

Worship Helpers for November

USHERS:

6: Dorothy Bos & Gloria Winters
 13: George and Ann Passage
 20: Gloria and Dick Winters
 27:

GREETERS:

6: Sue Johnson
 13: Gloria Winters
 20:
 27:



SOUND SYSTEM



Ken Bell
 Austyn Page

FELLOWSHIP TIME:

6: George & Ann Passage and
 Dorothy Bos
 13: Nancy Carlson
 20: Dewey Purcell
 27: Bring a Snack Sunday



Birthdays in November

3 Ken North
 6 Nancy Myers
 12 Nathan Voshel
 13 Donald Hills
 14 Marcia Peterson
 17 Aidan Petz



Anniversaries in November

4 Dave & Joyce Olwin
 7 Richard & Denise VanGessel
 12 Jose & Nancy Hauser

Have You Moved or Changed Your Phone Number?



If you have moved or changed your phone number, please let Gloria know so we can keep our records up to date. Thank You.

No Men's Breakfast in November

Newaygo Congregational United Church of Christ

432 Quarterline • Newaygo, MI 49337 • (231) 652-6624

Jonathan Riedel, Pastor



The Churchmouse

November, 2016



Stewardship of Thanks



*"Look! I'm creating a new heaven and a new earth;
 past events won't be remembered, they won't come to mind."
 Isaiah 65"17 CEB*

After many years in exile in Babylon, the people of Israel were eager for something new from God. This was only a remnant of those carried away by fierce armies; many taken away had long since adopted Babylonian gods and customs and no longer had anything to do with this God who worked with Israel and its twisted history. They heard this promise declared by one who spoke on God's behalf: get ready for something new, something fresh that will bring you back home and give you another chance. This won't be one of those half-hearted opportunities to begin again, pulled out for under their feet once old habits surfaced again, once they started making mistakes and poor choices over and over again. No, God was letting go of their past and offering them an open future—a future they could choose to make as whole or as flawed as they elected it to be. God has freed them from the web of yesterday so they could fly or fall into the future.

God is still at work today, still asking us to learn from but to hang onto the past, to rise and collapse into the future. God is always creating new possibilities, new ways to love, and new means of healing. Our task is to respond and to take up God's creative urge as our own. During this month, my denomination, the United Church of Christ, celebrates Stewardship Sunday. On that day, we recognize what God has given us—all of what we have and all of the life we share together is a gift from the One who created us. We remember how we are supposed to take care of what we have, how we are asked to be generous in our sharing, and how we are called to discover new ways to make our time, our talents, and our money matter as we try to build a better world than the one we were born into. We do this because this is the best to thank God for God's incalculable generosity.

So how well am I doing with saying 'thank you' to God? Do I take everything for granted, barely giving life a dull mutter? Do I take care of myself only, offering only a grudging acknowledgment that others may need my help? Do I hoard, fearful that God will stop caring for all God has created? On the other hand, do I seek out ways to help people? Do I treasure this planet enough to plant trees, nurture animals and flowers, and work to protect the resources we have? Do I work for future generations by using time and energy to educate children and youth? Do I see life as bigger than

Worship Schedule



November 6

Communion Sunday
 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5; 13-17
Keeping Faith



November 13

Stewardship Sunday
 Isaiah 65: 12-25
Infinite Possibilities
 Hymn Sing

November 20

Canned Goods Sunday/Reign of Christ
 Sunday/Thanksgiving Sunday
 Colossians 1:1-10
Together in Christ
 Hymn Sing

November 27

First Sunday of Advent
 Gifts to Bring Series *Healing*
 Isaiah 2:1-5
 Lighting of the Advent Candles

(continued from page 1)

myself and wonder how I can best serve people in lands I do not know and whose customs and habits I may never discover? Do I heal the sick, feed the hungry, quench the thirsty, visit the prisoner, and nurture the orphan and the widow? In small ways and large, do I bother with any of these needs?

If stewardship, the care and investment of what we have, is our way of giving God thanks. How am I saying 'thank you?' Is my way of expressing gratitude building a freeing future or holding people in exile, in a land of a haunted and damaged past? Something to think about this month indeed.

The Rev. Jonathan D. Riedel-Pastor,
Newaygo Congregational UCC

Women's Bible Study
 Women's Bible Study will be meeting on
 Tuesdays at 10:00 am. throughout
 November.
All are welcome!



November 30 at St. Bart's
 December 7 NCUCC and
 St. Mark's @ NCUCC
 December 14 at Family of
 God

Thank You. . .

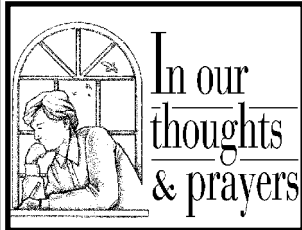
I'm sure you have all noticed by now the NEW floor covering in the kitchen.

The kitchen floor was in great need of new tile. Women's Fellowship purchased the new floor covering.

Thank you to all those who continue to support the Women's Fellowship!

Deb Walter
Nancy Myers
Gloria Winters

Sunday Morning Bible Study
9 am
Geography and the Bible
 Pastor Jon will bring the maps and the Bibles. You bring your Questions.
All are Welcome Come Join Us • Bibles Provided



Rich, Linda, Al,
Genny, Carolyn L.,
Conrad Jr., Fred,
Lucas, John, Hope,
Maxine and Carolyn S.

Luncheon
 Tuesday, November 8, 2016
 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
 Soup & Sandwiches
 Donations Accepted
**Newaygo Congregational
 United Church of Christ**
 432 Quarterline • Newaygo, MI

Mission & Social Action

October 2 CROPWALK a Success

The 33rd annual Newaygo/Grant CROP Hunger Walk was well attended despite the cool weather. Newaygo United Methodist Church hosted a soup and bread lunch, with soup brought in by participating churches. Following lunch, wakers heard inspiring words of greeting from the President of Church World Service.

With balloons, stickers, and signs, 70 walkers from 8 churches set out, taking a stand against hunger in our world. This walk, starting on the city sidewalks to Riverfront Park and winding along the beautiful Muskegon River, was only a few miles. It is a symbolic walk, reminding us that hungry people in developing countries often walk as many as six miles a day for food, water, and fuel.

Our Newaygo/Grant CROP Hunger Walk brought in \$6,858 of which 25% is split between Meals on Wheels and the food pantry of Love, INC. Church World Service uses their share to help people around the world. Our church had 14 walkers who brought in \$1,057. A big THANK YOU to our generous givers, the walkers, soup makers, and those who prayed for the success of this walk. You are a blessing to people in need.

Christmas Families

Once again, as our church has so generously done in the past, we will be making Christmas brighter for needy families. We will once again provide clothes items, and toys to families whose mothers are in the Women in Transition group at Vera's House. We may also provide for some families whose information we'll receive from TrueNorth.

Each family will provide us with "wish lists" for members of their family, along with ages, gender, and sizes.

Sunday, November 20th we will have tags with information on them, for example - Family #2, Boy, age 6, size 8-10 - Hooded sweatshirt.

Each of us will have an opportunity to purchase one item or toy, wrap it, and tape the tag on the gift. This year the gifts will be given to the women on December 20th.

Last year we gathered the gifts under a Christmas tree in the Narthax, and it was an exciting day when the women came to pick up gifts for their family.

More information to follow about how we can spread the joy of Christmas by making sure everyone in a family has a gift to open on Christmas morning.

Our Neighbors in Need Offering

On November 13, we will receive the Neighbors in Need offering, which supports our UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout our country. One third of the offering supports our Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). There are 20 UCC congregations in the midwest, including Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Midatsu, Arickora, and Hocak. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM.

The remaining two thirds of monies collected goes for Justice and Witness

Ministries in our country. These include health care, voting rights, immigration, hate crimes, civil liberties, and land environmental justice. Visit the NIN website, at ucc.org/nin to read touching stories which make a difference in people's lives.

Our Neighbors in Need offering will be received on Sunday, November 13.

--Linnea Godfrey
Mission Chair

Adult Bible Study Forum

Noon & 7 pm

How to Act Like a Christian -- An Introduction to Christian Ethics

Using Brian Stiltner's book *Toward Thriving Communities*, Pastor Jon will explore how we can behave our best as we try to follow Jesus' way. He will also explore what a good community looks like and how we can contribute to making a better community possible. We will learn how to think carefully and thoroughly about the choices we make. Much discussion will be encouraged and questions will be most welcome.

Here is a schedule of topics:

- November 1 -- *Why are Families Important?*
- November 8 -- *How do Schools contribute to a good society?*
- November 15 -- *What does work mean?*
- November 22 -- *Thanksgiving Worship Service -- A time of Bible Readings and Songs*
- November 29 -- *What does service do?*



Treasurer's Report September 16 - October 15, 2016

Income	
September 18	\$ 1,209.00
September 25	\$903.00
October 3	\$1,903.00
October 9	\$1,563.00
Total	\$5,608.00

Expenses	\$4,872.08
Difference	\$735.92
Phillips Fund	\$148,319.28

Thank you to everyone for this generous move into fall with all its bounties.

Dawn Anderson
Treasurer

SERRV SALE

SERRV Sale during lunch on November 8th and Sunday, November 15th.

Smile Awhile. . .

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Deadline for the December Churchmouse

Please send any information or articles you would like included in the **December Churchmouse** to the office by **Sunday, November 27.**

You may e-mail information to: churchmouse@newaygoucc.org or leave a hard copy in the office.

November 2016

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	Bible Study 9:00 am	31	1 10 am Women's Bible Study Noon & 7 pm Adult Study Forum	2 Christian Ed. 5:30 pm Admin. Mtg. 7:00 pm	3	4	5
6	Bible Study 9:00 am Daylight Savings Time Ends - Turn Clocks Back One Hour	7	8 Women's Bible Study 10 am Adult Study Forum 7 pm only Luncheon 11 - 2 pm	9	10 Worship & Pastoral Care 9:00 am	11 Veterans' Day	12
13	Bible Study 9:00 am	14	15 10 am Women's Bible Study Noon & 7 pm Adult Study Forum	16 Council Mtg. 7:00 pm	17	18	19
20	Bible Study 9:00 am	21 Gloria in Office	22 Gloria in Office 10 am Women's Bible Study Noon: Adult Study Forum 7 pm Thanksgiving Eve Service	23 Gloria in Office	24 Thanksgiving Office Closed	25 Office Closed	26
27	Bible Study 9:00 am	28 NO Sewing	29 10 am Women's Bible Study Noon & 7 pm Adult Study Forum	30 Soup's On @ St. Barts 12 noon	1	2	3

SK8 Kids Club Fun



SK8 Club survives the hayride. No sighting of the Stumpy Field Witch this year!



On Wed., October 19, we had our last of six SK8 Club meetings, with a hayride at the Purcell Farm. We had 13 kid club members and a dozen other kids and adults join us. After pizza at the church, we carpooled to the farm. The kids were able to wear the SK8 Club T-shirts that they had painted earlier in the month.

We had two tractors and wagons driven by Jane Porter and Bill Leaver. One of the tractors lost a couple bales in the Butter Bowl, but no children were lost! Thank you to Paul Herbert for running to balance the load.

Though we saw her house in the distance and her mailbox, Lily Whitehead, the Stumpy Field Witch, was not sighted in the orchard this year. (Thoughts are that she may have already gone to Florida.)

When we returned to the farm, the kids had apple cider and special caramel apple cupcakes from Secretary Gloria. The kids picked out pumpkins and bags of apples to take home.

Thank you to Jeremy Holderman for being our skate board instructor and to Jane Rohn who was our cook. Thank you to everyone who supported SK8 Club!