

CROSS



WORDS

Volume 11, Number 10

A newsletter published by
United Church of Christ, Warren IN



"Enter His gates with thanksgiving
and His courts with praise.
Give thanks to Him,
bless His name." Psalm 100:4

October 1, 2023

IT'S ONE
THING TO PRAY.
IT'S ANOTHER THING
TO HAVE FAITH.
BUT TO MAKE
A DIFFERENCE
THAT MATTERS PUT
YOUR FAITH INTO ACTION!

Looking Up WITH PASTOR TROY

The Importance of Personal Integrity

Psalm 7:8, Titus 1:8, Titus 2:1-8

INTEGRITY is one of the most important assets we have and we must work hard to protect and preserve it. It takes years to build it yet only seconds to destroy it.

Ask yourself this question, if you were standing before God today, and you asked God to judge you according to your righteousness and your integrity, how would you do? (Would God be proud of you, would you be proud of yourself, or would you be ashamed, do you think that you have a great deal of work left to build your integrity?)

This month, we're going to talk about the importance of integrity.

1. Definition of Integrity – in the Hebrew, the word integrity meant completeness, moral innocence, or perfection. The exact opposite of compromise.

2. Why is your Integrity important?

- a. It defines to others who you are. When someone thinks of you, inevitably, they will think about whether or not you have integrity. People want to know if you're for real.
- b. It determines how you will react in certain situations. When you are faced with circumstances where you have choice to either do right or do wrong, your integrity, or lack of it, will determine what you do.
- c. It demonstrates your spiritual condition. If you have no integrity, then you have a spiritual problem, because God wants us to be righteous, to have integrity.
- d. If you lack it, it can damage your testimony. If someone knows that you have no integrity, they will certainly not listen to you when you share the Gospel with them.
- e. It Pleases God. I Chronicles 29:17 says, I know also, my God, that thou tryst the heart, and hast pleasure in uprightness...

3. What will Integrity do for me?

- a. It Blesses Me. Proverbs 20:7 says, the just man walketh in his integrity, his children are blessed after him.
- b. It Judges Me. Job 31:6 says, let me be weighed in an even balance, that God may know my integrity. God will judge us according to our righteousness and integrity. Psalms 7:8 that we have already read.
- c. It Protects Me. Psalms 25:21 says, let integrity and uprightness preserve me... Integrity will protect us as we venture through life. Some people spend so much time worrying about what they said to whom, or how they acted in a certain situation because they have no integrity. A person with integrity never has to worry about what story he told to whom, because he will always be telling the same story. His integrity will protect him.
- d. It Guides Me. Proverbs 11:3 says, the integrity of the upright shall guide them... Our integrity will guide our steps through life. We will not have to worry what to do in certain situations, because we always trust in God who will direct us.

4. How Do I Get It?

- a. You Pursue It with All Your Heart. Spend your lives seeking integrity. Desire it as you make every decision. Base your life on it. Base your WALK on it. Be able to say, like David did in Psalms 26:1, Judge me, O Lord, for I have walked in mine integrity, I have trusted also in the Lord, therefore I shall not slide. When we walk in integrity, we will not slide backward, we will not lose our direction.
- b. You Protect It with All Your Heart. Why, because you can easily lose your integrity. If you are not careful, if you don't seek it, and protect it daily, you may walk away from it.
 - 1. Your daily walk 2. Studying His word 3. Prayer Time
- c. You Practice It with All Your Heart. In every decision, in every situation you find yourself in, act with integrity.
- d. You Pray for It. Seek God earnestly that He will let you be a man or woman of integrity. Pray that God would use you to be an example to others of what integrity is all about.

Soon, whether you're a freshman in high school or a person facing retirement, you should live a life of integrity. If you base your life on God's words and His principles, you will have a life of integrity that can change the world. If the people in your community, in your neighborhood, in your office, in your family, know you as a man or woman of integrity, how much easier will it be for you to share the Gospel with them than if you were known to lack integrity. Having integrity is our choice, let's choose to do right.

REMEMBER:

What you say should always be what you do because that reflects Who you really are!

Let's make October a great month for God and ourselves!

Blessings,

Pastor Troy and Mindy Drayer



Thank you Janet,
Linda, Connie, and
Jane for helping out with
Refresh Wednesday and
Junior church on Sunday.

YOUTH DIRECTOR
TAKARRA MYERS



WEDNESDAY
NIGHT
LIVE

WNL: EVERY WEDNESDAY
AT 6PM
PRE-K ~ 5TH GRADES

You **BELONG** *Here!*

202 East 2nd St, Warren
260-375-2102

FOUR:12 YOUTH
MEET ONCE A MONTH
6TH ~ 12TH GRADES

YOUTH

Scripture
Power

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer
and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

Philippians 4:6

NEWS

Come see me at the Scarecrow Festival!
We will be giving out candy and playing ring toss!

**MARK
YOUR CALENDAR!**



WARREN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



JUNIOR CHURCH IS
AVAILABLE
SUNDAY MORNINGS
FOLLOWING
THE CHILDREN'S
MESSAGE.

COME SEE US
EVERY SUNDAY!



FOUR:12 YOUTH
6th-12th grades

Friday October 13, 5:30-7pm
In the new youth room.
Join us for Pizza and Ping Pong!

SUPER!

Luke and Carson, you both won kid of the month this month! You
guys do an awesome job passing out the bulletin each Sunday. Great
work jumping in to help. These two are great listeners that love to
be at church. They are always making me smile with their antics.

Worry and Anxiety

My Experience with Worry

I would like to start out by telling you a story of a time that I became fearful and chose to worry. I was on a rafting trip with my dad in West Virginia. I cautiously looked down at the angry rushing waters below. The knot in my stomach grew with each second that passed. What if I didn't jump out far enough and smashed into the jagged cliff face? The fear and worry grew with each question I dared to ask. Finally, I worked up the courage to jump and swam out to the raft. My father smiled proudly and exclaimed "You did it, you jumped! Wasn't that fun?" I smiled and realized it really was fun. I was worrying for no reason. Everything had turned out better than I had imagined. This complete scenario happens continually in my own life. I fear, I worry, and then things rarely play out the way I believe they will. What makes you feel worried and anxious? Your worries may look different than mine but the truth about worry is still the same.

The Truth about Worry

No amount of worry could have changed the outcome for me. Worry doesn't change anything. Worry is like a rocking chair it gives us something to do, but it doesn't take us anywhere. In Luke 12:22-32 Jesus tells us that the Lord knows our needs. Then he says we all are important to God. He says that God will provide for us. Jesus says that we shouldn't worry about anything in our lives. It is so important for us not to worry that God tells us a second time in Mathew 6:25-34. Mathew reiterates Jesus's message and says again we are more important than birds and the lord provides for them. The truth about worry is that it is not of God. The lord comforts us, this is why he left us the holy Ghost. Satan wants us worried because when we worry, we lose our trust in God. The only logical consensus is to let God worry about everything and trust in his plan for you. We can also pray and tell God about our requests. Try to find comfort in knowing that when your faith is tested it is Gods way of molding you. James 1:2-4 declares, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance." God sends us through trials to make our faith stronger. I know it can be very difficult not to worry about things but also keep in mind that it can only be harmful to us. The only real helpful solution we are given is to simply put your faith in God. And ask for his help.

Recognizing and Owning Our Feelings

Worrying is a choice that we make when we become fearful. We can learn to recognize and own our feelings. When we slow down and recognize we are feeling fearful it gives us the power to do something about it. When we take ownership over our feelings, we are acknowledging the truth of how we feel. Living in truth and not self-deceit is always what God wants for us because truth is of God.

Takarra

Family Day

Join us October 22nd, 2023

Location: 202 East 2nd Street, Warren

Service begins at 9:30am, Meal provided by Deacons

Everyone is invited!

Current Members! Past Members!
New Members! Visitors!

Coming Home to what is in Your Heart

FALL PARTY & HAYRIDE!

At The Wilson's

6780 E. State Road 218 Lafontaine

A FUN NIGHT
FOR THE WHOLE
FAMILY!

COME ONE, COME ALL!

Saturday, October 28th, 5:30 pm

All the food will be furnished. There will be an apple bob and pumpkin decorating. We will have Hot Chocolate and roast marshmallows after the hayride. Dress according to the weather. You might need a blanket for the hayride!

We will be in the barn rain or shine!!



Take a night off
in the kitchen!

Join us Wednesdays at
5:45pm for a meal
before the start of our
evening activities.

Warren United Church of Christ

REFRESH

Every Wednesday Evening, 6pm



warrenucc.net



Scarecrow Festival
October 27th, 6-8pm



We will be handing out hotdogs again this year at the Scarecrow Festival! Stop by and see us. Free will donation will be going to the Boys & Girls Club of Warren. Takarra will be there as well with a game for the kids! Hope to see everyone there.

Join us for our:
FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE

160 CANS
GREEN BEANS!



For October we are collecting cans of Green Beans. These will be use in the food pantry Thanksgiving boxes and they are in need of 160 cans. Your donations can be dropped off in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings or in the church office through the week. Our next work day at the pantry is Wednesday, October 25th from 2-4pm. Let Sarah know if you are able to help. Thanks!

PASTOR APPRECIATION

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO

October is Pastor Appreciation Month.
Thank you Pastor Troy for all you do!

Warren United Church of Christ
202 East Second Street
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



Tuesday, October 31, 6-8pm
(During town trick or treating.)

Happy
Halloween



WE NEED SOME TRUNKS!!

We would love to have you join us for Trunk or Treat during Warren's Trick or Treating. Maybe you want to decorate your car (you can find great ideas online), or just come and hand out candy? Let Sarah know in the office if you can come. If you can't make it but want to donate candy for us to hand out that would be great too!!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Sunday Service Communion 9:30am <i>Laura Summers</i>	2	3 <i>Dale & Sondra Zabel</i>	4 Refresh Service WNL Youth 5:45pm	5	6	7
8 Sunday Service 9:30am Church Meeting	9	10	11 Refresh Service WNL Youth 5:45pm	12 <i>Dan & Jackie Norris</i>	13 FOUR:12 Youth 5:30-7pm In the Youth Room!	14
15 Sunday Service 9:30am <i>Kimberlee Stroud</i>	16	17 AB Board Meeting 6:30pm	18 Refresh Service WNL Youth 5:45pm	19 <i>Larry & Roselyn Poulson Ruth Brooks</i>	20 <i>Chris & Carly Brubaker</i>	21 Serve at Huntington Food Ministry 4:30-6:30pm
22 Family Day 9:30am Meal following service	23	24	25 Refresh Service WNL Youth 5:45pm Food Pantry Work Day 2-4pm	26 <i>John & Brenda Tolen</i>	27 Scarecrow Festival 6-8pm <i>Richard & Janice Brubaker</i>	28 Hayride at Wilson's 5:30pm
29 Sunday Service 9:30am	30 <i>Janet Sneed</i>	31 Trunk or Treat 6-8pm				

Church Operating Cost
 \$3,775 weekly
 Offering Totals
 9/3 - \$1,790
 9/10 - \$2,749
 9/17 - \$1,421
 9/24 - \$831



Keep bringing in those new and gently used coats! Our outreach has grown this year and we are provided coats to families in Warren and the surround area. It is such a blessing to "Share the Warmth" with those in need. Please check with Julie for any specific sizes she may need. Monetary donations are also welcomed. Thank you for helping to make our annual coat drive successful!

Please plan to stay after service on October 8th for a congregational meeting.

Sunday, November 5th
 CHURCH
BUSINESS
 MEETING
 Following service, please plan to attend.