

# CROSS




# WORDS

Volume 8, Number 11

A newsletter published by  
United Church of Christ, Warren IN

All the time,  
GOD is good.



WARREN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
202 East Second Street

JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY AT 9:30 FOR  
**WORSHIP**

Refreshments served at 8:45  
Nursery available at 9:15

"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord."  
Psalm 150:6

November 1, 2020

## The Monthly Word

FROM PASTOR TROY

### ARE WE THERE YET??

It certainly is a new time in our society. I never had more than two days for a fall break growing up. Spring break was always the time to plan that extra time away. But for us the last couple of weeks our local schools have enjoyed a whole week of fall break. It was even better for Mindy and me as we were invited to go with our daughter, son-in-law, and three granddaughters to Tybee Island outside of Savannah, Georgia. Excited to say the least but also a little anxious. We've never been to that part of the country, what are the roads like, how long will it really take us, will the car make it? All kinds of unknowns with no answers. This can happen when faced with a health issue, or maybe God calling us into a different career, maybe totally different type of ministry work, it can be a little scary. So, how do we prepare, how do we get ready? Here are some verses that may help you face the unknown.

So, as you consider the fear and hesitation you feel when God is calling you into the unknown, remember these truths:

**Our purpose is not to live a wealthy life.**

*"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. -Matthew 6:24*

**We will be asked to suffer for the Lord.**

*"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." -John 16:33*

**Following God in spite of these things, will result in glory.**

*For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. -2 Corinthians 4:17*

*I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. -Romans 8:18*

**We will be rewarded as we seek to follow God.**

*Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. -Galatians 6:9*

**The Lord will provide us with the strength we need no matter how we are feeling.**

*That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. -2 Corinthians 12:10*

*The Lord's peace will fill us and uphold us when we step out in trust.*

*And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. -Philippians 4:7*

Don't allow fear to hold you back from the beautiful call God has placed on your life.

Well, we had an amazing week. My fears and anxieties were unfounded, we made it down and back home without any problems. Except for that big bridge that we had to cross, but that is a story for another article. November is the month to begin planning for family gatherings and preparing for the Advent season. In all the craziness of 2020 It's my prayer that we can all still gather and enjoy each other's company, and of course the awesome food that goes along with those gatherings.

God's blessings to you,  
Pastor Troy





Happy November to all our families and youth, praying all is well. Is everyone ready for some trick or treating? Do you have your costume decided yet? Just be careful as you are out and about in town collecting your candy stash!

Through the centuries, Halloween has taken various forms and has been claimed by pagans and Christians as a holiday (Yes, Christians). A form of Halloween began hundreds of years ago when the Celts established the tradition of celebrating the end of the harvest season on Oct. 31, but their celebration had a twist. They believed Oct. 31 represented a day when the boundaries of the living and the dead would overlap and that the dead would come back from their world to haunt the living. Centuries later, churches coopted part of this tradition to honor deceased saints and martyrs. Today, nearly every tradition of Halloween—such as jack-o-lanterns, costumes, trick-or-treating—can be traced to an ancient practice or tradition that has either Christian or pagan roots.

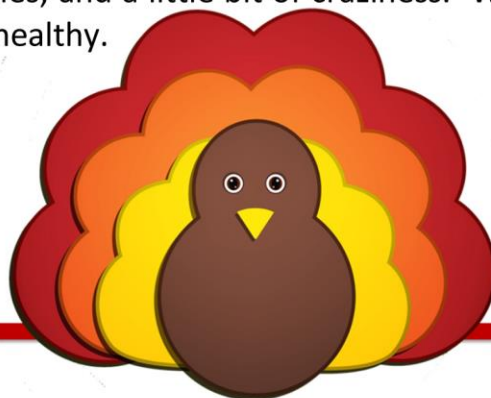
Today, Halloween is pretty much all about candy, costumes and haunted houses. Whether you observe Halloween, you can't miss seeing the season. Why not use the other world nature of Halloween as a tool to learn a truth deeply ingrained in the Christian faith? There is a spirit world that is more important than the world we see.

In fact, check out Ephesians 6:10-12:

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms” (Eph. 6:10-12). This passage reminds us of a reality that is commemorated by Halloween: A dark world exists that we constantly must battle. Thankfully, God has equipped us with full armor for this battle. Maybe Halloween 2020 was the year you lock into this truth. Here is a suggestion for a mash-up between Ephesians 6 and the Halloween season. Ephesians 6:10-12 above is arranged into seven phrases. During the next few days, you will be seeing Halloween everywhere (e.g. in stores, in yards, in media). Each time you see or hear a reference to Halloween, use that reference as a prompt to recite a phrase from Ephesians 6:10-12. Then by Oct. 31, you will have this passage memorized.

Don't forget we do have Wednesday evening activities planned for youth ages Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Join us at 6:30pm till 7:30 for games, activities, and a little bit of craziness. We work at keeping our area clean so that everyone stays healthy.

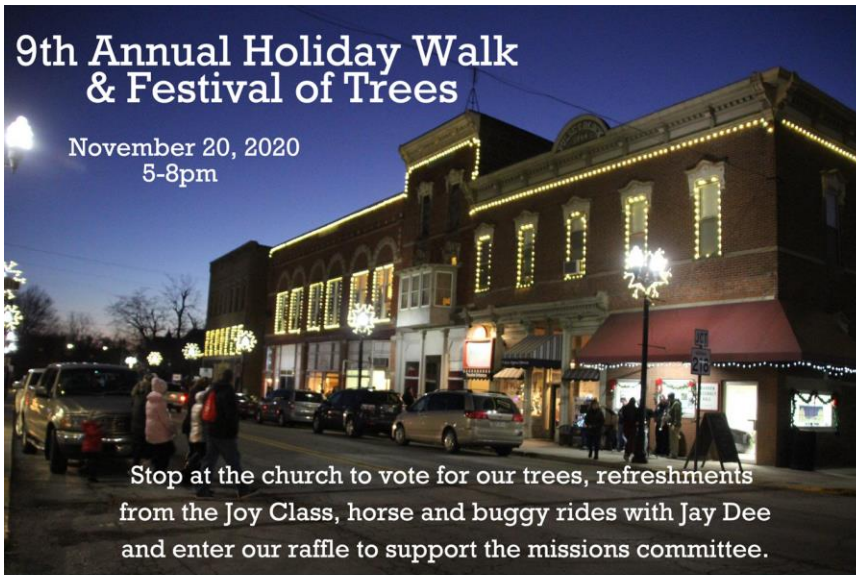
Blessings,  
Pastor Troy and Mindy





## 9th Annual Holiday Walk & Festival of Trees

November 20, 2020  
5-8pm



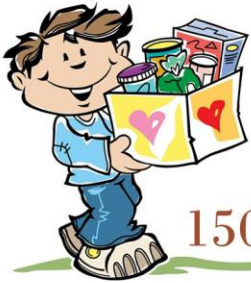
Stop at the church to vote for our trees, refreshments from the Joy Class, horse and buggy rides with Jay Dee and enter our raffle to support the missions committee.



We are looking for someone who would like to take on the task of decorating our tree for the Festival of Trees! Let Sarah know if you would like to help out!

### Join us for our: FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE

Our November challenge is **CRACKERS!!**  
We will be collecting any brand or style of crackers. Rose has stocked up on soup and peanut butter but still needs the **CRACKERS** to go with it! Let's do it!!



**November Goal**  
**150 boxes of CRACKERS**

The response to last months food pantry challenge was overwhelming! We collected money donations to help with the purchase of items needed for the Thanksgiving boxes. We collected \$2755!!!!  
You are all amazing!  
Thank you!



It's raffle time! On November 20<sup>th</sup> during the Festival of Trees we will be raffling off this box of Christmas items. Stop in the church between 5-8pm to get your tickets. Proceeds from the raffle will go to Missions Committee.



The Missions Committee is reaching out to the congregation for help building up their funds for the upcoming winter months. As they have not been able to have some of their annual fundraisers this year they have asked to have a special collection to help fill the need. If you would like to donate to the Missions Fund you may give Sunday at church or mail to PO Box 344. Every month the Missions donate to the Food Pantry as well as the Remnant House. We anticipate throughout the winter months needs will arise that we would like to be able to help with. Thank you for your support of our WUCC Missions.



# SMOKED PORK CHOP

## DRIVE THRU DINNER

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14TH

4:00 – 7:00 PM

WARREN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

202 E 2<sup>ND</sup> STREET / WARREN

**FREE DELIVERY WITHIN TOWN LIMITS**

**CALL 375-2102 THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> TO  
PRE-ORDER FOR DELIVERY**

### MEAL WILL CONSIST OF

SMOKED CHOP / BAKED POTATO / GREEN BEANS

INDIVIDUAL PRE-PACKAGE APPLESAUCE

INDIVIDUAL PRE-WRAPPED DESSERT

**FREE WILL DONATION - PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT**

WARREN AREA MINISTRIAL ASSOCIATION

WUCC MISSIONS / WUCC JOY CLASS



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!  
BUSINESS MEETING SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8TH  
FOLLOWING SERVICE**

## CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING

Please mark your calendars to attend church on November 8<sup>th</sup>. The nominating committee has been working hard to fill the available positions within the church. We will be voting for these nominations during the business meeting following service. We would like to thank all who volunteer for our church as well as Deb Baker and the nominating committee for all you have done.



Angel tree tags will be going up this month. We have two families we will be helping to provide Christmas gifts for, both single mothers. More information coming soon.

**Congratulations!**

**Jackson & Kalin Johnson**

**October 17, 2020**



## BLANKET COLLECTION

We will be collecting blankets  
for the Huntington Homeless.

Donation drop off in the church office.  
Thank you!



*share the  
warmth*

Your donation will make a difference!

WUCC Website  
[warrenucc.net](http://warrenucc.net)

**Stay Updated!  
Sunday Service  
Live Stream  
9:30 am**



Like us on  
Facebook



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PO Box 344  
Warren, IN 46792



Warren United Church of Christ  
202 East Second Street, PO Box 344, Warren, Indiana 46792  
Church Telephone: 260-375-2102  
Pastor Troy Drayer Cell Phone: 260-228-0064  
Church Email: [wucc@citiznet.com](mailto:wucc@citiznet.com)

## HOMECOMING 2020





Donate your time  
to the Food Pantry!

WUCC Work Day  
November 11, 2020  
2-4pm only!



General Offering  
October ~ \$12,765

Average Monthly  
Attendance  
Sunday ~ 50  
Contemporary ~ 15



Thanks Jerry & Peggy  
for another  
great Hayride!!

PRAYER REQUEST

**Waldo Knight**  
**Les Ackley**  
**Ruthann Ackley**  
**Lou Ann Shafer**  
**Kyle Dahlquist**  
**Ann Jackson**  
**Geri Zickafoose**  
**Ronny Sheets**  
**Martha Shafer**  
**Roselyn Poulson**  
**Ron Wartzok**  
**Dick Grove**  
**Carol & Ray Yeiter**  
**Cindy Boxell**  
**Jerry & Jim Williams**  
**Mike Ridenour**  
**Bill Byrd**  
**Janet Fitch**  
**George Dye**  
**John Brooks**  
**Dee Radar**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Sunday Service Communion 9:30am	2	3	4 Contemporary Youth Group 6:30pm  Treva Schmidt	5	6  DeWayne & Kelly Jones	7  Dean Schmidt
8 Sunday Service 9:30am Business Meeting Following Service  Kathy Pugh	9	10  Isabella Leas	11 Contemporary Youth Group 6:30pm Food Pantry Work Day Jerry & Peggy Wilson	12	13  Joey Martin Mary Clark	14 Pork Chop Dinner 4-7pm
15 Sunday Service 9:30am  Landon Green	16  Jessie Fowler Don Williams	17 AB Board Meeting 6:30pm  Chase Wright	18 Contemporary Youth Group 6:30pm	19	20 Holiday Walk 5-8pm	21  Nicloe Rooks
22 Sunday Service 9:30am  Nancy Smyth	23  Sandy Heathcote Kaidyn Bolinger	24	25 Contemporary Youth Group 6:30pm  Ryan Campbell	26	27  Wendell & Shari Sue Brown	28  Miranda Bolinger
29 Sunday Service 9:30am  Danielle Shape	30  Bryon Martin Colleen Oden					