

The Leaven *October 2020*

SOULE SEARCHING



Dear Friends,

The fall season is upon us. It is a fall unlike any other.

There are few fans and no marching bands at football games. The French Open Tennis tournament is being played right now! The baseball playoffs have begun but most of us never noticed the “regular season” ever got started. School kids are still working from home. No Renaissance Fair this year. Sunday school, choir and potlucks have not returned to our regular schedule at church. There is so much missing from this fall that it is difficult for me to put on a jacket in the morning because I am certain it is still summer. Fifty degree mornings tell me otherwise when I leave the house. It worries me that some of our outdoor time is coming to an end. Will we be shut inside for months with no place to go?

When we had members of the congregation test positive for Covid-19 last week I was reminded that we have been very fortunate as a congregation to have avoided this for as long as we have. Many of you are very active in organizations and activities that are helping people through this pandemic. Our community meal is one of those activities. As careful as we are, there is a risk of being involved that cannot be completely avoided. While I say this, there is no reason to think that the positive tests that have occurred were in any way related to our meals. All the others from our church who were involved in the meal this month have tested negative. I will keep you informed if there are any other positive test results from those who worked. Please keep all those who are ill with Covid-19 in your daily prayers. Keep wearing your masks, washing your hands, keeping physical distance, and encourage one another with kindness and love. We can all use all the help we can get.

World Communion Sunday is this coming Sunday, October 4th. I had hoped that we would be together in the sanctuary to celebrate at the Communion Table. We purchased prepackaged elements for communion so each person could take them from the table, unseal them and serve themselves. They will keep for a later date. This Sunday you will need to bring your own elements when you worship over the airwaves. As we celebrate the Lord’s Supper on World Communion Sunday, we will be reminded that other believers all across the world are doing the very same thing as we are; breaking the bread of heaven, receiving the cup of salvation and praying for peace and unity in the world. While not in one place or at the same time we pray that by the



power of God's Holy Spirit we are made one in Christ Jesus. Make time to worship and come to the Lord's Table this weekend. As you do, I encourage you to share a picture of yourself or your setting for communion, so we may be together in that way and be reminded to pray for one another.

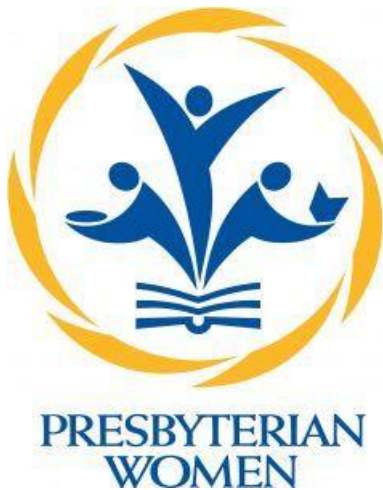


My plan at this moment, if we have no more positive tests in the congregation is to get the church professionally cleaned early next week and ask the session to return to worship on October 11th. Of course they have the final word and will make that decision based on the circumstances and facts that face us next week.

For now, enjoy the beauty of this season; the cooler days and nights, the beauty of the colors and the wonder of the changing world around you. It is a fall like no other! Thank God that we are here to experience it and glorify God in each day we are privileged to be part of God's handiwork.

Blessings to each of you,
Tim

THANK OFFERING. PWC



For 132 years Presbyterian Women have given back to their communities through the Thank Offering. In 2020, fifteen Grants, ranging from \$5000 to \$50,000, will be given to Presbyteries from Wayne County, New York to Arizona—from Tampa, Florida to South Dakota. These projects include kitchen renovations, food bank delivery vehicles, feed the hungry, updated facilities and programs to assist expectant mothers who are giving their children up for adoption, funds for trauma and abuse centers, and funding disability access at a conference center for older adults. The two International projects are

for a Women's Training Center in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Girls Dormitory for the Gidada Theological College in Ethiopia.

The offering will be collected on October 18th. If writing a check please put "Thank Offering" in the 'for' line. Please give generously!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

For nearly three decades Samaritan's Purse has collected Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts for children around the world. In the midst of the worldwide pandemic, the needs are greater than ever before, children are scared and their families are afraid. Each box is an opportunity to delight the heart of a child—and share the Good News of Christ with them and their families.

USE THESE LABELS

Cut out the appropriate label and tape it on top of your shoe box gift. If you need additional labels, make photocopies or download from samaritanpurse.org/oc.

Mark the correct age category:

<input type="checkbox"/> 2-4 Years Old
<input type="checkbox"/> 5-9 Years Old
<input type="checkbox"/> 10-14 Years Old

BOY

Mark the correct age category:

<input type="checkbox"/> 2-4 Years Old
<input type="checkbox"/> 5-9 Years Old
<input type="checkbox"/> 10-14 Years Old

GIRL

OPERATION Christmas Child Samaritan's Purse

Shoeboxes will be available in the narthex along with pamphlets on how to pack a shoebox. The return date for the shoebox is November 8th. Monetary gifts are also appreciated and checks can be made out to Samaritan's Purse or to FPC with Samaritan's Purse in the "for" line.

"GIVE PEACE A CHANCE!"

The third of the four annual offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA) is the Peace & Global Witness Offering, which is to be received on Sunday, October 4 this year. With that in mind, we will be promoting this offering from the pulpit on Sunday, again the day of the offering, telling through real life stories how the money that is raised in Presbyterian churches across the country has been used in the past to help facilitate reconciliation between individuals, families and communities, replacing hate, fear, anxiety and conflict with love, courage, confidence and harmony in the name of Jesus.

Like the Pentecost Offering, a portion of the Peace & Global Witness Offering (25 percent) will be retained locally for either the use of our church or to support the work of an organization our church believes in. Pastor Tim has suggested to the committee the possibility of our church partnering with Fort Leavenworth to carry out a worthy project of some sort, and we will be discussing this idea further in the coming weeks. In any event, it is our intention to use the money received on October 4 to assist with a project aimed at reducing discord and division within our society while bringing people together at the same time.

Please prayerfully consider giving generously to the Peace & Global Witness Offering as we get closer to the first Sunday in October. Remember, when we as individuals do what we can to support the work of the church at home and abroad, in the end it adds up to a lot! Also remember, "God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God." (Matthew 5:9 - NLT)

Rick Nichols, moderator, Faithful Discipleship Committee

WE ALL HAVE A STORY

Uncomfortable with the idea of standing up in front of other people and telling them why the church is important to you and why you give of your time, talents and treasure to support the work of the church? No problem. We would be more than happy to make the necessary arrangements to have a video created showing you talking to the camera, the pastor just off to the side, then shown to the congregation during an upcoming service. Or, and this is another option, you could write up what it is you want to say and one of us, the members of the Faithful Discipleship Committee, would be glad to read your Faithful Discipleship story to the congregation.

The ideal "testimony" runs anywhere from 2 to 4 minutes in length, so shoot for 3 minutes and you will be right on target!

Best of all, that 3 minutes will come and go before you know it!

If you wish to volunteer to share your Faithful Discipleship story, feel free to give me a call, 913-440-0513, or send me an email, ricknichols627@comcast.net. I would love to hear from you!

Finally, whether or not you will be giving a "testimony" during the next few months, I want to thank all of you for the way in which you have continued to support the church in recent years, especially over the past few months. Your generosity is much appreciated!

Rick Nichols, moderator, Faithful Discipleship Committee

THIRTY DAYS OF THANKSGIVING

This is the name of a program that we in the First Presbyterian Church of Leavenworth started last year, and intend to continue this year. It was very successful in collecting food for local food pantries. It worked like this:

1. We developed a list of one food for each day in the month of November. The idea is to place that food in a container each day of the month, and, on a designated day, everyone brings

their containers to the church for dedication and presentation to the recipients.

2. For containers we worked with a local printing company to print shopping bags with the church logo, which they did free of charge in return for also printing their logo on the bags. We only paid for the bags.

3. We found that the 30 days of food filled two shopping bags.

Of course, boxes or other containers could be used, but the bags had the added plus of spreading our logo throughout the local area, as well as promoting the use of reusable bags for shopping.

The printing company got a local cub scout pack to participate, which explains the extra logo on the pictured bag.



If you think you might be interested in doing something like this, we will be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

The above is an article that we sent to Heartland Presbytery to explain our program to other churches. Let it serve as a reminder that we intend to repeat the program this year. Stay tuned!

UNITED AS ONE

The **United as One** worship event proved to be a success. The three nights of September 17-19, drew about 250 worshippers each night to the lawn between the Methodist Church and ours. The seventeen sponsoring congregations in Leavenworth County wanted to make a statement to the community that the churches in this area can work and worship together to shine the light of Jesus Christ especially in this period of difficulty and darkness for all to see and experience. There was music, testimonials, preaching and an offering taken evening. Over \$3000 was collected and will be given in equal amounts to The Alliance Against Family Violence, The Leavenworth Community of Hope, and The Mission on Spruce. The sponsoring congregations are planning to work together again soon to continue the witness of United as One! Thank you to everyone who came and helped make the community feel welcome in our space. Seeds of good relationships with other congregations in the county were planted during the planning and operation of this event. I am glad we were a part of this venture.

SURVIVING A HEART ATTACK. WORTH A REPEAT

I hope everyone can send this on as it is really important for everyone to know!

- 1 . Let's say it's 7:25pm and you're going home (alone of course) after an unusually hard day on the job.
- 2 . You're really tired, upset and frustrated.
- 3 . Suddenly you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to drag out into your arm and up into your jaw. You are only about five miles from the hospital nearest your home.
- 4 . Unfortunately you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far.
- 5 . You have been trained in CPR, but the guy that taught the course did not tell you how to perform it on yourself.

6 . HOW TO SURVIVE A HEART ATTACK WHEN ALONE?

Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack without help, the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness.

7 . However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously. A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest. A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let-up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again.

8 . Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it to regain a normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get help or to a hospital.

9 . Tell as many other people as possible about this. It could save their lives!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Immediate: Jeanie (Barbara-Sue Rose), Brianna Hoffman (Cindy Scircle), Jeff Dewees (Cindy Scircle), V. Williams (Barbara-Sue Rose), Ron Bacquet (Cindy Scircle), Nancy (Linda Barry), Shelly (Steve and Barbara Finch), Jacob Hayes (Lorna), Karen Waddell (Cindy Scircle), Howard and Joyce Kirk, Mary Jo Rich (Shirley Rockwell), Del Watkins (Shirley Rockwell), Kathy (Carolyn Anderson's neighbor), John Zillman

Ongoing: Joe Hudson, Judy Jahn, Gladys Griffin (Maria Traynham), Barbara-Sue Rose, Maria Gordon (Carolyn Tillotson), Twila Corley, Jayce Ward (Cindy Scircle), Al Pursell, Mary Hickie (Linda Barry), Marilyn Ferbert, Le Thomas, Sandy Bushman (Carolyn Tillotson)

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

7-Barbara Finch 10-Sally Azbill 11-Katie Hathaway
12-Bobbie Snyder 12-Marcus Butler
14-Barbara-Sue Rose 14-Melissa Gummert
15-Maria Traynham 18-Chuck Allen
19-Alice Williams 19-Bob Doby 19-Carolyn Anderson
22-Candi Humphrey 23-Emma Calloway 29-Judy Fulton
30-Chris Aus 30-Gustavo de la Cruz 31-Dylan Porter

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY

15-Daniel and Elizabeth Williams





Looking for a good home for 2 side by side refrigerators and 1 microwave.

If interested please call the church office 913-682-6891.



OCTOBER 2020

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
27 Worship Committee Meeting 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship		28 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 10:00 AM Circle 4 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cody Choraliers	29		30 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice	1		2 Church Office Closed	3				
4 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship		5 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cody Choraliers	6 6:00 PM Deacons Meeting		7 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice	8 6:00 PM <i>Session Meeting</i>		9 Church Office Closed	10				
11 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship		12 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cody Choraliers	13 10:00 AM Circle 3 6:30 PM Circle 5		14 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice	15		16 Church Office Closed	17 10:00 AM League of Women Voters				
18 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Christian Ed. Committee Meeting		19 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 10:00 AM Circle 4 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cody Choraliers	20		21 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice	22		23 Church Office Closed 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Amateur Radio Testing	24				
25 Worship Committee Meeting 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship		26 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cody Choraliers	27 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Community Meal		28 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice	29		30 Church Office Closed	31 