Barry Jamison, Bob Imel
Sound Techs	Tim Evans, Bill Hix, Amanda Drayer
Head Usher/Greeters	Kent Herstad
Communion Steward	Cindy McAfee
Prayer Chain Leader	Linda Houtz

**CHAIRPERSON IS ITALICIZED

Here is a devotional from Charles Swindoll about leadership. As we get ready to start a new year, let's pray for our church board and thank them for their commitment to this congregation.

Charles says.....

I can't think of a better model of leadership than Nehemiah. I once sat down and looked over Nehemiah's shoulder for a couple of hours, reviewing the things this ancient Jewish leader recorded while rebuilding the wall around Jerusalem. As I read, it dawned on me that his journal is a storehouse of leadership insights. The first six chapters of Nehemiah ought to be required reading each year for all leaders as well as those who wish to be.

In his book, I found seven essential skills that today's Christian leaders can use as stones on which to build their own strategy for leadership.

The first foundation stone is a passion for the project. Passion includes vision, enthusiasm, drive, determination, creative dreams, and innovative ideas. Leaders with passion can grasp the big picture without becoming enmeshed in or preoccupied with all the details. Nehemiah could hardly sleep as he imagined himself accomplishing God's objective. His passion was off the chart.

The second building block is the ability to motivate others. Getting along well with others is a crucial part of leadership. This would include such skills as verbalizing ideas, dreams, and concerns; articulating goals succinctly and simply; and demonstrating organizational strength and boundless energy. Leaders who motivate inspire others to do their best. They quickly affirm and remember to give credit where credit is due. Nehemiah was strong at all those points.

The third stone is an unswerving confidence in God. Nehemiah's journal is filled with prayers—silent ones, short ones, specific ones. He never failed to remind the people of the Lord's presence and protection. Leaders who are genuinely Christian consistently turn others' attention to the Source of strength—the One who can accomplish the impossible, the awesome Provider. Confidence in Him does not waver. Their faith is contagious. While they may occasionally doubt their own ability, they do not doubt God's invincible commitment to His work.

Resilience and patience through opposition mark the fourth piece. Nehemiah endured it all: sarcasm, suspicion, gossip, mockery, threats, anonymous notes, open letters, false accusations—you name it. None of it moved him. No leader can survive if he or she cannot stay patient and resilient through criticism. It is important to be firm in purpose without becoming cranky, vengeful, or mean-spirited. Anger expressed for the right reason and at the right time is appropriate and healthy, but holding a grudge is neither.

The fifth stone to lock in place is a practical, balanced grip on reality. While the good leader may have dreams and ideas, he or she doesn't live in a dream world with a fixation on the ideal. The actual facts—the hard pieces of evidence—are in clear focus. As Nehemiah began his opening speech, it was obvious to all that he was no air-headed cheerleader: "You see the bad situation we are in" (Nehemiah 2:17). He told the workers to stay at their jobs, but he wisely stationed others to protect the wall from attack. Smart. Discerning. Tough. He acted without overreacting. He remained gracious yet unbendingly firm. Good leaders maintain that needed balance between being positive and being aware of the negative. Number six is a willingness to work hard and remain unselfish. All Christian leaders have at least one thing in common: diligence. They also know the value of calling it a day (diligence and workaholicism are not synonyms). Because of his hard work, Nehemiah was "appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah" (Nehemiah 5:14) even before the wall was done. He accepted his appointment humbly, refusing special treatment and willingly sacrificing for the good of the people. Nehemiah led a clinic on servant leadership.

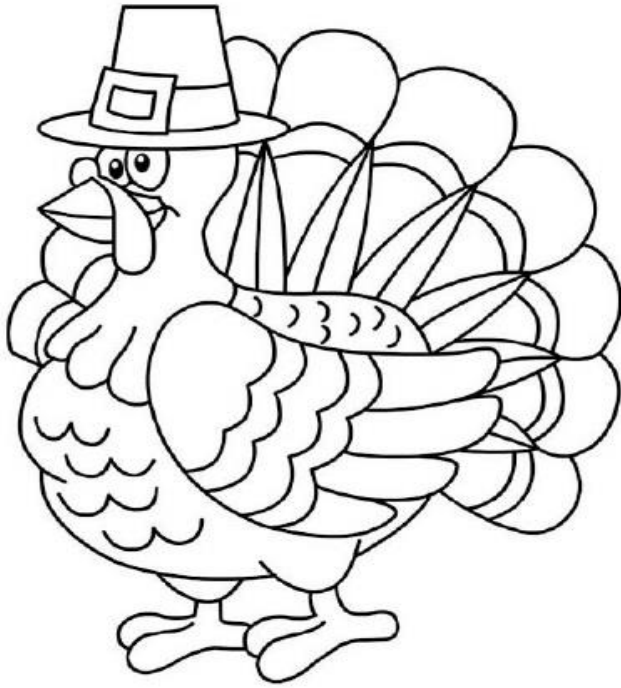
Finally, leaders must have the discipline to finish the job. Good leaders are finishers. They know how to concentrate on essentials without allowing perfectionistic details to block the path. I am certain that some of Nehemiah's stones were a tad crooked and a few of the joints may have been loose. Perhaps a gate or two wasn't perfectly level and maybe no doubt a hinge or two squeaked . . . but that baby got done. Mission accomplished. The end. Done!

And when the task is finished, good leaders celebrate . . . they have fun! In Nehemiah's case, they had a blast walking on the wall, marching and dancing, shouting and singing—they even invited two choirs whose "songs of praise and hymns of thanksgiving to God" (Nehemiah 12:46) could be heard from afar. What a grand party!

Christian leaders with character continue to be in demand. Ezekiel recorded God's plea for leaders who would "stand in the gap before Me for the land," but, tragically, He "found no one" (Ezekiel 22:30). His search continues today. Let's determine to be the men and women for whom God is searching to close the gap. Let's be the Nehemiahs of this generation—leaders who get things done for God's glory, standing strong on the building blocks of leadership.

~~ *Pastor Troy*

Children's Page



Bible Memory Verse

Be thankful to Him
and bless His name.
For the Lord is good.

Psalm 100:4b



Name 3 things you are thankful for:

1.

- APPLE PIE
- BEANS
- BREAD
- CORN
- CRANBERRY SAUCE
- GRAVY
- HAM
- MASHED POTATOES
- MILK
- PUMPKIN PIE
- ROLLS
- SQUASH
- STUFFING
- SWEET POTATOES
- TURKEY

2.

3.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

N S T U F F I N G I R L U N Y
 F G K D A E R B V G C A D Q E
 A B E A N S I L S O R Q G S K
 O G K E I P E L P P A P A E R
 N R O C M L W U Q D N G O O U
 U E J L X E S M S Y B Z O T T
 Z P U M P K I N P I E V N A Z
 H B O J I L C F A G R Y F T V
 N E M Y K U S L L O R Q K O X
 K S A B Y Q T Z H W Y P S P K
 T G H S A U Q S O R S J L T A
 G M A S H E D P O T A T O E S
 Z D L U C W F Z L M U K S E K
 C A K C G T H T T I C R N W B
 G J X S G R A V Y I E Q I S T



Chicken Scratch NY