

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

As we closed out 2016, we looked at and considered what it means for us to “*go all in.*” As we did, we found that it means that we need to be willing to come to the “*end of ourselves*” so that Jesus can have His rightful place in our lives. While this is pretty easy for us to say, it is quite another thing for us to do and live out. I believe that we have seen some positive steps taken as we seek to live into this call God is placing on our lives both as individuals and as a congregation.

As we begin this New Year we will be exploring God’s call on our lives on Sunday mornings through a series of sermons. We will be looking at and considering the following:

Why God Calls Us

What Is the Call?

Who God Calls

How God Calls

When God Calls

Living Out God’s Call

I pray that this will be a time of both discernment as well as response, as we seek to explore God’s call and go even deeper into our commitment to Christ and His Church. I look forward to the New Year that is before us and pray that we will be open to being led by the Holy Spirit as we venture into the new day into which God is calling us.

Pastor Chip



Inside this issue:

Pastor’s Letter	1	Electronic Giving	6
January Meetings & Events	2	Nominations 2017	7
February Meetings & Events	3	Nominations 2017	8
Missions	4	Christmas Offering	8
Emmaus	5	His Unfailing Presence	9
Safe Sanctuary	5		
Scholarship Fund	5		

Meetings and Events at GUMC

January 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2	3 Emmaus Women's Share Group 6 pm RUMC Emmaus Gathering 7 pm	4 Comfort Crew 10:00am Men's SG 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Women's SG 8:30 pm	5	6	7 Emmaus Women's Share Group 9 am
8 Prayer Circle Gathering 9:30 am	9 Missions 6 pm	10 Lillian Faith 10 am Emmaus Women's Share Group 6 pm	11 Comfort Crew 10:00am Men's SG 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Women's SG 8:30 pm	12	13	14 UM Men's Breakfast 8:30 am Emmaus Women's Share Group 9 am Ministry Table 9 am-noon
15 Prayer Circle Gathering 9:30 am GUMY 5:00 pm	16 Trustees 7 pm	17 Emmaus Women's Share Group 6 pm SPRC 7 pm	18 Comfort Crew 10:00am Men's SG 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Women's SG 8:30 pm	19	20	21 Emmaus Women's Share Group 9 am
22 Prayer Circle Gathering 9:30 am	23	24 Emmaus Women's Share Group 6 pm	25 Comfort Crew 10:00am Men's SG 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Women's SG 8:30 pm	26	27 Feeding His Children Prep 6 pm-9 pm	28 Emmaus Women's Share Group 9 am Feeding His Children 7 am-2 pm
29 Prayer Circle Gathering 9:30 am	30	31 Emmaus Women's Share Group 6 pm	Notes:			

Meetings and Events at GUMC

February 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Comfort Crew 10:00am Men's SG 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Women's SG 8:30 pm	2	3	4 Emmaus Women's Share Group 9 am Cub Scouts 10 am-2 pm
5 Prayer Circle Gathering 9:30 am GUMY 5:00 pm	6	7 Emmaus Women's Share Group 6 pm RUMC Emmaus Gathering 7 pm	8 Comfort Crew 10:00am Men's SG 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Women's SG 8:30 pm	9	10	11 UM Men's Breakfast 8:30 am Emmaus Women's Share Group 9 am
12 Prayer Circle Gathering 9:30 am	13	14 Lillian Faith Valentine's Day Potluck 10 am Emmaus Women's Share Group 6 pm	15 Comfort Crew 10:00am Men's SG 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Women's SG 8:30 pm	16	17	18 Emmaus Women's Share Group 9 am Good Works Walk
19 Prayer Circle Gathering 9:30 am GUMY 5:00 pm	20 Trustees 7 pm	21 Emmaus Women's Share Group 6 pm	22 Comfort Crew 10:00am Men's SG 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Women's SG 8:30 pm	23	24 Feeding His Children Prep 6 pm-9 pm	25 Emmaus Women's Share Group 9 am Feeding His Children 7 am-2 pm
26 Prayer Circle Gathering 9:30 am Chris Cakes Pancake Lunch 11:30 am	27	28 Emmaus Women's Share Group 6 pm	Notes:			

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Question: During the Christmas season, did you stop and think about how blessed you are? Did you reflect on how rich and full your life is and how grateful you are to God for taking such good care of you and your loved ones? What is your response to this gratitude? How will **YOU** serve this year? Is there a Missions project that you would like to be part of? There are no membership fees, no screening process, no applications, no referrals needed. The Missions Team meets on the 2nd Monday of odd months (specifically, January 9, March 13, May 8, July 10, September 11, November 13, 2017 – ONLY six times a year) at 6 pm in the Serendipity room. We would love to have you join us!

Feeding His Children at Claire:

We had a great time on Christmas Eve, December 24, serving lunch at Claire. Larry Flowers did a special devotional and led us in singing. We distributed gift bags with toiletries, home-made cookies, candy and a card, and the children's bags included a gift. The gift bags were decorated by GUMC youth and leaders and included cards to our guests.

Our 2017 grant application for this program was approved and we will again serve meals on the 4th Saturdays throughout this year, usually preparing food the evening before. There is a place for YOU in this ministry – if God has put that on your heart. No long-term commitment needed. Our food preparation is usually Friday evening around 6:00 p.m. during which we also assemble toiletry bags for the Groveport food pantry. We finish preparing food on Saturday mornings, depart GUMC to go to Claire around 10:30 a.m., and return around 12:30. This would be a great opportunity for families – children 11 years and older may serve if accompanied by a parent/responsible adult. Come and join us – YOU will be blessed – and probably have a lot of fun, as we do!

Samaritan's Purse Christmas Child Shoeboxes Report:

THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!!! Sixty-four shoeboxes from GUMC (YOU!) were delivered to a collection center on November 21. YOU will make a difference in the life of a child and let them know they are loved!

Angel Tree Report:

THANK YOU to all who shopped, wrapped and delivered gifts to our Angel Tree Families. We served four families with eight children. Each child received two gifts (one a 'wish' and one a 'need'), and also a stocking with candy and small toys. We also gave each family a \$25 Kroger gift card. This may be the only Christmas these families received and we are blessed to be part of the Prison Fellowship ministry which connects incarcerated parents with 'angels' who provide for their children at Christmas. You are a blessing!

GREETING CARD BACKS

The Missions Team collects and sends the fronts (only) of greeting cards throughout the year to St. Jude's Ranch, where the card fronts are re-purposed by children to earn money. These may be deposited on the Missions Collection Cabinet in the parlor.

COMING SOON – SAVE THE DATES:

Chris Cakes' Pancake LUNCHEON

Join us for our Annual Chris Cakes Pancakes for LUNCH following morning worship on Sunday, February 26, 2017. Same set-up: come prepared to CATCH your lunch! Donations accepted for this Missions Team project. All are welcome so bring your family and friends!

Good Works Inc. Walk for the Homeless

The Annual Good Works Walk for the Homeless will be Saturday, February 18, 2017 in Athens, Ohio. There are several 'walk' options including those for folks who have mobility issues – and it's an amazing event. Good Works is the only homeless shelter in 8 southeastern Ohio counties and we are pleased to support their program. Please plan to join us as we participate in the 2017 walk.

Community News:

CGMHN Adopt-A-Family:

THANK YOU to all who donated time/talent/funding/gifts for the CGMHN Adopt-A-Family. We **really** could not do this without YOU. In December we served 85 families with a total of 285 kids. That's a lot of coats, clothes, gifts and food. Thank you Jesus, for the generosity and compassion in our community!!

JANUARY/
FEBRUARY 2017



EMMAUS

The Emmaus Walk is an experience that everyone deserves to experience. Beginning on a Thursday evening and ending on Sunday evening, it is a true experience of the depth of God's love for us and His amazing grace that redeems us and sets us free. March 9-12 there will be a Men's walk and April 27-30 there will be a Women's Walk at the Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church. If you would like more information or would like to attend, please contact Pastor Chip or anyone who has attended an Emmaus Walk. If you would like to get a taste of what Emmaus is about feel free to attend an Emmaus Gathering on the 1st Tuesday of any month at the Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church at 7:15 p.m.

SAFE SANCTUARY



In 2007, Groveport United Methodist Church formulated a Safe Sanctuary Policy requiring those adults working with children to take a training course and provide a background check to our Safe Sanctuary Committee. The training is mandatory and must be updated every three years. There must be two adults (trained/background checked) present in all Sunday School classes or any other child-oriented event in the church. When this is not possible, a trained member will monitor the classes. At the beginning of each new year, the committee will notify those who need to renew their training and make possible either scheduled training dates or one-on-one training sessions with a committee member.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS



Did you know that donations to the Viola Luellen Scholarship fund can be made at any time? These scholarships are capped at \$500.00, and are only available to members of GUMC that are in studies of ministry, nursing, or education. The scholarship was initiated by Jim Luellen in memory of his wife Viola. Additional monies were given in memory of Fanchon Greer. This was visionary on the part of Jim and needs to be remembered when we look forward to the young people in our church. Please prayerfully consider donating to this scholarship, as it is funded by the generous gifts of our congregation. Respectfully submitted by Jean Ann Hilbert

Electronic Giving Forms

If your electronic giving contribution will increase for 2017, please advise Vicki Babbert, Treasurer. Email: babbertve@aol.com; or cell phone 614-537-7081. If you would like to submit your tithes and offerings through electronic giving, please complete the enclosed form and provide to Vicki.

Church Name: Groveport United Methodist Church	
Your Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Email Address:	
I would like to make the following contributions	
<input type="checkbox"/> General Operating Fund	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____
Date of first contribution ____/____/____	
Frequency of contribution (check one)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Semi-monthly—5th and 20th	
<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 5th	
<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 20th	

CHECKING / SAVINGS	
Please debit my (check one)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Checking account—attach voided check	<input type="checkbox"/> Savings account—attach voided deposit slip
Account #	Routing #
Valid routing # must start with 0, 1, 2 or 3	
I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to the above account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.	
Authorized signature: _____	Date / /
Would you be interested in using your credit / debit card for donations? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

Nominations 2017

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Chair – Larry Flowers
Lay Leader – Larry Hilbert
Lay Leader – Patty Flowers
Ministry Table Chair – Bob Dennis
Treasurer – Vicki Babbert
Trustee Chair – Gary Henkel
Finance Chair – Jeff Myers
SPRC Chair – Joyce Myers
Pastor – Chip Koch

MINISTRY TABLE

Chair – Bob Dennis
Secretary – Becky Cassidy
Lay Leader – Larry Hilbert
Lay Leader – Patty Flowers
Leadership Team Chair – Larry Flowers
Treasurer – Vicki Babbert
Staff Parish – Joyce Myers
Trustees – Gary Henkel
Finance – Jeff Myers
Missions – Kathi Faulstich
Outreach – Steve Shirley
Children's Ministry – Angela Martin / Bev Koch
Caring Team – Mary Sue Gregg / Charlene Nutter
Music Director – Terri Christensen
G.U.M.Y. Youth – Courtney Hilbert
Safe Sanctuary – Kay Carter
Camping – Jason/Brandi Mahr
Scouting – Jeff Myers
Lillian Faith – Patti Upperman
U.M. Men – Andy Tabor
Membership – Monica Hylbert
Lay Delegate – Larry/Patty Flowers
Communications – Jen Hertl
Hospitality – Mark Newman
Food Pantry – Andrew Nimely
Historian – Beth Stevenson
At Large – Paige Pickett
At Large – Jean Ann Hilbert

TRUSTEES

2017 Gary Henkel - Chair
2017 Tom Stevenson
2017 Brian Schelppi
2017 Mark Salva
2018 Jason Mahr
2018 Rich Holter
2018 Joyce Reihing
2019 Jim Stokes
2019 Ben Koch
2019 Barb Belek
Lay Leader – Larry Hilbert

FINANCE

Chair – Jeff Myers
Chair Leadership Team – Larry Flowers
Chair Ministry Table – Bob Dennis
Financial Secretary – Joy Habegger
Lay Leader – Larry Hilbert
Lay Leader – Patty Flowers
Treasurer – Vicki Babbert
Staff Parish – Joyce Myers
Trustees – Gary Henkel

STAFF PARISH

2017 Courtney Hilbert
2017 Andrew Nimely
2018 Joyce Myers - Chair
2018 Mike Belek
2018 Charlene Nutter
2019 Debbie Holter
2019 Bill Hylbert
2019 Beth Stevenson
2019 Jen Hertl
Lay Leader – Patty Flowers

STEPHENS MINISTRY

Larry Hilbert - Lead
Darleen Neal
Kay Carter
Becky Cassidy

Nominations 2017

CHILDREN'S TEAM

Co-Chair Angela Martin
Co-Chair Bev Koch
Steve Shirley
Paige Pickett
Kathy Faulstich

CARING TEAM

Mary Sue Gregg - Lead
Charlene Nutter - Lead
Patty Flowers
Donna Drury
Sue Arnett
Becky Cassidy
Melanie Monahan

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

Patty Upperman – Chair
Larry Hilbert – Greeters
Kelly Tabor – Ushers
Bonnie Henkel
Mary Sue Gregg
Bob Dennis

WORSHIP TEAM

Pastor Chip
Terri Christensen
Nancy Wilkerson
Larry Hilbert
Kelly Tabor
Gail Dillon
Patty Upperman
Vicki Babbert
Steve Shirley
Brian Johnson
Monica Hylbert

NOMINATIONS

2017 Monica Hylbert
2017 John Sanborn
2018 Jeff Myers
2018 Jean Ann Hilbert
Lay Leaders

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Our Christmas offering this year was designated to two specific areas of need. Half of the offering went to Groveport Madison Human Needs, an organization that offers assistance to families for housing, utilities, food, medicine, and the like. The other half went to the Pastor's Crisis Fund that is used primarily to help families in the life of the Groveport UM Church who have emergency needs. There are times when it is also used to help families in our community. We are happy to report that our Christmas offering was \$1,991.00 which will give \$995.50 to each of these areas. This will go a long way in helping those in need. Thank you for your gifts and for being the hands and feet of Jesus.

KID'S CORNER

♥ Valentine's Day Word Puzzle ♥

H	E	A	R	T	S	W	E	E	T	O
K	T	K	A	F	L	O	W	E	R	S
K	I	S	S	Z	C	D	G	X	L	I
C	H	H	L	Z	U	L	I	E	O	K
W	A	M	A	R	P	O	V	G	V	L
R	P	N	J	W	I	N	E	E	E	R
E	P	K	D	M	D	R	O	S	E	S
D	Y	T	Y	Y	H	U	G	Y	D	C

CANDY	FLOWERS	HEART	RED
CUPID	GIVE	HUG	ROSES
KISS	HAPPY	LOVE	SWEET

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JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2017

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GroveportUMC.org



Worship God Build Disciples Change Lives

His Unfailing Presence

Another year I enter
Its history unknown;
Oh, how my feet would tremble
To tread its paths alone!
But I have heard a whisper,
I know I shall be blest;
"My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest."

What will the New Year bring me?
I may not, must not know;
Will it be love and rapture,
Or loneliness and woe?
Hush! Hush! I hear His whisper;
I surely shall be blest;
"My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest."



--Unknown Author