



From the Heart A letter from Pastor John

November 2023 Newsletter

Colossians 3:16 ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

Dear Friends,

In Ellen Vaughn's *Radical Gratitude,* she asks the question, "Is gratitude a discipline?" In other words, is it something we must practice regularly to develop a perpetual mindset of thankfulness? Can we force our hearts to be grateful? Should we have a gratitude list and check it off as we fulfill it? Is gratitude yet another discipline to be mastered?

Ellen Vaughn claims that gratitude is not a discipline. She argues that grace is a gift of God and gratitude is what grace creates. Gratitude is our response to the work of God in our lives. Ellen Vaughn claims that although gratitude is not a discipline but rather a gift of God, there are some things we can do to enable us to receive gratitude.

First, we remember—remember the saving grace God has offered us, salvation in Jesus Christ, We are also to remember the acts of grace God offers in each day—a kind word from a friend, finding something lost, feeling sunshine on our face.

Secondly, we forget—our sins, our shame, and our successes. We confess our sins and God is faithful to forgive us. We recognize we are cleansed and made righteous by the righteousness of Christ. Sin is what we do or don't do. Shame is about who we are. We count ourselves to be children of God. We also forget our successes, because we know grace was involved. All that we are, is a gift of God; there is no room for arrogance only humility.

Thirdly, we look up to God—God is like no other, deserving of endless praise.

Fourthly, we look around to God's people. Gratitude comes when we connect to God's people in community. Too many people are ungrateful, because they choose to live in isolation.

So may you remember, forget, look up, and look around!

With thanksgiving for all the saints,

Pastor John

CHURCH-WIDE UPDATES

Special Session of the West Ohio Annual Conference October 28, 2023

Dave Thomas and Pastor John Whitaker attended the special session of the West Ohio Annual Conference at Ginghamsburg UMC. Bishop Gregory V. Palmer presided over the conference with nearly 800 clergy and lay members in attendance. Business included approving 96 churches for disaffiliation. This brings the total to 348 churches that have disaffiliated. This is the last round of disaffiliations in the West Ohio Annual Conference. The 2024 Conference budget was approved with the same amount as apportioned in 2023 for our remaining churches. The Conference approved the sale of Camp Widewater and Camp Otterbein. West Ohio camping has been operating at a deficit for years. The sale of these properties will be used to update the last remaining camp, Camp Wesley. For several reasons, the Conference needed to elect additional delegates to complete the slate for the upcoming 2024 General and Jurisdictional Conferences. This was accomplished.

Bishop Palmer offered this prayer to the members of the conference and encourages all West Ohio United Methodists to pray this prayer through the coming months.

"Gracious God, we humbly acknowledge that you are the source of our life. We confess we are often tempted to try being your church without your love, without your power. Forgive us. Grant to us, grace-full God to put all our hope and confidence in you. For you are Able. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen."

The 2024 West Ohio Conference will be held May 29 – June 1, 2024, at Capital University in Bexley, Ohio with the theme "God is Able" based on Ephesians 3:20-21.

All Saints Sunday November 5

This meaningful service is not to be missed. Candles are lit at the 9:30am and 11am worship services for loved ones who have died in the past year and are connected in ministry to Shiloh.

Emergency Assistance Funds are Low

One of the things that happens outside of our budget is the Emergency Assistance Fund. These funds are used to help families with rent, utilities, food, gasoline, and medications. This is a comfort ministry designed to encourage people who are in difficult situations. The fund is nearly depleted, and we have had to turn down numerous requests. If this is a ministry you would like to support, please write a check to Shiloh UMC and mark Emergency Assistance Fund on the memo.

Stewardship Packets Mailed

If you do not receive a Shiloh Stewardship packet in the coming week please call the church office. Stewardship Sunday is November 12. Estimate of Giving cards for 2024 will be dedicated on that day. The ministry of Living in Testimony will also be present on that day.

Shiloh Church Conference

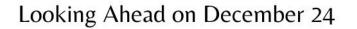
November 14, 2023; 7:30pm

Our annual church meeting which approves numerous annual reports will be held in Asbury Hall at 7:30pm on November 14. All church members will have vote. Everyone is welcome. Rev. Bryan Bucher from Westwood UMC will preside.

The Eagle Court of Honor

November 12, Shiloh Sanctuary, 2:00pm

Six Scouts will be received into the Eagle Court of Honor on November 12. This is an amazing tribute to the ministry of scouting at Shiloh UMC. Those to be included are Tommy Bradley, Carter Ruhe, Grant Ruhe, Joe Helmes, Aiden Smith, and Austin Veneman. Tommy, Carter and Grant are all cousins!



The Fourth Sunday in Advent is December 24. On that day we will have four worship services:

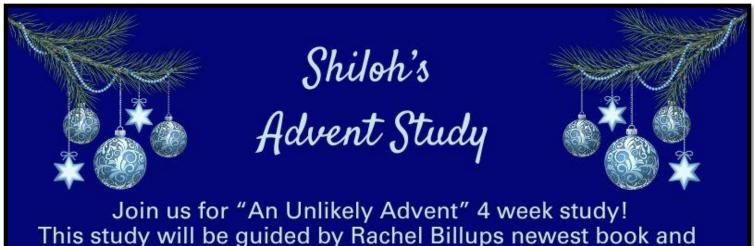
> 9:30am Traditional 11:00am Modern 7:00pm Family Christmas Eve 11:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight

An Unlikely Advent Study on Tuesdays in Advent

Rachel Billups was the pastor at Shiloh for five years. She has written a book with a study guide entitled *An Unlikely Advent*. A class based on the book will be taught by Theresa Works (Modern Worship Coordinator) and Nathan Cheney (Student Ministries Director).

The class has a brief video given by Rachel Billups with teaching and discussion following. The class is on Tuesdays (6:00-7:30pm) beginning November 28 and continuing December 5, 12, and 19.

If you want to take the class and receive a book, call the church office for sign-up. Pastor John will be preaching sermons based on the book during Advent. The sermon titles include *What if I Missed It?*, *Playing the Villain, A Curious People, and When God Shows Up*.



This study will be guided by Rachel Billups newest book and led by Theresa Works and Nathan Cheney. Sign ups will be available soon.



praye

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Adam & Lisa Andrew Angie Rambo Blackman Carson Barb Coletta Linn Crossty-Cody and Family Barb Daria **Emily Day Betty English** Danielle English Hailey Isaac Jim & Amy Jordan Logan Maria

Ruth Mathias Matthew Susan McBeath Nyenpu Karen Weddle Peppers **Terry Powell Cindy Schmidt** Jim Sefton Shawna Family of Alan Sippel Linda Swales Jack Thompson Veronica Sierra Williams Carole Winton Jane Wise

HOMEBOUND

Ginny Konerman Barb Lienhart Ruth Mathias Esther Reher Mary Anita Schaefer Roland Zimmerman

If you'd like to send a card to any of our shut-ins, please contact the office and we can give you the needed information.

Do you have a prayer request? Please send it to <u>kplumlee@shilohumc.com</u> or call the office @ 513-451-3600

Please specify if you'd like the request published in the newsletter, or if you'd like to keep it private. Urgent requests can be sent-out via email as well.



For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you.

SHILOH PRESCHOOL

Shiloh Preschool

Thank you Pastor John!

Pastor John lead the most enjoyable birding presentation for Grand friends Day! The students and their grands really enjoyed learning and imitating the birds! Videos can be found on our FB page! Also, a big thank you to Theresa Works for running sound and Nathan Cheney for dressing as Ollie the Owl and bird dancing with us!



Snack donations needed!

Preschool is collecting snack items to make snack bags for Delhi Middle Students to have over fall break. Our students will pack the bags themselves with an adult during our service event in November. Please consider donating items to help!

- Ravioli
- ramen noodles
- instant mac n cheeese
- fruit snacks
- granola bars
- cheese crackers
- juice boxes

NO PEANUTS PLEASE

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY CLASSROOM NOTES

NOVEMBER

Gratitude is our theme this month. Gratitude is letting others know you see how they've helped you.

11/5

Communion Sunday

Children will join parents for communion.

We will learn about the Lord's Supper/Passover and tie it in with a super fun drawling game

Bottom Line

Make a habit of being grateful. 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

11/19

<u>Messy Sunday</u>

Our Messy Sunday activity uses glitter, stickers and magazine cutouts to make a special Thankful Placemat. This activity supports our lesson on Jesus healing 10 men. <u>Bottom Line</u> Take time to say thank you. Luke 17:11-19 11/12

<u>Worship Sunday</u> Lots of excitement as we sing & dance and learn more about the meaning of worship

We will learn how David celebrated the return of the Ark of the Covenant and play a fun game moving the Ark

Bottom Line

Celebrate what God has done. 2 Samuel 6:12-22

11/26

Super Sized Sunday

We are super sizing todays lesson with a Gratitude Scavenger Hunt

Bottom Line

You always have something to be grateful for. 1 Thessalonians 5:18

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS













Kids Club Toy Drive



We are looking for gently used:



Toys

Board Games

Please contact Sue Squeri or Sarah Pease if you have something you'd like to donate! Sue Squeri: 513-301-9795 Sarah Pease: 513-570-9265

Wish List:

Sports equipment such as a variety of balls, baseball gloves, tee ball, long jump ropes, bowling pins, hula hoops, cones, pennies, etc.

Games such as

Guess Who, Yeti in my Spaghetti, Throw Throw Burrito, Life, Go Fish, Old Maid, Clue, Chutes and Ladders, Operation, etc.

Toys such as barbies, barbie accessories, cars, pop-its, magna-tiles, scooters, dress-up clothes, dress-up accessories, obstacle course items, action figures, tunnels, gym mats, bean bag chairs, pop up tents, bubble guns or large bubble wands, rocket launchers, Glow in the Dark items/games, etc.

Wednesday Night Kids Club

November Calendar

- <u>11/1</u> Kids Club 6-7:30pm
- <u>11/8</u> Kids Club 6-7:30pm
- <u>11/15</u> Kids Club 6-7:30pm Service project
- <u>11/22</u> No Kids Club
- 11/29 Kids Club 6-7:30pm

<u>NovemberTheme</u>



Kids Club Notes

November Service Project

This month we will make Thanksgiving placmats for seniors that receive Meals on Wheels.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

About Kids Club

K-5th grade meet every Wednesday from 6-7:30pm

- Large group gym
 games
- Small group activities that help kids grow in their faith.
- Monthly service project



Be a part of the intentional sports experience everyone is talking about!

DEVELOP SKILLS » STRENGTHEN CHARACTER » HAVE FUN

WHERE DO I SIGN UP?

Player Registration http://registration.upward.org/UPW85028

Volunteer Registration http://registration.upward.org/UPW85028/volunteer

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Program Details Basketball: K5 - 5th grade Cheerleading (girls): K5 - 5th grade First Practice:Week of 01/08/24 First Game: Week of 01/22/24

WHO DO I CONTACT?

Sue Squeri 5261 Foley Road Cincinnati, OH 45238-5299 513-301-9795 ssqueri@shilohumc.com Early Registration Fee (Ends 10/31/23) Basketball \$85.00 Cheerleading \$90.00 Registration Fee Basketball \$95.00 Cheerleading \$100.00

Our league is a faith-based league for boys and girls, age 5 (and in kindergarten) through 5th grade.

All practices and games are held at Shiloh United Methodist Church, at the corner of Anderson Ferry and Foley Roads. (parking lot is off Anderson Ferry Road)





PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TOWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CHILDREN WHO WANT THE OPPORTUNITY TO GROW IN THEIR FAITH, PLAY, AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS!

To donate please contact Sue Squeri at ssqueri@shilohumc.com or mail donations to Shiloh 5261 Foley Rd Cincinnati Oh 45238 Attention Upward Scholarship

UPWARD REGISTRATION ENDS 12/4/23 <u>Casting Call for Play & Choir</u> Adults, teens & children (all ages) Only 3 practices Children have short & easy lines

Sign up in Gathering Space or Contact Sue Squeri

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY PRESENTS **IT'S BEGINNING TO** LOOK ALOT LIKE ristmas DECEMBER 24 A HEARTWARMING PLAY OF A FAMILY PREPARING FOR THE HOLIDAYS AND THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS



Join us for

ing Imas

DECEMBER 15 6:30-8PM

Meet at 6:30 in Gathering Space and we will Carol in our surrounding neighborhood



Hot Chocolate and Cookies immediately following caroling

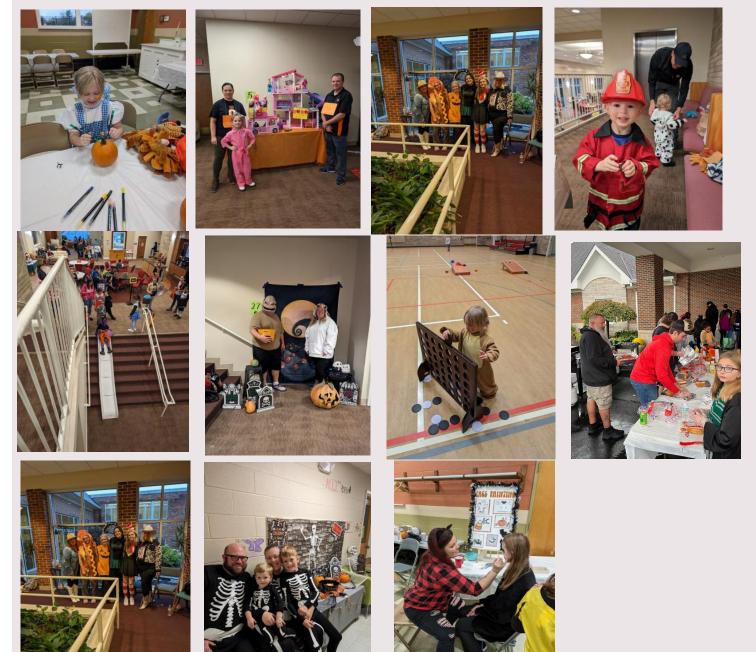






Trunk or Treat

We had a tremendous turnout. A big thank you to the Boy Scouts for grilling 425 hotdogs and to all our volunteers who helped make this such a great event.





Trunk or Treat



















STUDENT MINISTRIES



»»Movember«

NOTES FROM NATHAN

Happy November everyone. I wanted to write this to reflect on everything that we did with the youth in October. Normally I would show you in a week by week format with pictures, but this month was so eventful we barely had time to take photos.

Our first week of the month we wanted to provide an opportunity for the students to invite new friends to a more casual night, so we hosted a night of board games. The laughter was joyous as we had students trying to talk like cavemen and getting hit with the "bonk stick" whenever they failed.

On October 8th I taught a lesson on differences in how different Christians see parts of the faith, but we are still one in Christ with them. Describing how other denominations take communion or celebrate baptism is always a good time. This led to another night later in the month.

The following week we really kicked off the fall season, we roasted marshmallows and had s'mores and hot dogs. We really grew closer together and even showed a few youth how to build a fire, which is always a valuable skill.

On the 22nd I wanted to let the youth have an opportunity to follow up on the last lesson and let them come with their questions about Christianity, the Bible, and faith. I answered quite a few questions and continued to emphasize the message of Jesus at the center of everything we do.

Finally on the 29th, we had around 10 of our youth come and help with Trunk or Treat. Our kids love our community and want to serve in other ministries of the church.

I am looking forward to November and our Fall Retreat, please be in prayer for our students as we spend time learning how to be a better community.



Calendar of Events Nov 5- Sunday School Canceled -Youth Group 6PM - High School Bible Study 7:30PM Nov 12th-Youth Group 6PM Nov 17th-19th -Fall Retreat Nov 19th-No Youth Group Nov 26th-Youth Group-Friends-giving 6PM

-High School Bible Study 7:30PM

MISSION MOMENTS

COMMUNITY DINNER & SCOUTS

Scout Slogan "Do a Good Turn Daily." Troop 350 Boys Scouts and Pack 300 Webelos 2 Cub Scouts, pair up to serve at Shiloh's October community dinner. Shiloh is blessed to have such a mutually beneficial connection with Scouting!



United Women in Faith



United Women in Faith

Christmas

Dinner

December 7, 2023 - 5:30pm

The Farm 239 Anderson Ferry Road

More Details To Come!



WREATH MAKING

WE ARE MAKING CHRISTMAS WREATHS TO SELL AT THE TREE & WREATH SALE. ALL PROCEEDS GO TO MISSIONS!

SIGN UP ON THE SHEET IN THE GATHERING SPACE. STARTS MONDAY NOVEMBER 27TH.

> TIMES: MON - FRI 9A-12P, 1P-4P, 6P-9P



QUESTIONS? CALL NANCY GALLAT - 513-315-6266 ~SHILOH UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH~

UPCOMING EVENTS



THE COMMUNITY DINNER IS LOOKING FOR PUMPKIN PIES AND AEROSOL WHIPPED CREAM FOR OUR FRIDAY NOVEMBER 17 DINNER (ONE WEEK EARLY). DONATIONS CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE BACK KITCHEN DOOR ON NOVEMBER 17, BETWEEN 3:00PM AND 4:30PM.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS - OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 <u>10:00AM –</u> GRIEFSHARE <u>12:30PM</u> – STAFF MTG <u>6:00PM</u> – KIDS CLUB <u>7:00PM</u> –CHOIR REHEARSAL	2 <u>7:00PM</u> – AA	3	4
5 <u>9:30AM</u> – TRADITIONAL <u>11:00AM</u> – MODERN <u>6:00PM</u> – YOUTH <u>6:00PM -</u> BOUNDARIES	6 <u>10:00AM</u> – METZCOR <u>6:30PM</u> – NA	7 <u>ELECTION DAY</u> <u>11:00AM</u> – UPPER ROOM <u>6:00PM</u> – SCOUTS	8 <u>10:00AM</u> – GRIEFSHARE <u>12:30PM</u> – STAFF MTG <u>2:30PM</u> – DELHI MIDDLE BASKETBALL – GYM <u>6:00PM</u> – KIDS CLUB <u>7:00PM</u> –CHOIR REHEARSAL	9 <u>2:30PM</u> – DELHI MIDDLE BASKETBALL – GYM <u>6:00PM -</u> FINANCE MEETING <u>7:00PM - AA</u>	10	11 9:00AM – CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE
12 <u>9:30AM</u> – TRADITIONAL <u>11:00AM</u> – MODERN <u>12:30PM –</u> EAGLE CEREMONY <u>6:00PM</u> – YOUTH <u>6:00PM -</u> BOUNDARIES	13 <u>10:00AM</u> – METZCOR <u>2:30PM</u> – DELHI MIDDLE BASKETBALL – GYM <u>6:00PM</u> – PICKLEBALL <u>6:30PM</u> – NA	14 <u>11:00AM</u> – UPPER ROOM <u>2:30PM</u> – DELHI MIDDLE BASKETBALL – GYM <u>4:00PM</u> - TAAA <u>6:00PM</u> – SCOUTS <u>6:00PM</u> – SPPRC <u>7:30PM</u> – CHARGE CONFERENCE.	15 <u>10:00AM –</u> GRIEFSHARE <u>12:30PM</u> – STAFF MTG <u>12:30PM</u> – FORTNIGHTLY <u>2:30PM</u> – DELHI MIDDLE BASKETBALL – GYM <u>6:00PM</u> – KIDS CLUB <u>7:00PM</u> –CHOIR REHEARSAL	16 <u>7:00PM</u> – AA <u>7:00PM –</u> NOMINATIONS - ASBURY	17 <u>2:30PM</u> – DELHI MIDDLE BASKETBALL – GYM <u>5:00PM</u> – COMMUNITY DINNER	18
19 <u>9:30AM</u> – TRADITIONAL <u>11:00AM</u> – MODERN <u>12:30PM</u> – VOLUNTEER LUNCH <u>6:00PM</u> – YOUTH <u>6:00PM</u> - BOUNDARIES	20 <u>10:00AM</u> – METZCOR <u>6:00PM</u> – PICKLEBALL <u>6:30PM</u> – NA	21 <u>11:00AM</u> – UPPER ROOM <u>6:00PM –</u> SCOUTS <u>6:00PM -</u> TRUSTEES	22 <u>10:00AM</u> – GRIEFSHARE <u>12:30PM</u> – STAFF MTG <u>6:00PM</u> – KIDS CLUB <u>7:00PM</u> –CHOIR REHEARSAL	23 <u>THANKSGIVING</u> <u>DAY</u> <u>7:00PM</u> – AA <u>OFFICE CLC</u> <u>HOLII</u>		25
26 <u>9:30AM</u> – TRADITIONAL <u>11:00AM</u> – MODERN <u>6:00PM</u> – YOUTH <u>6:00PM -</u> BOUNDARIES	27 <u>10:00AM</u> – METZCOR <u>2:30PM</u> – DELHI MIDDLE BASKETBALL – GYM <u>6:00PM</u> – PICKLEBALL <u>6:30PM</u> – NA	28 <u>11:00AM</u> – UPPER ROOM <u>6:00PM</u> - SCOUTS	29 <u>10:00AM</u> – GRIEFSHARE <u>12:30PM</u> – STAFF MTG <u>6:00PM</u> – KIDS CLUB <u>7:00PM</u> –CHOIR REHEARSAL	30		

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Mike	John	1-Nov	
Gabriella	Mullins	2-Nov	
Traci	Ward	4-Nov	
Grace	Jewell	4-Nov	
Zachary	Deffinger	6-Nov	
Elizabeth	Carter	6-Nov	
Carlene	Plasek	7-Nov	
Ron	Watkins	9-Nov	
Thomas	Litteral	10-Nov	
John	Coletta	12-Nov	
Darlene	Radcliffe	12-Nov	
Linda	Owen	15-Nov	
Joey	Obert	15-Nov	
Steve	Grzebyk	18-Nov	
Joyce	Adkins	18-Nov	
Donald	Dibowski	19-Nov	
Michael	Woulms	21-Nov	
James	Works	21-Nov	
Ruth	Mathias	23-Nov	
Tonya	Chaney	24-Nov	
Erin	Roddy	25-Nov	
Ronnie	Williams	25-Nov	
Jason	МсКее	27-Nov	
Rick	Ayers	27-Nov	
Corrine	Sizemore	28-Nov	
Jane Ann	Woulms	30-Nov	
Clyde	Kober	30-Nov	

-SHILOHCHURCH-

Mission Statement:

The mission of Shiloh United Methodist Church through the Spirit is to glorify God, develop disciples of Jesus Christ, and change the world.

Vision Statement:

Our vision is to seek and share God's gift of oneness.

Shiloh Church Staff Contact Information

Rev. Dr. John C. Whitaker: Pastor jwhitaker@shilohumc.com 937-416-7262 Cell 513-451-3600 Church Office

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Do you have something for our newsletter? Submit to <u>kplumlee@shilohumc.com</u> by the 20th of each month to be included in the next month's publication.

Shiloh United Methodist Church 5261 Foley Road Cincinnati, OH 45238

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