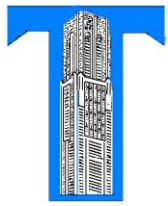


Mid-November 2015



Tower Topics

HIGH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

219 S. HIGH ST • MUNCIE, IN 47305

Church: 765-747-8500 • Fax: 765-741-5282

Email: info@munciehighstreet.com

Website: www.munciehighstreet.com



Upcoming Events

December 20, 2015

Advent Orchestra

December 21, 2015

7:00 p.m.

Longest Night Service

December 24, 2015

12:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Service

8:00 p.m.

Family Christmas Eve Service

11:00 p.m.

Candlelight Service

High Street United Methodist Christians:

- **Worship** God;
- **Connect** with other Christians to grow as disciples; and
- **Serve** Christ in the community.

Service Times:

- 8:30 – 9:30 AM
Traditional Worship
- 9:45 – 10:45 AM
Sunday school
- 9:45 – 10:30 AM
Chapel Worship
- 11:00 – Noon
Contemporary Worship
- Traditional Worship is
Broadcast at 11 AM on
WXFN – 1340 AM and 102.9 FM

TOWER TOPICS DEADLINES

Deadline for Submission is 8:00 A. M. on Tuesdays
MM = Mid-Month Tower Topics Issue

Deadline

November 17

December 1 MM

Distribution date

November 25

December 8 (This is the last issue for 2015
and will be mailed out)

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Tradition

We moved a lot when I was young. But no matter which house was ours, we always had a ritual in the month of November. We would pull out the shoebox with candles in it – candles in the shape of a Pilgrim, his wife, three pine trees and two spotted fawns. We would find a special place to display this set, the same set my mother had put out as a child when she was growing up.

One November we grabbed the box and made an unsettling discovery. Sometime during the previous year the box had been exposed to too much heat in the attic. The Pilgrim was slanting a bit to the right on his base. One pine tree's branches were really drooping. And one of the little fawns had melted over so much he looked like he was curled up, resting on the ground, rather than standing, alert and ready to run. We all felt sad about the "ruined" candles. Then my mom came up with a brilliant idea. She began to unfold each candle from the tissue paper in which it was wrapped, and started searching our new house for just exactly the right place to display the candles in their traditional grouping. We had the same fun as always, arranging the figurines, laughing together and looking forward to the holidays.

Before too many years had passed, none of us really remembered what the candles had looked like when they had been "perfect." As a matter of fact, we had come to love the little folded fawn and the tilted Pilgrim. The important part was the tradition – the actions we performed together which would lead to the celebration of Thanksgiving.

In his life, Jesus was, in some ways, very much a man of tradition. His weekly rhythm included ancient worship, prayer, study and rituals. He hallowed a wedding, marched with pilgrims to Jerusalem, and ate the Passover feast with his disciples. But at the same time, Jesus was always flexible and malleable to the will of God. He would constantly challenge his followers to think about God in new ways and re-interpret that ancient presence in modern times. Like our little candles folding and bending in the warmth, Jesus demonstrated the power of a living relationship with its "ancient-future" ability to shape and transform new times and new places.

At High Street we are uniquely blessed with a rich history and tradition. After all, we've just celebrated a 99th Annual Bazaar – and have years of ministry before that! One gift we can give to our community is the witness of tradition. We can attest to the celebration of a living relationship with an "ancient-future" God. We do not need to be bound by the past, but are set free to bring the best of the past into the present to prepare for the future. We can, at home, in church and in the community celebrate a living Christ, and bear the fullness of tradition to a new generation.

Happy Getting Ready for Thanksgiving!

Pastor Sherrie

WORSHIP

Sermon Series - Preparing for Thanksgiving

November 15

Sermon: "Preparing Our Lives"

Scripture: Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17 & Psalm 127

November 22 Christ the King Sunday

Sermon: "Preparing to Worship"

Scripture: 1 Samuel 1:4-20 & Hebrews 10:11-25

November 26 Thanksgiving Day

Sermon: "Rejoicing in Thanksgiving"

Scripture: Psalm 126 & Matthew 6:25-33

Thanksgiving Service

You are invited to begin your Thanksgiving with us in worship. On Thursday morning, November 26, we will gather in our sanctuary at 9:00 to give God thanks through our worship. The offering will go toward our High Street pantry; so you are encouraged to bring non-perishable goods as your offering. Pastor Sherrie will be preaching.

Hanging of the Greens

On Saturday morning, November 28, you are invited to join in helping decorate the sanctuary, the chapel, and the church halls for Advent. We will begin at 9:00 a.m. and expect to be done prior to noon. Child care will be provided.

Contributing to the Advent/Christmas Decorations

Each year we decorate the sanctuary and the chapel with red poinsettias during Advent and then with white poinsettias for Christmas Eve. In addition, we do what we can to replace worn decorations and add new decorations. All of this, requires some financing.

If you would like to help the church in providing these decorations for this season, you may do so in memory or in honor of someone special to you. Special offering envelopes are being made available. In addition, you may simply use your regular offering envelopes to designate a gift for our decorations. You may also fill out, cut out, and return the below form.

Advent Decorations 2015

Please make sure to print names clearly

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

This gift is given: In Appreciation/Honor

This gift is given: In Memory of

Hope in the Darkness

In the darkness of December, we look for the Light. Actually God often acts in the darkness. In our Advent sermon series we are going to explore how God has acted in the darkness, as we look at the Creation story, the promise to Abraham, the wrestling of Jacob, the promise of the prophet Isaiah, and then finally that Holy Night in Bethlehem.

Longest Night Service

We will again work with Meeks Mortuary and Parson Mortuary in conducting our Longest Night Service on Monday, December 21, at 7:00 p.m. This service is geared especially for those who have lost loved ones and will be facing the Christmas celebration without those loved ones. Pastor Mendenhall will be preaching on “No Cover of Darkness.” The service will feature a special time of remembrance with the lighting of votive candles and the candlelight enhanced singing of “Silent Night.” A time of refreshment will follow the service.

“Worship – Connect – Serve 2016” Update

As of this writing, we have received 180 forms with commitments to worship, connect, and serve in 2016 along with estimates of giving for 2016.

If you have not returned your form yet, please do so as soon as possible. Your estimate of giving will help us plan for the coming year.

We will return your form to you as we enter 2016 to remind you of the commitments you have made to worship, connect, and serve.

Looking Ahead to December

You may want to put these opportunities on your calendars now and plan to be here for:

December 6: The Children’s Talent Show in Parish Hall at 9:45 a.m.

December 13: The All-Church Caroling in the afternoon, and Preschool Christmas Program

December 19: The MasterWorks Chorale in concert at 7:30 p.m. in our sanctuary

December 20: Orchestra Sunday in the 8:30 service

December 24: Christmas Eve Services:

12:00 noon Communion and Candlelighting in the Chapel

8:00 p.m. Family Christmas Eve Service

11:00 p.m. Traditional Christmas Eve Service

CONNECT

UMW General Meeting

UMW General Meeting *is Tuesday,*

November 17th at 12:30pm. Wesleyan Circle is hosting and the guest speak and program is by Kelli Turner, principal of Southside Middle School. She will be speaking about the school and the road to success. Please RSVP to Mary Swanger at 282-9197. A light lunch is being served.

Thursday Luncheon Program

November 12: Deb Heeter – High Street Travelers

November 19: Muncie Animal Shelter – Dogs and Cats on display with a speaker

November 26: Thanksgiving – No Thursday Luncheon

High Street Travelers - Since 1974

**JAN 24 – FEB 5 SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE
SOLD OUT!!**

**MAY 16 – 20 BRANSON WITH A TWIST! 4
NIGHTS / 5 DAYS \$860 PP DBL OCC 5 SHOWS / 4
TOURS / 11 MEALS / LAMBERT'S CAFÉ / COLLEGE OF
THE OZARKS ++++**

**JULY 18 – 31 SCENIC IRELAND INCLUDES: RT
AIR / 13 DAYS / INSURANCE / TOURS**

**SEPT 8 & 9 OVERNIGHT MYSTERY TRIP:
Transportation/ Lodging/ 4 Meals / 6 Tours \$398 per
person Double Occ**

**SEPT 11 – 17 BEAUTIFUL MAINE 6 NIGHTS / 7
DAYS / MOTOR COACH TRANSPORTATION 10 MEALS /
TOUR PORTLAND & KENNEBUNKPORT \$649 PER
PERSON DBL OCC.**

CONTINUING: After EVERY 3rd paid trip in the calendar
year you receive a \$25 voucher towards a future trip.

Reservation Policy:

- 1) Contact High Street UM Church at 765/747-8500
- 2) Payment MUST accompany reservation.
- 3) Cancellations made within 7 days of trip are NOT guaranteed a refund.

Tours are open to the Public, clubs & groups. All trips are
deluxe motor coach unless noted. High Street Travelers is
sponsored by and a mission of High Street United Methodist
Church 219 So High St Muncie, IN 47305.

COORDINATOR-Deb Heeter EMAIL:
dheeter601@comcast.net

Hospitalized This Past Month and giving High Street at their preference:

Mary Barnell, Eleanor Friel, Madge Covert,
Liz Kirklin (*IUH Ball Memorial Hospital.*)

November Birthday

Joan True has a birthday November 19th.
She will be 90 years old.

Westminster
5801 W. Bethel
Muncie, IN 47304

SERVE

Pantry

Our High Street Pantry is requesting can
openers. We have canned goods in the
pantry and not all the cans have a pull tab.
We are also requesting plastic silverware (in a
protected bag). We are grateful and
appreciate all donations to the pantry.

Food Items needed for the pantry are:

- Mashed Potato packets
- Corn
- Apple Sauce
- Cereal
- Canned Peas
- Green Beans

Angel Tree

Angel Tree Ministry is back! This is a program
we have done for many years. When a child's
parent is in prison, they are often the silent
sufferers. You can let them know they're not
forgotten by giving the child the joy of
Christmas this year. The Angel Tree names will
be available for selection starting on **Sunday,
November 22nd** and each Sunday
after until all the name have been assigned,
with the goal of being done **no later
than December 6th**. Do you have trouble
getting out and shopping, but you'd still like to
sponsor a child? Take advantage of a
Shopping Helper! You can donate money and
someone will get the gift for you.

Operation Christmas Child

As you begin to think about Christmas and those who are without at Christmas time, the Young Family Lifegroup would like to invite you to join them as we gather shoeboxes filled with gifts for children around the world!

Operation Christmas Child is a well-known organization through Samaritan's Purse. Please consider donating a shoebox full of goodies for children affected by war, poverty, natural disasters, and other crises in more than 150 countries and territories.

You can collect items yourself and fill a shoebox or donate money to our project and we will do the shopping for you!

Some examples of items you can put in your shoebox include:

- Small toys
- School items
- Hygiene items
- Socks & Underwear
- Notes of encouragement

Each box needs to be labeled BOY or GIRL and the AGE of child you shopped for!

Each box costs \$7 to ship and this amount is needed with each box we collect! Please feel free to donate to this cost if you are unable to fill a shoebox!

We will be collecting these shoeboxes on Sunday November 15th.

Thank you so very much for helping us with such a worthy cause!

GENERAL INFORMATION

Thank You's

Our 99th Annual High Street U.M.W. Bazaar is all over! A big thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make it another success. Countless hours were used to sew, make, bake, and cook for all the items that were available to sell for our U.M.W. mission giving. Thanks to all the 'booth' chairpersons who made lots of phone calls and then worked hard at doing all the things it takes to make a successful bazaar happen! We're so fortunate to have so many talented craft persons (both men and women) who shared their efforts with us. We're grateful to everyone who came and bought the items we had so carefully prepared. Thanks again!!

A special thank you goes to all the men who helped us getting tables, chairs and screens set-up and then helping again when it was all over to put everything back in place and then also helped in the kitchen. We certainly appreciate your servants' hearts.

You have all helped us help others, whether they're here in Muncie, or on the other side of the globe!

Gratefully,
Donna McNary, U.M.W. President

Many thanks to our committee, custodians, teachers and students who made this fall session of Update Learning a success. We appreciate Sandra Hardcastle who moved into the position of director a week before we began and did an outstanding job!
David and Judi Reece

Dear High Streeters,

I've been so busy learning my duties that I forgot to put pen to paper and properly thank you for the opportunity to serve as Director of Older Adult Ministries. I apologize! It is, indeed, a joy to be on the staff at High Street UMC. Thank you, everyone, for your patience, assistance and warm, warm welcome!

Sandra Hardcastle

Calendar of Events

Thu Nov 12, 2015

8am - 11:30am SHIP Counseling - Office
11:30am - 1:30pm Thursday Luncheon
6:30 pm Staff Parish Interview Team - Library

Fri Nov 13, 2015

10am - 12pm Westminster Fellowship – Officers
6pm Kid's Night Out Thanksgiving - Nursery

Sat Nov 14, 2015

9am - 12pm District Committee on Ministry

Sun Nov 15, 2015

8:30am - 9:30am *Traditional Worship Service
9:30am - 9:45am *Fellowship and Coffee Time
9:45am - 10:30am *Informal Worship Service
9:45am - 10:45am *Sunday school Classes
10:30am - 11am *Fellowship and Coffee Time
11am - 12pm *Contemporary Worship Service
11am - 12pm Young Families Lifegroup - 205
4pm - 7pm Veterans Recognition - PH

Mon Nov 16, 2015

12pm - 2pm UL Mah Jongg Class - Room G6
1:30pm - 2:30pm High Street Pantry Opens
4pm - 5pm FCJ Team Facilitators

Tue Nov 17, 2015

6:45am - 8am Renovare Group - Parlor
8am Tower Topics Deadline
8:30am - 10am Church Staff - Library
10am - 11am Pastoral Staff - Office
11:30am - 11:30am Preschool Chapel - Chapel
12:30pm - 2pm UMW General Meeting - PH
1:30pm - 2:30pm High Street Pantry Opens
3:30pm - 4:30pm Board of Trustees - Room G6
5:30pm - 6:30pm Martha Mary - Red Lobster
6:15pm - 7:45pm Lilies - Youth Lounge

Wed Nov 18, 2015

6am - 7am Men's Breakfast prep - Parish Hall
7am - 8am UM Men's Breakfast - Parish Hall
9am - 5pm Travelers LaComedia Dinner Theatre
9:15am - 10:45am Women's Bible Study - G6
11:30am - 11:30am Preschool Chapel - Chapel
5:00pm - 8:00pm Youth Game Night
5:45pm - 7pm Handbells - Room 303
6pm - 7pm Call to Christ/Praise Kids

Wed Nov 18 continued:

7pm - 8:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
8pm - 9pm AA's - Room 204

Thu Nov 19, 2015

8am - 11:30am SHIP Counseling - Office
11:30am - 1:30pm Thursday Luncheon – PH
1:30 pm Archive Committee – Room 301

Fri Nov 20, 2015

7:15am - 8:15am Kingdom Adviser's - G6
11:30am - 11:30am Preschool Chapel – Chapel
1pm - 2:30pm UMW Executive Meeting - G6
2:30pm - 2:30pm Preschool Chapel - Chapel

Sat Nov 21, 2015

9am - 4pm Open Door/Meridian Service - PH

Sun Nov 22, 2015 Christ the King Sunday

8:30am - 9:30am *Traditional Worship Service
9:30am - 9:45am *Fellowship and Coffee Time
9:45am - 10:30am *Informal Worship Service
9:45am - 10:45am *Sunday school Classes
10:30am - 11am *Fellowship and Coffee Time
11am - 12pm *Contemporary Worship Service
3pm - 5pm The Grove

Mon Nov 23, 2015

8am-3pm Preschool Thanksgiving – Parish Hall
12pm - 2pm UL Mah Jongg Class - Room G6
1:30pm - 2:30pm High Street Pantry Opens

Tue Nov 24, 2015

6:45am - 8am Renovare Group – Parlor
8am-12pm Preschool Thanksgiving – Parish Hall
8:30am - 10am Church Staff - Library
10am - 11am Pastoral Staff - Office
12pm - 2pm Assistance Appointments - Parlor
1:30pm - 2:30pm High Street Pantry Opens
6pm - 7pm Children Ministries Meeting – Parlor
7pm - 8:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Wed Nov 25, 2015

Thu Nov 26, 2015 Office Closed/ 9:00 am Service

Fri 27, 2015 Office Closed

Sat Nov 28, 2015 – 9am Hanging of the Greens

Sun Nov 29, 2015

8:30am - 9:30am *Traditional Worship Service
9:30am - 9:45am *Fellowship and Coffee Time
9:45am - 10:30am *Informal Worship Service
9:45am - 10:45am *Sunday school Classes
10:30am - 11am *Fellowship and Coffee Time
11am - 12pm *Contemporary Worship Service

Mon Nov 30, 2015

12pm - 2pm UL Mah Jongg Class - Room G6
1:30pm - 2:30pm High Street Pantry Open

Reading Machine Available

The church has received a "Freedom Machine," a device that enlarges reading materials for people with macular degeneration and other sight impairments. This is an older model, but is still in good condition. Written material is displayed on a screen in large print. It consists of a base machine and a monitor. A table is also provided.

The family of Idamae Waid had purchased this for her, and she used it until her death. Another parishioner used it for some time after that. It is now available for loan to anyone who can use it.

Please contact Sandra Hardcastle in the church office if you or someone you know can benefit from this machine.

Virgil Oxley's Famous Peanut Brittle is back

The church office is selling Virgil's peanut brittle. We have one box and no guarantee we will get another. The peanut brittle is \$6.00 a bag and there is regular and chocolate covered. It won't last long so I would buy some today!

Contact Information

Our Visitation Pastor, Charlotte Overmyer, is available in the church office on Tuesday mornings, 8:30--10:00 a.m. This is a good time to talk with her about opportunities to visit our homebound members, concerns you may have about your own family members, or an insight or question you would like to share with her.

High Street Church Staff Email Addresses

Church: info@munciehighstreet.com

Pastor Dale:

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Pastor Sherrie:

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Pastor Jack:

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