



THE ARK

October 2019

Covenant United Methodist Church

God has Declared that You are a Witness for Him!

Would you like to witness for Jesus Christ? Congratulations! God has already declared that you are a witness for Him! But . . . if you are like many others, then sometimes you feel overwhelmed and even intimidated at the idea of witnessing to other people about your faith and belief in God, about God's love, and about what God has done in your life. But the good news is that God has already chosen us as His witnesses! We don't need to be ordained ministers, we don't need to be pre-approved, or have a college degree. Some of the disciples were uneducated, but all were witnesses for Jesus Christ! God has already declared that "we are His witnesses."

We will begin an in-depth study of what witnessing means, including where to witness, how to witness, and teachings about witnessing from the Bible. Join us at Wednesday morning Bible study from 9:30-10:30 am in the choir room. This series starts Oct. 9. No registration needed. Simply know that all are welcome. Questions - talk to Denise Retzleff.

Scriptures for October



*denotes sermon focus

October 6

***Lamentations 1:1-6**
2 Timothy 1:1-14

Psalm 137
Luke 17:5-10

October 13

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
***2 Timothy 2:8-15**

Psalm 66:1-12
Luke 17:11-19

October 20 (Laity Sunday)

Jeremiah 31:27-34
Psalm 119:97-104, or Psalm 19
Luke 18:1-8
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

October 27

Joel 2:23-32
***2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18**

Psalm 65
Luke 18:9-14

Pick Up Your Copy of The Upper Room

The Upper Room is a daily devotional magazine available in more than 30 languages and 100 countries around the world. The daily meditations are written by readers of the magazine and others interested in sharing their faith experiences. Every day, readers of The Upper Room around the world read the same story in many different languages and pray the same prayer together. The daily devotional guide and the community it draws together invite people to:

- listen to scripture as God's personal message, linking their stories to God's story;
- commune with God in prayer;
- see their daily choices and small acts of obedience as part of God's work;
- realize our connection through Christ as a universal family of believers;
- encounter the living Christ and be transformed into Christ's likeness.

Pick up a copy at the information desk or outside the church office. There are regular and large print versions. Cost is just \$1 (\$1.25 for large print) for a booklet that covers two months of daily readings. If you are looking for a simple way to start or to enhance your spiritual journey, The Upper Room will meet your needs.

Pastoral Prophecies from Joel:

October 2019

“Nothing Gold Can Stay”

A Poem by: Robert Frost

Nature’s first green is gold,

Her hardest hue to hold.

Her early leaf’s a flower;

But only so an hour.

Then leaf subsides to leaf.

So Eden sank to grief,

So dawn goes down to day.

Nothing gold can stay.

"Nothing Gold Can Stay" is a poem by Robert Frost, written in 1923, and published in The Yale Review in October of that year. It was later published in the collection New Hampshire that earned Frost the 1924 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry. (source: [Wikipedia](#))

Fall is one of my favorite seasons of the year. The crispness of the air as the temperatures begin to get colder, the falling leaves, and the smell of burning leaves in the air. The first frost and the first snow flurries before the first measurable snow! All of these are my favorite things.

As the above poem by Robert Frost says, “Nothing Gold Can Stay,” nothing ever stays the same. The same thing is true for the church. In order to survive, the church of Jesus Christ must change, adapt, and be relevant to the world of which we are apart. We can not “go back” to that which was comfortable in the 1950’s and 1960’s. While we can learn from history, if we as a church continue to “live” in that history, we are doomed to certain extinction! In order to keep our church alive, we need to continue to bring new people with us to worship and other church activities. We need to continue to reach out to the neighborhood around us and build relationships with the people who live near us. We need to not fear a changing future, because God already knows what that is! God doesn’t want our church to eventually die. God’s Got This! Do you?

See you in church.

Peace,



Joel

Congratulations to Donna Born, United Methodist Women's Special Mission Recognition 2019 recipient.



RALLY 10AM
DAY TO
DAY 1PM



Family Ministries



Our September celebrations were a great success!

As with the proceeds from the summer brat fry, the proceeds from the Harvest Festival were put to good use. For example, we made over \$500 in sales in the brat fry and then we gave \$200 to "Pillar and Vine" our youth mission project, and then turned in our receipts for all the supplies we bought as well as monies to purchase prizes for some of our Rally day games. Then \$161 went into the Youth and Family fund for future use. Our mum plants sales went to the Chancel Guild fund. The rest of our baked goods, soups and produce sales raised about \$300 that went to the general budget. A big thank you to all who contributed to this fall celebration.

The first day of Sunday School was a dress up day. All of the kids dressed up as their favorite Bible characters and learned about their story. Then they had their picture taken. The picture will be part of the calendar we are putting together that will be for sale in December. So watch for this new way for the kids to learn about Jesus and his life. Proceeds from the calendar will go to future Youth and Family activities.

This year, we are starting our Christmas program practice at the end of the October. Community UMC will be joining us for "A Tree Lot Christmas." The musical will be on Sunday, Dec. 15 at 1:00pm. Our practices will be on Sunday afternoons at noon and last for about 45 minutes. You won't miss too much of the football games. The Covenant and Community choirs will be joining us this year. This will indeed be a family event.

Church Conference

This year's Church Conference Meeting will be held on October 22 at 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall.

Fellowship Hour

Thanks to all the generous groups, committees, families and individuals who have donated baked goods, fruit plates, veggie platters, etc. to our coffee hours after church. It is appreciated by the 50-75+ people who enjoy this weekly time of fellowship.

Remember: you don't even have to bake: coffee cakes, sweet bread, donuts, and more are available at bakeries and local grocery stores. Bring items to the kitchen before church and give them to Karen or Suzanne and thank them for the fantastic job they do each week. Clean-up after coffee hour is really appreciated.

Get your group signed up: there are quite a few dates available this fall!

Thank you in advance for keeping this special time together growing. Just remember . . . without you, there would be no fellowship hours.

United Methodist Men

Your UMM met Saturday, Sept 14 at Rolling Meadows Restaurant, only 4 men and 2 guests. Old business was discussed, and after the dust has settled, we will again go clothes shopping for the 3 elementary schools. The men are probably going to offer meat packages from Brandon meats later in November and December. Remember, the coin challenge last year, we were just a few cents short of \$400. Can we do better? The money collected goes to the Pastor's Goodwill Fund to help those in need in our church and our community. This fund has helped more than 1 of our people at a great time of need. Our UMM really could use more help on all our projects. Won't you join us for fellowship and service to our church and community? We meet the 2nd Saturday each month at 8:00. Join us, try us, serve with us. "Aspire to inspire before you expire."

-Darrell Jewson, UMM chair

UMW Book Review

NOBODY CRIES WHEN WE DIE is an interesting title, isn't it? The author recounts his experiences in a community forced into violence and finds a common thread in the permanent struggle for justice and healing. What God wants for us is life in abundance, to walk the life of justice and compassion with joy. So many people do not have that opportunity today. For people of color living each day surrounded by violence, for whom survival is not a given, vocational discernment is more than "finding your purpose" - it's a matter of life and death. This is a must read for anyone who trusts we can build a better world. It redefines what you are called to do with your life and gives you strength to save lives and lead in our own community.

This is one of our newer books in the Social Action category and is a bonus book (counts as two on our reading report). We will have additional new books for your pleasure in October or November. Be sure to stop and check them out!!

Cancelled Stamps

I will be mailing cancelled stamps to the Marion Mission in Marion, IN, soon so please get your cancelled stamps to me or Nina K. Thank you for your faithfulness in helping the United Methodist Women with this mission. By doing this, you help the Marion Mission send medical supplies, clothing, shoes and other items to needy people in Africa. Remember, prepaid postage stamps are not accepted. Thank you! -Marilyn Stillings

Boy Scout Popcorn

Our Boy Scout Troop 712 will be selling popcorn before and after church on October 6.



THANK YOU!

Dear Members and Friends of Covenant, I want to thank you for your prayers, patience and support during these lasts two months while my hand has been healing from surgeries. Your presence during this time has strengthened my faith during these days of challenge and uncertainty.

Salem UMC Books Between Bites

This month, October 8 at 12:15. Bring your own lunch (coffee and soda available). **A Street Cat Named Bob: And How He Saved My Life** by James Bowen. *A warm and poignant memoir tells how an injured ginger cat transformed the life of a street musician.* Reviewer, Dr. Dan Griffiths, is a veterinarian.

Salem UMC Apple Harvest

Saturday, October 12, 2019, 9:00-3:00. Pies, caramel apples, jams and jellies, and more! Order forms can be found at salemchurch.com

Liturgists

October 6: Denise Retzleff
 October 13: Diane Weider
 October 20: Denise Retzleff
 October 27:

Ushers

Head Usher: Bill Kelley
 Ushers: Dave Miller

Acolyte

Brayden Averbeck



Birthdays

Sloan Averbeck	10/1	Jeffrey L Shaw, II	10/24
Evelyn Tabbert	10/5	Suzanne Burns	10/25
Lillian Kutcek	10/8	Joy Hankwitz	10/25
Deb Christian	10/9	Bill Dekker	10/26
Dawn Jewson	10/12	Christopher Colla	10/29
James Brockway	10/17	Darcia Moore	10/29
Marilyn Stillings	10/19	Myrtle Roloff	10/29
Arlene Schultz	10/21		



Fellowship Hour

October 6: Rachel Circle
 October 13:
 October 20:
 October 27:

There are a lot of dates still open for fall and winter fellowship treats. Please get your group to sign up for a Sunday!



October 6: World Communion
 October 13: Solutions Center
 October 20: Midwest Distribution
 October 27: CWS Blankets

Our Members Who are Homebound or in Assisted Living

At Home: Red LaPlante

Woodlands: Shirley Lentz

Dick Welch

Donna Born

Donna Handley

Villa Loretto: Geraldine Justman

Lakeview Estates: Sherry Duley

Giving with Tithe.ly

- Tithe.ly app
- Text "give" to 920-267-4801
- Use the "Donate" button on our Facebook page
- Our website covenantforyou.church/give

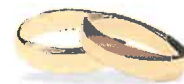
80+ Birthdays

Evelyn Tabbert celebrates 87 years on October 5

James Brockway celebrates 83 years on October 17

Myrtle Roloff celebrates 87 years on October 29

Anniversaries



Dan and Diane Klaske celebrate 28 years of marriage on October 13

John and Joyce Barfknecht celebrate 51 years of marriage on October 19

Jeff and Sue Strong celebrate 37 years of marriage on October 23



Covenant United
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**Reminder: Deadline for Ark
submissions is the 15th.
Please get your content to the
office by this date for the next
month's issue. Thank you!**

PASTOR: REV. JOEL DEANER-ROGERS
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: KELLY BRAUN
CUSTODIAN: BARB KING
CHOIR DIRECTOR: REV. CHRIS DEANER-
ROGERS

SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:00 AM
OFFICE HOURS: 9:00-12:00 MON-THUR.
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