



# The Signpost

Harlem Road Church

November 2016

Volume 11, Number 8

## Thanksgiving and Spiritual Anchors

Dear HRC Family,

At this time of the year our hearts and thoughts turn to the season of Thanksgiving. Have you begun to think about what you are most thankful for? We're all thankful for the many blessings of home, family, friends, jobs, health, etc. But could I ask you to go beyond those this year and think more deeply? In terms of your spiritual life, your life with Jesus, what are you really most thankful for?

I was considering this for myself and I came to a new understanding. I'm most thankful for the foundations of my spiritual life. They are like anchors in my everyday life. Have you ever thought about your spiritual anchors? What are they? How do they affect your daily life? How do they enable your walk with Jesus? How do they keep you firmly in place when the strong winds are blowing? Please don't read past these questions until you've really considered their application to your life.

Jesus told a parable about two men who each built houses. One man was very wise and built his home on a rock, while the other man built his house on sand (Matthew 7:24). Of course, when the rain fell, the floodwaters rose, and the house that was built on the rock remained while the other was swept away. In this parable, Jesus not only teaches about obedience to God but also about the importance of spiritual anchors in your life. (Dads and moms, are you teaching your children the values of spiritual anchors in their lives? They will need firm anchors in the years ahead.)



I'm most thankful for my anchors in the Christian faith. I know my faith revolves around several key elements that keep me on track with Christ. Each of these are building blocks that God uses to build my faith so I can walk with Him daily.

The cross: I'm reminded again at Thanksgiving that God's Son died for me and you. His sacrificial death was sufficient payment for all my sins. Without the cross, we would not experience the unconditional love and forgiveness of God.

Believer's baptism: It's what makes us one in Christ. It's God's will for every believer to be baptized. God loves us so much that he came to earth to identify with us. It is only right that we identify with Him through the act of baptism.

Our church: God ordained the ministry of Harlem Road Church. It is our responsibility to grow spiritually, to learn and apply more and more about the truth of God's Word.

The Holy Spirit: The Spirit convicts us of sin when we've turned from God's path and guides us back into the light of God's truth. It's the Spirit who guides us every day.

Christian Service: It's the believer's highest honor to serve Christ and His Church. True service is not a matter of deeds well done. Instead, it is the evidence of God's outpouring of love through our lives to those in need.

Surrender: I know this is not a one-time event. It is daily, at least for me. Daily we surrender our desires, our lives, and our self-will to God. When we do, He is glorified, and a door to tremendous blessing is opened to us.

Do these anchors represent the core of your spiritual foundations this Thanksgiving? If so, there's much to be thankful for in your spiritual journey. If not, be thankful that God offers all of us a "do-over" opportunity and His unconditional love. Put effort into partnering with God to get these anchors in place, and you'll discover that God has a rich reward for all who seek to build a firm spiritual foundation in Him.

Blessings, and Happy Thanksgiving!

Pastor Bud

## Children's Ministry News

By Pam Leskovic

### Trunk or Treat

Thank you! Our Trunk-Or-Treat was awesome! We had an awesome group of you out in the parking lot passing out candy to our 80-90 kids. You're amazing! The kids said that this was the best yet! So thank you very much for supporting this outreach ministry to the kids in our surrounding communities. And thank you so much for taking the time to hang out in the cold evening air just to make this a success. Because of you, we had a blast! God bless you!

Pam and the crew at FNL.



### FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE!

Join in the fun on November 18! FNL is for kids age 4 through 5th grade, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Dinner is included. Our theme for November is "Jesus – the God/Man!" We won't hold FNL in December or January - so our next FNL date will be February 17.

## Christmas Musical

Mark your calendar now for the children's Christmas musical production. Let the children lead us into the presence of Christ with "All About That Baby!" You won't want to miss this great start to the Christmas season.

Performances:

Saturday, December 3 at 6 pm

Sunday (one service) December 4 at 10:30 am

If you'd like to help with the cookie receptions after the performances by either donating cookies or helping serve the reception, please let Pam know!

## Volunteers Needed

We are still in need of a few volunteers to make our Sunday morning children's programs run smoothly:

- Nursery during the 8:30 service: We still need a 4th Sunday volunteer and a 5th Sunday volunteer (4x a year).
- 4th and 5th Sundays: we still need a Sunday school teacher for the 8:30 kids class.
- 2nd Sundays: We still need a 9:45 Kids Time volunteer to make crafts and play games with the children during the adult Sunday school hour.

If you have any questions concerning Children's Ministries, or would like to get involved in this area of ministry, please contact Pam Leskovac at [pam@harlemroadchurch.org](mailto:pam@harlemroadchurch.org) or call: Church/740-965-4543 Cell/614-507-1577.

## Stewardship Sunday

Remember – Sunday, November 6 we will have one service at 10:30 to celebrate our financial commitment to the church and God's work through it. Don't forget the time change is also that Sunday!

## MarketPlace – Thank You

By Ellen Jacobs

A huge THANK YOU to all the volunteers who helped with MarketPlace this year. We are so grateful for the many hands that helped with setup, clean up, serving food, and welcoming guests at the entrance to MarketPlace. We are especially grateful for the hard work of Allen and Lindsey Fling, Mike Soule and his family, and Tom and Eva Wolfe and their family. All proceeds go to our beautiful children in Haiti at Imagine Missions. I received a comment from someone who had been to 5 other craft shows that day, who said that the food at Harlem Road Church was by far the best! No surprise there!



## Election Day Bake Sale

Donation of baked goods needed, plus help with the sales table all day on Tuesday, November 8. See Diana Robertson for details.

## Help Needed for Annual Conference at HRC

The annual conference for 9 churches from the Capital Area North district will be held at HRC on Sunday, November 20 at 3 pm. We need hosts, greeters, people to supply appetizers, cookies, fruit, etc. Please use the lobby sign-up sheets to volunteer!

## Help Needed for Christmas Church Decoration

Please join us to help decorate the church on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 15 and 16. We need several men to help set up trees and put up wreaths and lights outside. Lunch will be provided.



## Missions News

Harlem Road UMC focuses its Mission Outreach efforts in two key areas: our local Big Walnut community, with an emphasis on Westerville Estates, and our global Haitian community in the Imagine Missions orphanage. Our local outreach is done in partnership with other churches and organizations. We call our combined group "SidebySide." The other organizations are Galena UMC, Church of the Saviour UMC, New Albany UMC, New Albany Church of the Resurrection, and Harlem Township Helping Hands.

### Ongoing Missions at HRUMC

Income for Our Neighbors: Each month, necklaces made by two Westerville Estates women are taken to the Ohio Art Market for sale. Please patronize the Ohio Art Market, located in Uptown Westerville on the corner of Main and State streets.

Aluminum Pop Tabs: Please bring in the tabs off your aluminum cans and we will take them to the Columbus Ronald McDonald House which recycles them to raise funds to purchase wheelchairs. Receptacles are on the table at the back of the main hallway.

BoxTops for Education: Please bring in the BoxTops for Education labels from your food packages and we will take them to Souders Elementary School. Receptacles are on the table at the back of the main hallway.

## Health and Wellness

By Sue Wilcox

"I have come to regard November as the older, harder man's October. I appreciate the early darkness and cooler temperatures. It puts my mind in a different place than October. It is the month for a quieter, slightly more subdued celebration of summer's death as winter tightens its grip." - Henry Rollins.

### Walk to Bethlehem

We are halfway in our journey to Bethlehem. Shortly (I hope), we will reach Morocco. Jim says we are on target to reach Bethlehem by the Advent season. Thank you to those of you who are participating and logging your miles. If you are interested, it is not too late to help us with the last portion of our trip



Remember to record your activities/miles on the clipboard or email them to “awalktobethlehem@gmail.com.” If you need help with converting your activities into steps, there is a sheet on the table in the church lobby.

## Diabetes Awareness

November is Diabetes Awareness month. The second Sunday in November, in addition to our regular blood pressure checks, we will be doing diabetic detection screenings. There will be information available for those who have been diagnosed as well as for anyone interested in learning more about the disease.

Facts about diabetes:

- More than 29 million US adults have diabetes, and 25% of them don't know it.
- About 86 million US adults—more than a third—have prediabetes, and 90% of them don't know it.
- People with prediabetes who take part in a structured lifestyle change program can cut their risk of developing type 2 diabetes by as much as 58%.
- The CDC focuses its prevention and support efforts on populations that are most affected by diabetes to make sure they get the best education and treatment.

## Reynoldsburg Emmaus Walks

By Judi Ayers

Emmaus is an awesome part of a Christian's walk. It is a weekend all about you and the love of Jesus Christ. You will become closer in your personal relationship with God and your Christian family.

If you are interested in attending an Emmaus Walk or would like to know more about this Christian weekend, please contact Judi Ayers by email at [jayers@ocsea.org](mailto:jayers@ocsea.org) or by cell phone at 614-915-6825 and leave a voice mail. I will get back to you as soon as I can.

2017 dates:

- Men's Walk #83- Mar 9-12
- Women's Walk #104- Apr 27-30
- Women's Walk #105- Jul 27-30
- Men's Walk #84- Oct 12-15
- Women's Walk #106- Nov 9-12

## Community Connection Groups



Thinking about joining a small group, but not sure which one might be right for you? Contact the leaders to find out more about the people in the group and what they do!

A women's nondenominational community connection weekly bible study group is starting this fall at Nancy Babbitt's home in Lake of the Woods, at 9119 White Oak Lane, Westerville. Contact Nancy at 614-891-5638 or [johnlbabbitt@gmail.com](mailto:johnlbabbitt@gmail.com)

**IRONWORKS MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST GROUP.** Ironworks is an opportunity for men to come together and network with other men of the church and community for the purpose of helping each other to become better warriors for Jesus Christ. We meet at the church the first Saturday of the month. A hot breakfast starts at 8:45 am, followed by a relevant study topic/discussion. Please see or email Mark Peterson for further information. Leader: Mark Peterson ([6906whodey@gmail.com](mailto:6906whodey@gmail.com) or 614-270-0600)

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** Meeting Time/Place: Tuesdays at 7 pm in the pastor's office. All men are welcome! Leader: Jim Bernhardt ([bernharj@gmail.com](mailto:bernharj@gmail.com) or 614-895-1807)

**WOMEN'S TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY** Meeting Time/Place: Ellen Jacobs' small group will continue with weekly studies on Tuesdays at 7 pm through December 6, when we will take a short break for the holidays, and resume on January 10. On November 8, we will begin a study that deals with the Battlefield of the Mind, based on the writings of Joyce Meyer. Leader: Ellen Jacobs ([jacobsellen53@gmail.com](mailto:jacobsellen53@gmail.com) or 614-406-4s337)

**WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY NIGHT GROUP** Meeting Time/Place: We will not meet in November, but are planning a Christmas dinner on December 14, place TBD. Leader: Diana Robertson ([office@harlemroadchurch.org](mailto:office@harlemroadchurch.org) or 614-882-9487)

**WOMEN'S LUNCH BUNCH** Meeting Time/Place: Lunch Bunch is meeting at noon on Thursday, November 3, place TBD. Leader: Bobbi Pollock ([blp1946@embarqmail.com](mailto:blp1946@embarqmail.com) or 740-965-4503)

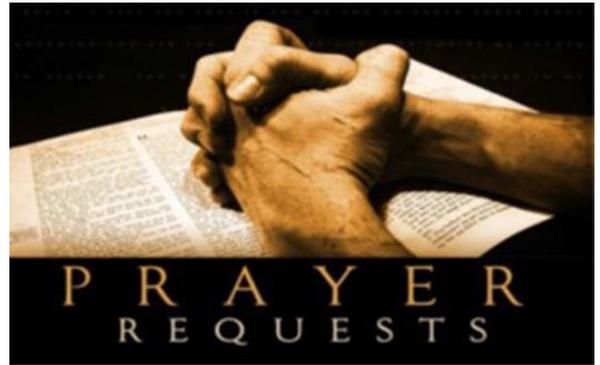
**SATURDAY COUPLES GROUP** Meeting Time/Place: The Couples Group lead by Ron and Lisa Danne will meet at 6 pm on Saturday, November 19, at the Dannes' house. We will share a Baked Potato Bar and a devotional study. Please RSVP to Lisa by Wednesday November 16 if you are able to attend. Leaders: Ron and Lisa Danne ([lisad@columbus.rr.com](mailto:lisad@columbus.rr.com) or 740-244-7223)

**THE AYERS GROUP** Meeting Time/Place: On Tuesday, November 8 at 7 pm, we'll meet at Tahna and Larry Pasqua's house, Liberty Lane, Westerville. Our second meeting place of the month is TBD. Leader: Karen Dodson 614-579-5135, [kadee115@aol.com](mailto:kadee115@aol.com).

## Prayer Requests

Expectant Moms: Jenni Stupski, Kristyn Dennis Brady

Requests: Mary Lou Piper, Joel Hecker, Katie Paul, Norma & Dave Newlun, Herb & Bonnie Wilson, Alan Heligmann, Allie Pollock, Jim Stone, Liz Fravel, Kelly Hanlin, Yvonne Lake, Martha Ann Branin, Arthur Saunders, Kyle Cooger, Jarrett Wampler, Gary Evans, Sara Roberts, Geneva Day, Betty Baughman, Sophia Hill, George Pollock, Joel Wilcox, Denny Krebs, Herb Baker, Clyde Fravel, Linda Emerson, Penny Meyers, Winnie Bateson, Kim Houf, Brenda Barcus, Dottie Sund, Suellen Peterson, Doug Edwards, Ken & Kathy Cook, Joe Carl



Cancer Treatment: Jim Houf, Robin Cumberledge, Ray White, Don Basile, Kathy Rank, Denise Sproul, Shari King, Mike Stati, Nancy Neutzing, Zoey Harper, Allen Dyer, Charles & Sheryl Boldosar, Shawn Correll, Chuck Netting, Howie Goodman, Loraine Bell, Sidney Hatfield, Debbie Goslin, Debbie Dorsch, Gary Fravel, Rosemary Finn, Bunny Pearson, Craig Valentine, John Feller, John Bell, Leah Dean, Mike Doel, Jessie Wampler, Vicki Troendly, Robin Smith, Julie Smart, David Heisman, Diane Jewell

Military Service: Joe Pasqua, Jeremy Ragan, Christina Hahn, Chad Cunningham, Scott Crowell, Sean Hatch, John Smock, Stuart David, Nathan Brumbaugh, James Martin, Michael David-Gish, Nathan Bertram