

Sixth Avenue UMC Messenger
November/December 2018



Dear Friends,

Have you ever found yourself staring at the words *Thanksgiving Day* on the calendar and wondering for what you had to be thankful?

It could happen if you have lost a job and you ponder how you'll get enough money to pay the bills and to survive. Or if you've heard nothing but bad news from the doctor. Or if someone you had entrusted with your heart has broken it.

The reasons we may find it difficult to give thanks are as numerous as the troubles that afflict us every day. Difficulties do not pause for a *Thanksgiving* break.

However, there is a way to find reasons to be grateful during the bleakest moments of life. When the curtain of struggles seem to block out all joy, we can **choose** to be thankful.

One way is to look into the scriptures to see all the things we have to be grateful for, which have nothing to do with circumstances. Despite our trials, we can give thanks for:

- God's constant goodness (Psalm 106:1)
- God's holy name (Psalm 30:4)
- Deliverance from sin (Romans 7:24-25)
- Victory over death (1 Corinthians 15:55-57)
- God's closeness (Hebrews 13:5)

Beloved, when all joy seems to be gone, we can still find reasons to thank God! This may even mean thanking God for our difficulties which will one day be replaced by the joys of our eternal home.

Give thanks, with a grateful heart,

Pastor Rick



The Gift That Keeps on Giving

“You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand” - Psalm 16:11

Dear Friends,

Many years ago a Dennis the Menace comic strip showed Dennis rushing into the room holding a big box. His mom turns around and her mouth drops open as Dennis says, “Mom, we’d better tell Santa Claus to forget about the train I asked for. I just found one exactly like I want on the top shelf of Dad’s closet.”

All of us love receiving gifts at Christmas time - especially children. You may remember how as a kid, those weeks before Christmas were so difficult - strolling by the tree wondering “what” was in those boxes. And you would hope it was exactly what you had asked for.

Then the day came when you opened your gifts, and there was this unbridled joy you experienced as you spent the day playing with your new toys for the first time. Yet as the days went by, the newness wore off. Those toys you couldn't live without weeks ago now sat in the corner collecting dust.

But Jesus is the gift that never grows old. While some folks may be content to dabble in religion for a while and then put it back on the shelf, having a living relationship with Christ renews us every day.

Beloved, don't just dabble in Jesus this Advent season and then let him collect dust in your life when the holidays are over. Get to know him better this Advent/Christmas by spending time in the Bible, his Word. Jesus is the gift that keeps on giving!

Merry Christmas,

Pastor Rick



Congratulations to Dr. Gregg Witham upon the completion of his Ph.D. in organization and management from Capella University!



Daylight - Savings Time ends November 4th. Please remember to set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on November 3rd.

Congratulation to Orion Thress on placing 4th at the Watkins Memorial McGowan Invitational on September 8th! Lancaster High School boys cross country team won the meet. Congratulations to Tae'lyn Wallis who finished 69th at the same meet! The Lancaster girl's cross country team finished in 2nd place.



“All Saints” November 4th

We will remember the members and friends of Sixth Avenue Church who have entered the Church Triumphant over this past year.



Congratulations to Jared and Miranda (Smith) Shriner upon the birth of their daughter, Blair Adel on September 18th! She weighed in at 7lbs. 10 ozs. and was 20.5” long. The proud grandma is Cindy Smith and proud great-grandparents are Jan and Connie Cox.



Veteran's Recognition

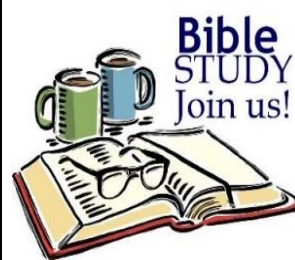
On Sunday, November 11th we will be recognizing our veterans and active duty military personnel. Refreshments will be served in the Narthex following the worship service.

I would like to thank Pastor Rick for his visits and his prayers.
I would also like to thank our church family for all your prayers, beautiful cards, phone calls, flowers, and food. Words can never express how much all of you and your care and concerns mean to me.



I thank God for all of you.

Dottie Raymond



Adult Bible Study is open to all folks interested in fun, fellowship and spiritual growth. New comers are welcome! The class meets before worship at 9:00 a.m. in the parlor, taught by Reverend Chuck Wheatley. During the fall session we will explore the Bible studying the book of II Samuel, Galatians and James. Please join the group any Sunday you are available during the fall months. The curriculum presents the following:

Nov. 4	With Works	James 2:14-26
Nov. 11	With Control	James 3:1-12
Nov. 18	With Submission	James 4:6-17
Nov. 25	With Anticipation	James 5:7-9, 13-20



Thanks for the Birthday Cards!

Marjorie Farkas



The Ecumenical Thanksgiving service will be at Sixth Avenue UMC on Sunday, November 18th at 7:00 p.m. We celebrate this season of gratitude with our friends from St. John's Episcopal Church and St. Mark Catholic Church. Refreshments will be served in the Narthex following the service.



Christmas Lunch

There will be a Christmas meal served in the fellowship hall after the worship service on December 9th. Look for more information in the worship bulletin.

Christian Love and Sympathy to:

Donna and Mark Shouldis upon the death of Donna's mother, Catherine Sweeney, on September 8th.

The family of Betty Cotterman upon her death on September 10th.

Sharon and Jim Funkhouser upon the death of Sharon's brother, David Scott, on September 11th.

Lundy Drake upon the death of his wife, Joan Crake, on September 13th.

Hazel Marcus upon the death of her daughter-in-law, Doris Marcus, on September 25th.

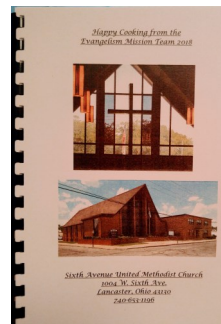


Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

A Christmas Classic Celebration is a unique Candlelight service for Christmas Eve. Join us on December 24th at 7:00 p.m. to celebrate the scenes of Christmas that are all around us. The service moves from the annunciation to the joy of Jesus' birth. Some popular, secular Christmas songs are included in the service. The theme expressed in the service is that Jesus is *in* the world but not *of* the world.



It's nearing the end of 2018, and soon I will have the 2019 Altar Flower Chart posted near the Pastor's office. You can call the office at 740-653-1196 to reserve your dates or wait to for the chart to be posted late December. The cost for the altar flowers will be **\$30.00** for 2019. This pays for (2) two vases of flowers. You can take them with you or you can let an usher know who to give them to.



Here's a great idea for a unique Christmas gift, it's our 2018 Cook Book. You may now place your order by calling the church office at 740-653-1196. The cost is \$15.00 per cook book. We are taking orders through the end of November.

Thank you!
The Evangelism Team



Christmas Cantata:



The Chancel Choir will be presenting Memories of a Merry Christmas, created and arranged by Marty Parks on Sunday, December 16, during the morning worship service in the sanctuary. Let our grandmother, who is played by Judy Fahrer, take you down memory lane.

Rehearsals have already started, but you still have time to join us for this event. We meet every Wednesday night from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the choir room. Please come and make some memories of your own. We are always looking for new singers.



Several different events happen here at the church all year long. If you notice any item getting low, such as plastic forks, knives, spoons, or plates, cups, bowls, etc., please let me know by calling the church office at 740-653-1196.

Thank you!

Donna Dickson



Ushers
&
Greeters
Ministry

The church is always looking for more friendly greeters and ushers. If you want to be a greeter, please call Pat Disbennet at 740-653-3561. If you want to be an usher, please call Carl Mathias at 740-654-1701.

Thank you for wanting to serve the Lord!

Aluminum Can Collection

The church is still accepting aluminum cans. Please crush them to save space. You can leave your bags of cans outside by the shed on the 4th Sunday of each month. The money received from all the cans will go to the Veteran's Burial Squad.

Thank you!





Happy Anniversary



ANNIVERSARIES – NOVEMBER

Lloyd and Diann Helber	November 10
Jeff & Sharon Byerly	November 12
Michael and Sue Stalder	November 25
Mark and Mary Johnson	November 27

ANNIVERSARIES – DECEMBER

Greg and Jackie Howard	December 8
Larry and Gaybra Raymond	December 9
Rev. Robert and Margaret Hayden	December 16



BIRTHDAYS - NOVEMBER

Anthony Wallis	November 8
Barbara Barker	November 9
Sarah Witham	November 9
Billie Stebelton	November 11
Cindy Smith	November 12
David Kemmerling	November 16
Keith Kern	November 16
Kevin Groves	November 17
Larry Wilson	November 17
Hazel Marcus	November 18
Jake Perry	November 18
Ken Disbennett	November 19
Marilyn Spangler	November 24
Nancy Strosnider	November 24
Pearl Waugh	November 25
Robert Green	November 26
Paula Boetcher	November 29
Jean Phillips	November 30



BIRTHDAYS - DECEMBER

Charles (Gene) Boetcher	December 3
Kim Gurile	December 5
Joan Irwin	December 11
Bailey Rader	December 11
Paul Dilliard	December 12
Kathryn (K.J.) Goff	December 13
Diann Helber	December 13
Patti Crist	December 14
Stuart Cupps II	December 15
Rev. Robert Hayden	December 16
Greg Howard	December 17
Carl Mathias	December 18
Betty Agosta	December 22
Rita Cattran	December 22
Pete Reed	December 23
Zene Brunney	December 24
Edward Chaffin	December 25
Harold June	December 25
Jeff Byerly	December 26
Vivian Shumaker	December 27
Maverick Hill	December 27
Shannon Coble	December 30
Chuck Wheatley	December 31
Judy Wheatley	December 31



Merry Christmas

JESUS
is the REASON for the SEASON



A
Very
Merry
Christmas
And all the
Best Wishes for
A Happy New Year!

Shy D



2019
HAPPY NEW YEAR

