



East Columbus United Methodist Church

A Church for Everyone!

FEBRUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER





As we look toward February many of us think about Valentine's Day and the ones we love. We start thinking how we can best show our love. It is then we remember that love is always active not passive, you cannot show love toward someone by what you can't do but always by what you do. Perhaps you will write a letter and tell that special person why he or she is so very special, or maybe you will make or buy something special, but to show love you must do something, doing nothing is not love, it is apathy or worse ignoring that person who is counting on your love.

Jesus taught this to us about love. In Luke 6 in one of the most dramatic passages on love He commands these principles; *"But I tell you who hears me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you.*

If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' do that. And if you lend to those from who you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' lend to 'sinners,' expecting to be repaid in full. But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because He is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

It is here Jesus teaches the active nature of love: Hillel, the Hebrew rabbi, said, "Do not do to thy neighbor what is hateful to thyself."

Socrates, the Greek philosopher, said, "What stirs your anger when done to you by others, that do not do to others."

Confucius, the Chinese sage, said, "What you do not want done to yourself, do not do to others."

These statements are worlds away from what Jesus said, here in Luke 6. **Do to others as you would have them do to you.** What we often call the Golden Rule. Their rules are negative and passive. Jesus' rule is positive and active. In essence these wise men said, "Avoid doing to others what you do not want done to you." Jesus said, "Think of something good you wish someone would do for you, then do it for someone else."

This Valentine's Day think of something good you wish someone would do for you, then do it for them!

Pastor Charlie



*A Note
from
Terry Snyder*

Well, this is another month where I had an article planned (I wrote it on New Years Eve), but feel like I should delay it. This article is going to mention Facebook a good deal, but hang with me, there are principles at play that are true outside of Facebook.

I have been on Facebook pretty much since it was open to the public after being High School and college only. I didn't find anyone I knew (including youth from here). So, I didn't do anything really on it until a year or more later when others finally joined.

Facebook (like other things such as TV and music) can be used for good or bad. When Jim Hutson, local singer and Deejay, had a motorcycle accident, his brother Bryan (who sang here a few Christmases ago) got the word out and many prayers were sent up. But, it can also be used for bad. People are more willing to say bad things when they are at a keyboard than looking the person in the eye. Worse perhaps, it is magnified because it is spread quickly and seen by many. An analogy might be putting it on network TV. That is a bad thing. Facebook can be used to hurt people deeply, or it can be used to bless people. Still, like guns or other weapons, the tools are not ultimately to blame, but the people.

I have a confession: I looked at the page of a gospel group I liked fairly early on in my Facebook years. I checked out some of their friends and have to say, some were doing things that I felt went against God's Word, and that might have diminished my view of the group because it seemed like the group might be condoning it, close friends with these people, and I might have even wondered if some of the members might even take part. It occurred to me some point later that the group likely approved anyone who asked to be their friend and didn't vet the requests.

A former Sunday school teacher once said that it wouldn't bother her to go into a bar to minister to someone, but someone might see her car parked there. I don't know that she was concerned with what they thought of her, but do know she didn't want their walk with Christ to suffer thinking something that was untrue.

I have some Facebook friends who will delete friends if they see anything that personally bothers them (it can be cussing, pictures that are a bit less than modest etc.) I know they were at least partially concerned with what people would think of them, but also didn't want to see these things. I understand that, but I think that can be the wrong way of looking at it. At first, I intended to only seek friendship from people I knew personally (either in person, or online friends met at other places), but did start approving friendship requests from others beyond that so as not to cause any hurt. Later, I started requesting ones who I have common interests with (such as gospel music) and have expanded beyond that. I even friended a minor actress from a documentary I saw that had a clip of her church in California where members were singing a song I wanted to do here. Not all of my friends there are Christians. Some are former classmates, some I have never had any interaction with, while others I have grown to care about.

I did delete a former classmate there who I accepted knowing he had been convicted of sexual battery several years earlier, but only after he started bothering a friend of mine from out of state that he didn't know, but had found through her friendship with me. I did that to protect my friends who didn't already know him from school or town. I have also deleted a few who seemed to always have filth on their page, but I think I probably should have just blocked from seeing it on my feed. Face it, we are called to minister to people and we are not doing that by staying away from those in the world. I realize that we are not to be of the world and we shouldn't be best friends with them or unequally yoked because they can negatively affect our walk. Still, we need to reach the lost and that includes being in positions where we might be able to have them see our lives or walk. While some might misunderstand or see guilt by association, we need to be like Christ and be "among the sinners" enough to at least share God's word and hopefully get them to accept Christ. I feel the church in general has failed to do this, while others are afraid of preaching against sin hoping to appeal to sinners. I even know a pastor who cussed in front of a person hoping it would make them feel like he was one of them and therefore might be attracted to coming to church. That is too far on the other end of the fence. God help us.



by Paula Turnbow

***“Jesus love me
this I know”***

Let’s have a “Tea Party”

Sunday, February 15

in Children’s Church

at the 8:30 & 10:40 a.m. services.

Come check out how much He really does love us.



<p>SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES 8:30 & 10:40 a.m. Blended Worship 9:40-10:30 a.m. Sunday School 6 p.m.—Casual-Informal Praise Service</p>	<p>Charles Aigner, Senior Minister Carol McIntosh, Adm. Assistant Terry Snyder, Music Director Janelle Quasebarth, Youth Director Bob Fear, Custodian</p>
<p>2439 Indiana Avenue Columbus, IN 47201-7022</p>	<p>Phone: 812.376.7418 — FAX 812.376.7699 Office email: office@eastcolumbusmc.org music@eastcolumbusmc.org pastor@eastcolumbusmc.org web site: www.eastcolumbusmc.org</p>
<p>OUR CHURCH MISSION Growing the Family of God by Making Loving Disciples of Jesus Christ.</p>	

FEBRUARY 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Holy Communion Regular Services	2	3 3pm-Bible Study 7pm-Miriam Circle Mtg. 7:30pm-Praise Team Rehearsal	4 5:15pm-Handbell Reh. 6pm-Chancel Choir Reh. 7pm-Bible Study	5 5:30pm-Trustees Mtg. 6:30pm-Boy Scouts	6	7
8 Boy Scout Sunday Regular Services	9 9am-UMW Service Group	10 1pm-Bible Study 7:30pm-Praise Team Reh.	11 5:15pm-Handbell Reh. 6pm-Chancel Choir Reh. 7pm-Bible Study	12 5:30pm-Worship Comm. Meeting 6:30pm-Boy Scouts	13	14  9am-1pm-Fruitful Congregation Journey
15 Regular Services	16	17 1pm-Bible Study 6:15pm-Church Growth Comm. Mtg. 7:30pm-Praise Team Reh.	18  6pm-Chancel Choir Reh. 7pm-Ash Wed. Service	19 6:30pm-Boy Scouts	20 7pm-Columbus Community Emmaus Gathering (Central Christian Church Seymour)	21 8am-United Methodist Men's Breakfast
22 First Sun. in Lent Regular Services	23 9am-UMW Service Group	24 1pm-Bible Study 7pm-Ecum. Assy. Board Mtg. 7:30pm-Praise Team Reh.	25 5:15pm-Handbell Reh. 6pm-Chancel Choir Reh. 7pm-Bible Study	26 6:30pm-Boy Scouts	27	28-Mar 2. Youth Chrysalis



HOOSIER TRAILS COUNCIL TROOP 549

On January 4, six of us traveled to Perfect North Slopes to go tubing. A great time was had by all.

Sunday, February 8, Troop 549 will participate in the 8:30 a.m. service for Scout Sunday.

February 21 is Merit Badge day.

Brian Carey, Chuck Dilsizian and myself have been busy preparing the new storage area for our Troop gear. Shelves are built and new lighting will be installed.

If anyone is interested in helping out with scouting or if a boy would like to join the troop we will welcome a visit. Boys need to be 11 years old to join and less than 18.

Meeting time is Thursday from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Youth Center.

Roger Schaefer
Scoutmaster
812-342-3583 H
812-350-9707 C

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

5.... Lillian Hammond

6.... Mike Reeves

7.... Debbie Jackson-Davis

8.... Mike Mattern

10.... Betty Schaefer

11.... Robert Brown
Tammi Wood

12.... Linda Bettner-Bundick

13.... Robert Johnson

14.... Gerald Walker

15.... Angela Fields

16.... Brent Harris
Teresa James

18.... Zola Miller
Robert Murphy

21.... Luke Barringer
Kathy Henry

23.... Charlotte Bray
Debbie Lilly

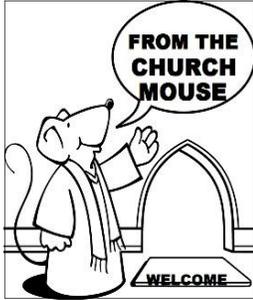
24.... Karen Miller

25.... Floyd Wood

27.... Vera Brummet

28.... Bob Fear
Amanda Jo (AJ) Henry





Greetings!!

I was searching frantically for something a while back and came across this pretty poem. It touched this little mouse heart and I wanted to share it with you...

The Voice of God - by Dean Walley

God speaks to us in the gentle rain
That splashes on our windowpane;
We hear His voice in the comforting sigh
Of the wind as it goes murmuring by,
In the roar of the sea and the song of the birds
We hear the majesty of His words,
And when silent nights wear a star-studded crown
God talks in a language transcending all sound;
But His message of hope and love without end
Is most clearly heard in the voice of a friend.

Wishing you a Happy St. Valentine's Day full of love and friendship but most importantly Full of God's loving voice!!

Till next month..... Timothy



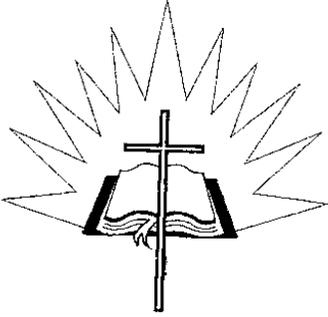
THE SIGNIFICANCE OF LENT

Lent is the fourth season of the Christian year. Its length is the 40 days preceding Easter Day, not counting Sundays. This means Lent always begins on a Wednesday, known as Ash Wednesday.

Lent commemorates Jesus' fast and temptation in the wilderness of Judea Province, which, according to the Gospel, lasted 40 days. Just as Jesus confronted his temptations during these 40 days, Lent helps Christians focus on our most basic need as sinners: forgiveness.

The only way our Lord's forgiving power can become effective in our lives is by our taking the initiative to confront our sins, confess them and repent of them. In short, Lent is a season of penitence.

Some Christians fast during Lent. This denial of bodily comforts can help encourage self-reflection about the need for Jesus' forgiveness.



Applying Bible Principles

In the years prior to his assumption of power in Germany, Adolph Hitler was a master of deception. He made free use of the Christian vocabulary and talked about the blessing of Almighty God and the Christian confessions of faith which would become the pillars of his new state. He assumed the earnestness of a man who is utterly weighed down by historic responsibility. He handed out pious stories to the press, especially to the church papers. He showed his tattered Bible to many church leaders and declared that he drew the strength for his great work from the Word of God. According to one pastor, “He was actually able to introduce a pietistic timbre into his voice which caused many religious people to welcome him as a man sent from God.”

As the world learned to its horror in later years, Hitler was an impostor. He had only used these things to mask his real intentions and to fool people. He was what could be accurately labeled the “master hypocrite.” He said one thing while actually doing exactly the opposite.

When it comes to hypocrisy, Adolph was in a league by himself. None of us desires to be—or should ever be—compared to him or his despicable actions. However, when it comes to the Christian life, sometimes we, too, say one thing and do another. We pretend to be great students of the Bible, when we actually seldom look at the Book. We give the impression that we spend hours in prayer, when we very seldom engage in prayer except when at church. We pretend to love other Christians, when, in reality, we can’t stand some of them.

Hypocrisy. The very word is the blight of the church and the Christian faith. But hypocrisy is not possible when it comes to giving. That’s right—it is impossible to say one thing and then to do another when it comes to giving. Our checkbook gives us away. If we are trying to say one thing and do another concerning our giving, our checkbook will reveal our false claims of being “great givers” to be empty and superficial. Or as one person said it so well, “It is possible to fake some things in the Christian life, but it is not possible to fake giving.”

The Apostle Paul summed up this matter of saying one thing and then of doing what we say with this statement: the testimony of our conscience should be “...that we have conducted ourselves in the world...in the holiness and sincerity that are from God” (2 Cor. 1:12). In other words, by walking in holiness and sincerity that God provides in response to our obedience, what we do will match what we say, including in the area of giving.

Think about it: If our checkbook could talk, what would it say about you and about your giving to the work of the Lord at East Columbus United Methodist Church? Would it testify that you are walking in “holiness and sincerity” in your giving, or would it have a different story to tell?

News



From the Mail Box...

To My Friends at East Columbus UMC

This is to let you know that I am very appreciative of the many prayers and thoughts which were offered on my behalf during my recent illness.

My journey has not been an easy one, but I have most of it behind me now. I am still getting radiation treatments and by the end of January I should have completed my treatments.

The Lord must still have work for me to finish and I must acknowledge another awesome miracle in my life because of His unwavering love and mercy for me.

Thanks and love to all of you.

Norma Grider (Carol McIntosh's sister)

Operation Christmas Child Update:

What a great year we had in 2014. We were able to send 3,328 shoeboxes filled with gifts and the Gospel of Jesus Christ to children around the world! The regional total was 11,078 shoeboxes.

To Carol:

The people of East Columbus United Methodist Church wishes you a happy and healthy retirement. You have been such a blessing to the people of this church these past 30 years. May God bless you and Larry in your retirement years.

Here's what's
happening!

Miriam Circle will meet Tuesday, February 3, 7 p.m. At the home of Becky Mayfield.

Trustees will meet Thursday, February 5, 5:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

Boy Scout Sunday is February 8 and Troop 549 will participate in the 8:30 a.m. services.

Worship Committee will meet Thursday, February 12, 5:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

(Laity) Fruitful Congregation Journey (FCJ) will meet Saturday, February 14 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Greensburg UMC.

Church Growth committee will meet Tuesday, February 17 at 6:15 p.m. in the Chapel.

Ash Wednesday is February 18 and an Ash Wednesday service will be held at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

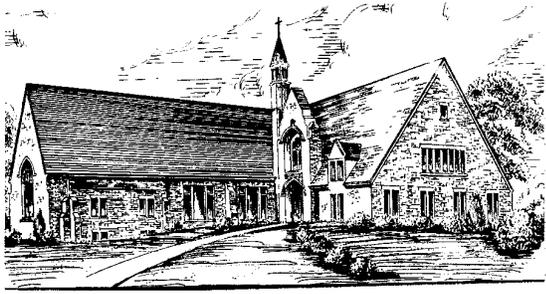
Columbus Community Emmaus gathering is Friday, February 20, 7 p.m. at Central Christian Church, Seymour.

United Methodist Men's monthly breakfast is Saturday, February 21, 8 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All men are invited to attend!

First Sunday in Lent is February 22.

Ecumenical Assembly board meeting is Tuesday, February 24, 7 p.m. at Love Chapel, 292 Center St.

Chrysalis Flight for the youth is Saturday, February 28 through Monday, March 2.



East Columbus United Methodist Church
2439 Indiana Avenue, Columbus, IN 47201-7022

Return Service Requested



**“DO SOMETHING
WONDERFUL;
PEOPLE
MAY IMITATE IT.”**

-Albert Schweitzer