

Pastor's Message

I read in the Free Methodist Conference monthly newsletter the other day a resume they had to hire a pastor for a small country church in the far northland of New York. (No, I'm not looking to leave) They wanted someone who could teach leadership, be a good shepherd, have the gift as an evangelist, willing to settle into this very small town with a high unemployment rate, many residents with drug issues and abuse issues, and many other issues too numerous to mention, and, in the midst of all that, to be able to lead the congregation to share the love of Jesus (always with a smile). After I read that, I turned the page to find something a little more uplifting.

Have you ever thought about how the church is to function, I mean, really function? It takes a village to raise a child. And it takes a church to represent (and present) Christ in a community. No one person qualifies to be the representative of Christ to someone. If they are, then that person will have a very lopsided view of Christ. By the way, I've had lopsided views of Christ (and probably still do).

Paul wrote a letter to the church which existed in Galatia and he spoke of the fruit of the Spirit. The fruit was nine-fold. For many years I felt as though I was to attain some level of maturity and if I could then grunt out these fruit in my life, then I would be a fully grown Christian. Well, I think I was wrong on that. I have come to realize that this nine-fold fruit of the Spirit is representative of the body of Christ, the Church.

Let me list out those nine fruit as given to us:

- love
- joy
- peace

- patience
- kindness
- goodness
- faithfulness
- gentleness
- self-control

And then Paul goes on and says "against such things there is no law" (Gal. 5:22). That makes me think this is NOT a completed list. This is only a sampling of fruit. So, God's church, which is connected to God through Jesus, is bearing fruit that is "like" these nine. They are some of the manifestation of the character of Jesus.

Hmmh! That makes me rethink some of this. The Church exists and is to be truly connected to Christ. Otherwise, we are nothing.

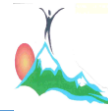
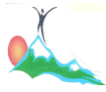
So, it's all about US listening to the leading of the Holy Spirit. It's all about US being the body of Christ in our community. It's all about US bearing the fruit of the Spirit. It's all about Christ character being manifest through you and I, His body. We are important to Christ...and we are important to each other. Thanks for being important to me.

Your friend in Christ,

Pastor Vern

Words from Linda Springer regarding the Harvest Party:

- "Workers who came were fabulous...I thought"
- "122 kids attended. Jason Darrow of Sheds won pumpkin (cheeseball) count. He guessed 251 and there were 257 cheeseballs."



November Calendar:

Nov.5 – Sat. 4:30-? Pork Dinner @ PH
Nov. 6 – change your clocks – ‘fall back’
 Communion Service
Nov. 7 – Admin. Bd. meets
Nov. 8 – Election Day – Everyone go to your local
poll
 cast your vote.....
Nov. 11 – Veterans Day
 Nov. 13 – celebrate our military

Men’s Group:
 Nov. 12 & Nov. 26 – 8 am @ the PH

Each Tues at 7 am – Prayer in Pastor Vern’s office
Each Tues 3:00-4:00 pm—After school Bible club
for children K thru 6th grade in school cafeteria

Each Wed. 6:30 pm – Community Prayer

Each Friday-6:30 pm Youth Group @ PH

Thurs. Nov. 24 – Thanksgiving Day

Sunday Nov. 27th – Combined Service with
Lincklaen Celebration @ our regular worship
time – 11 am

M&M’s

The Women’s Bible study group will be meeting
November 2nd and November 16th. We will
continue our journey about *HEAVEN*. How are you
coming on your B.I.O.? Are you connecting? Slow
down and let God work. See you Wednesday! By
the way,if you have not been coming to M&M’s
why not join us. Wednesday @ 10:00 am at Joan
Ball’s. A warm welcome is waiting for you!!

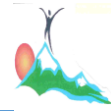
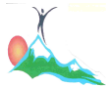
From the Harvest Dinner Committee

A special thank you to Bruce and Eleanor
Burrows for their very generous donation of
winter squash. To Darrel and Kaye Reakes
for their generous donation of potatoes. To
the many workers prior and during the
dinner, and especially to all who came to
support us. Thank you!!

Birthdays & Anniversaries for November

Nov 4~~Mark Ellis
Nov 5~~Robert Cuddeback
Nov 9~~Dorothy Brock
Nov 11~~Jean Whalen
Nov 12~~Pastor Vern Groves
Nov 14~~Nikki Allen
Nov 17~~Leon Hartwell
*Nov 17~~Kenneth & Jane Paddock
Nov 21~~Aggie Elliot
Nov 23~~Laura Brown
*Nov 25~~Keith & Sylvia Hathaway
Nov 25~~Jacob Cirbus
*Nov 29~~Toby & Nikki Allen
*Nov 30~~Carl & Becky Wightman





A word from the Building Committee

We hired Hull Construction to put spray foam insulation in the attic space above the nursery, bathroom and hallway. Just a few inches of foam on the walls and ceiling adds an "R" value of 38. The foam hardens up almost rock hard and adds 30% structural integrity.

Respectfully submitted

Jon Benedict

MISSION REPORT-

November 2, 2016

In September, due to the financial needs of our church, it was voted at the Annual Meeting to decrease the Mission Budget from 10% of the General Fund of plate and pledges to 5% beginning in January 2017 . Our congregation has always been generous in regards to missions and we hope to continue to support as many of our budgeted missions as possible with some modifications.

Missionary Bob Reed and his wife Jeannetta were visiting in New York this summer in New Woodstock where they lived and worked while he was involved with Jamesville Prison Ministry for many years and a program called Teen Challenge. Unfortunately, they were here on a weekend when we were unable to visit with them, but our prayers go with them as they work and live in Missouri, still involved with Prison ministry.

Carlos and Caryn Benitez had a busy summer in Thailand teaching and traveling for Wycliffe Bible Translators. Both of their children were involved with mission projects in different parts of the world and Rachelle, working with a youth ministry team,

decided to show her commitment to Christ by being baptized as well. Both have now returned to college and high school. Caryn has been traveling this fall to another country to consult with other teams, and Carlos

continues to teach at Payup University. Our prayers for them are always needed.

On October16th we were privileged to have a mission visit from Terry and Martha Major who have been very active in Pastor Andre’s Mission work in Haiti. Terry travels to Haiti each year working on various projects and was the leader in 2010 when our own team of Pastor Vern, Andy Clendenning and Linda Springer arrived in Haiti just hours before the earthquake! Terry & Martha attended the adult and children’s Sunday school classes that day and Terry gave a very personal account of the mission there during Sunday worship. He is a retired pastor who devotes his time now to helping Pastor Andre raise volunteers and financial support for the Haiti Mission where so much poverty and need exists. He will be heading back to Haiti in January 2017 and would love to take some DeRuyter volunteers. Anyone willing to think about helping? Please contact Pastor Vern.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Whalen



November 24th 2016