

The Good News

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

ANGOLA, IN

NOVEMBER 2017

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Centering Prayer will continue on the third Thursday of each month. In November we will meet on November 16 at 6:00 p.m. These sessions are led by Jeff Smith; all are welcome!
- Men's Breakfast meets at Mama's Place at 8:00 a.m. on the first and third Tuesday of November!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Pastor's Screen	2
News in Brief	3
Volunteer Schedule	4
November Calendar	5
Mark Your Calendar!	6

WordHouse Starts in November



perspectives on various topics.

WordHouse resumes on **Thursday, November 9**, at 6:00 p.m. at Cahoots! Join us as we share our thoughts, ideas, and

We will begin meeting once a month and increase that if there is interest. In November, the topic will be: "How do you find happiness?" Leadership for each meeting will rotate to all participants.

Hope to see you there!



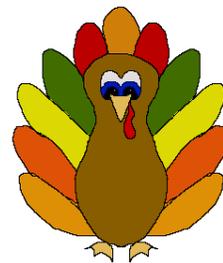
Annual Harvest Dinner Planned

Join us for a free Harvest Dinner on **Saturday, November 18**, in Fellowship Hall.

The meal will feature roasted turkey and pork, stuffing, gravy and mashed potatoes, vegetables, rolls, drink and dessert.

We will be serving from 5 to 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall and all are invited! We will extend

special invitations to our friends in AA, NA and those at the men's and women's transitional houses.



Plan to join us for dinner, welcome our guests, and volunteer if you can so that we can continue to provide this special meal to all our neighbors!



PULSE Topic Set for November

"Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Health Care" will be the topic of PULSE on **Sunday, November 19**, immediately following worship.

Christina Krueckeberg, RN at Parkview Regional Medical Center, will facilitate our

discussion. If you have a topic you would like to see scheduled, please contact Gayle Newton or Jennifer Decker.





Pastor Deb Davis

From the Pastor's Screen

It has been a very sad fall for our family as we continue to deal with all the fall out from the tragic death of our son-in-law, Bobby Kissinger, in August.

As most of you know, Bobby died by suicide. He was only 41 and the horrific nature of his decision has overwhelmed me at times to say nothing of what it has done to my daughter, Elizabeth, and their three children.

We all continue to ask "why?" ... "what if?" ... "should I have?" All questions that of course can never be fully answered. When someone completes suicide, the survivors are left with mostly questions and terrible pain.

Ironically Bobby had posted the number of a suicide hotline on his Facebook page earlier this summer with the words: "Share this – it might save a life."

We will never know if Bobby called that hotline and, if he didn't, would things be different today if he had?

What we are pretty sure of is that Bobby never went to a counselor, never went to a doctor, never was prescribed anti-depressants ... at base, was never able to ask for the help he needed.

I suspect most of us struggle with that very thing. We do not like to ask for help, we do not want others to see

the pain we are carrying behind the mask we are wearing, we mistakenly believe that there is no one who can help us ... that our buried pain will literally kill us if we begin to acknowledge it and try to heal it.

But when we have those thoughts, it is important that we remember that there is no pain so great that we can't get help. As one person so wisely has said: "We may not be able to take away all the baggage a person is carrying ... but we can help them to put wheels on it."

Our childhoods are, for good or ill, with us forever. And if they were not the best ... if they were less than that precious child you were deserved ... even then we can still heal ... we can get help ... there is light at the end of the darkest tunnel.

As the poet Ann Weems writes in her "Psalms of Lament" on page 5, even in the icy depths of the pit, our God can find us ... even there.

My hope for all of us is that we never give up on healing ... on getting better ... on pulling the pain of our past out by its roots ... so that we can truly live the lives our God created us to live.

Blessings,

Pastor Deb

We all continue to ask "Why?" ... "What if?" ... "Should I have?"

News in Brief



No-Book Book Study

We are gathering for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays at Auntie V's – with no agenda and no book to read! Just come for fun conversation!

Women in Black

Women in Black will stand on Saturday, November 11, in front of the courthouse.

Folk are invited to gather from 10 to 11 a.m. and stand in protest of war and domestic violence. WIB is an international movement to end all forms of violence.

Soup & Scripture

Pastor Deb will lead a Soup & Scripture session at Cahoots

each Tuesday at 12 noon. Join us for a look at the lectionary scriptures for the next Sunday.

Friday Prayer Group

The Friday Morning Prayer Group meets each Friday at 9:00 a.m. at Cahoots. All are welcome to be a part of this group.

Women's Book Study will begin meeting again on **Tuesday, December 12**, at 2:00 p.m. We will be discussing Anne Lamott's *Plan B* – *Further Thoughts on Faith*.

Deacons plan local missions for November - December.

Church Council Highlights

Church Council met on Sunday, October 8, and the following items were among those discussed/approved/reported:

Financial Report: Jill and Michelle will write a letter to the congregation to start the pledge drive in November.

Deacons: Marty and Kim met to discuss two local missions: knitting of scarfs, mittens and hats and reverse Advent (collecting a different item each week) for the months of November and December. They also discussed making sure all new people coming to the church be assigned to the Red or Green Parish group. The idea of displaying congregants' name tags for easy use was discussed.

Christian Education Report: Betsy said the Youth Group was going to Ridnenour Acres.

Sunday School teachers and helpers are needed through October. Christmas play practice for the youth begins in November. Betsy said not all children will be in the play so Sunday school still needed to be provided. A Christian education coordinator is needed.

Music: Lynn Syler praised the men's choir and John Curtis, who has been playing the piano for the Church on Sundays.

Pastoral Relations: Brad was given his 90-day raise.

Missions: Lois McEntarfer will be asked to reach out to Turning Point Shelter to find out if they could benefit from the scarves-and-mittens and reverse-Advent missions. The Zion Church coat drive will be the last Saturday in October.

Welcoming: Six people came to the welcoming class. Marj

Lilley said there were a number of Trine students who had been attending.

Trustees Report: Veryl gave an update on the east building entrance/parking lot project. Paving is done. Replacing the covered entrance hopefully will be done the week of October 9-13. \$204 was spent to have Sanborn come and replace a sensor in a church refrigerator.

New Business: QR codes will be included in the bulletin for general fund giving for a trial period. A range extender for the alarm panel was approved as was a third TV on the west sanctuary wall. The cost would be \$1,500.

Next Meeting: Sunday, November 12, immediately following worship.

Submitted by JoAnn Lewis,
Clerk

November Birthdays and Anniversaries



5 – Deborah McHenry 16 – Wava Oberland
 10 – Alexis Couch 22 – Kevin Burnell
 15 – Roger Krueckeberg 26 – Jim Harris

5 – John and Anne Eddy
 16 – Claudia and Rosie Camargo
 22 – George and Donna Hankins
 24 – Veryl and Carol Carpenter
 27 – Harold and Norma Baker

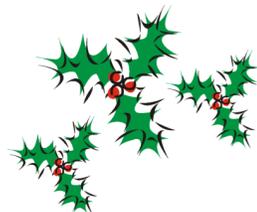
November Volunteers

PULSE resumes on
 November 19!

Date	Liturgist	Greeters	Children's Sermon
Nov 05	Jim Simons	Rita Lechleidner & Lauralee Macleod	Michelle Olson
Nov 12	Marj Lilley	Steve & Betsy Eyrich	Celia Motz
Nov 19	John French	Michelle Olson & family	Vicki Harris
Nov 26	Ron Hays	Gayle Newton & Deb Miller	Rita Lechleidner

Date	Usher	Refreshments	Counter
Nov 05	Veryl Carpenter	Claudia & Rosie Camargo	Dave Syler
Nov 12	Veryl Carpenter	sponsored by Ron Hays	Jim & Lynn Simons
Nov 19	Veryl Carpenter	June Julien & Bun Mayer	Marge Stoudinger
Nov 26	Veryl Carpenter	Gary & Sally VandenElst	John French

Upcoming in December!



December 3 – First Sunday in Advent
December 6, 13, 20 – Advent Taizé Services
December 10 – Compassionate Friends Service
December 24 – Christmas Eve Worship

November Calendar

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>3 – Prayer Group 9:00 a.m. Cahoots
 5 – Worship 10:00 a.m.
 – Children’s Choir sings with Chancel Choir
 – Youth Sunday school 10:15 a.m.
 7 – Men’s Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Mama’s Place
 – Soup & Scripture 12 noon Cahoots
 8 – No-Book Book Club 8:00 a.m. Auntie V’s
 – Bell and Chancel Choir 5:45 and 7:00 p.m.
 9 – WordHouse 6:00 p.m. Cahoots
 10 – Prayer Group 9:00 a.m. Cahoots
 11 – Women in Black 10:00 a.m. Courthouse
 12 – Worship 10:00 a.m.
 – Youth Sunday school 10:15 a.m.
 – Council meets 11:15
 14 – Soup & Scripture 12 noon Cahoots
 15 – CHOICE open house 12:30 - 2:30 and 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
 – Bell and Chancel Choir 5:45 and 7:00 p.m.</p> | <p>16 – Centering Prayer 6:00 p.m. Sanctuary
 17 – Prayer Group 9:00 a.m. Cahoots
 18 – Harvest Dinner 5 - 7 p.m. Fellowship Hall
 19 – Worship 10:00 a.m.
 – Bell Choir plays
 – Children’s Choir sings
 – Youth Sunday school 10:15 a.m.
 – PULSE 11:30 a.m. Sanctuary
 21 – Men’s Breakfast 8 a.m. Mama’s Place
 – Soup & Scripture 12 noon Cahoots
 22 – No-Book Book Club 8:00 a.m. Auntie V’s
 23 – THANKSGIVING office closed
 24 – Prayer Group 9:00 a.m. Cahoots
 26 – Worship 10:00 a.m.
 – Youth Sunday school 10:15 a.m.
 28 – Soup & Scripture 12 noon Cahoots
 29 – Bell and Chancel Choir 5:45 and 7:00 p.m.</p> |
|--|---|

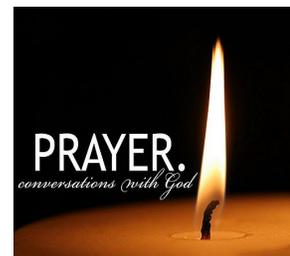
About the Community

- In the hospital in October: **Della Peel** and **Mary Shearer**.
- Congratulations to **Paige** and **McKenna Powers’** volleyball teams!

From the Prayer Chain

*God, find me here
 where the sun
 is afraid to shine!
 Don't you recognize
 your faithful one?
 Haven't I known you
 since the days of my youth?
 Haven't I sung your songs
 in the ears of your enemies?
 Why then are you silent?
 Why have you forsaken me
 and left me to wail
 in the empty night?
 Why do you give me silence*

*when I ask for
 the nightingale's song?
 O God, have pity on me
 and enter into
 the city of my pain.
 Hear my cry
 and come to me
 that all might know
 your faithfulness.
 From the icy coldness of the pit,
 I will praise your name,
 for like a shepherd
 searching for a lost sheep,
 you will not give up
 until you find me.*

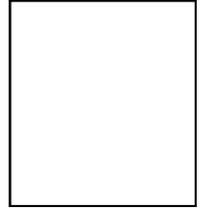


Ann Weems
 “Psalms of Lament”

**First Congregational
United Church of Christ
314 West Maumee Street
Angola, Indiana 46703**

Phone: 260-665-9362
Fax: 260-668-1082
Email Office: info@angolaucc.org
Email Pastor Deb: revdebDavis@aol.com
Website: angolaucc.org

First Congregational United Church of Christ, as an inclusive and caring Christian community, welcomes into its full life and ministry persons of every race, ethnic background, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, marital status, criminal history and faith background. As we serve those within our church family, the community and the world in the name of Jesus Christ, we celebrate each person's uniqueness and look forward to the gifts they bring to us.



God is still speaking,

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Advent

Advent begins on Sunday, December 3 and our Advent Taizé Services on Wednesday, December 6. As we enter into this time to of preparation, may we all slow down a part of each day to ponder the coming of the Christ Child into our midst.

May we take the time to make our hearts ready ... to open our souls to hope ... and to prepare our whole selves to welcome the miracle of incarnation.

Calendar
Marker

