

John Stewart United Methodist Church
Family Newsletter
November 2010
Pastor's Message

PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

It's now November and the end of 2010 is closing in upon us, and I am sure we are all starting to think about our gifts to the church for next year. Let me share a thought that might be helpful.

Many people look for "the formula" that tells them what to give. Many look at what others give to judge their own giving. We've all heard or been part of discussions such as: "Tithing? Where in the Bible does it say 10 per cent?" "Is it 10 per cent of gross pay or net pay?"

It is time to move beyond those discussions! Move into considering what really counts. What really matters to God is "heart-attitude." Heart-attitude is how we should measure our giving. God does not expect us to give more than we can, but we will be blessed when we give cheerfully. If we are to live with grace, then we should be willing to give with grace. Grace is "favor freely rendered." It is also the divine influence operating in human beings. Giving with grace is what is meant by giving with proper heart-attitude.

We should take the math out of giving and put the purpose of giving back in. The Bible makes the purpose of tithing very clear. And I will tell you that from my personal experience, tithing really is a joyful act of service. When I tithe I am blessed in many different ways. I am blessed with peace and joy and abundance. The purpose of tithing is to put God first in our lives. What we do with our money reflects our values. It shows what we value most. If what we do with our money reflects our values, if we value living with grace, if we are to reflect God's influence on us . . . then how much to give isn't the real issue . . . the issue is where to give and how to give. The amount we give will grow if heart-attitude is in control.

So, if you would, think about your relationship to God this month and may your heart-attitude know that our loving, faithful God is in control.

God Bless You All,

Wayne

Rev. Wayne

Find Us!

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www.johnstewartumc.com**

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FYI

As we get busier with activities in the church for the fall, please remember that if school is canceled for any reason there will no activities held at the church. The Wednesday Community Dinner will still try to be served unless there is a level three emergency called. If you have any doubt about your meeting or activity still being held contact your leader.

CHRISTMAS SCHOOL

The 2010 Christmas School will be held Monday, November 29th through Friday, December 3rd, from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. for any child three years old through kindergarten. During Christmas School, which will be held in the preschool room of our church, children will learn the true Christmas Story in story, song, and crafts. Please fill out the enclosed registration form for each child. If a child attends a preschool or kindergarten they may come to Christmas School on days they are not in school. if you child needs a ride, please make a note on the registration form. Form is also available at johnstewartumc.com. If you have questions contact Carol Hostetter (740-482-2728).

NAME _____

BIRTHDAY AND AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____

WORK HOME _____

PARENT'S NAMES _____

CIRCLE DAYS THEY WILL ATTEND

MON TUE WED THU FRI

ANY SPECIAL NOTES (allergies, needs a ride, etc.)

FREE COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING MEAL

You are invited to join us in our family life center at John Stewart Methodist Church for our FREE community Thanksgiving dinner. We will be serving turkey & dressing, mashed potatoes & gravy, rolls, salads, and pies. Our serving will begin at 5:00 pm on November 21, 2010 until 7:00 pm. **Please join us for food and fellowship.**

PRAYER CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER

- 1 Safe travel to and from work
- 2 Those voting today
- 3 All High School and Middle School Students
- 4 People struggling with addiction
- 5 Those facing tough decisions
- 6 Give thanks for the beautiful fall colors
- 7 Marilyn Lehman
- 8 Staff/Parish relations committee members
- 9 Someone that needs to hear about Jesus 10 All Teachers
- 11 Volunteers
- 12 Give thanks for 2nd chances (forgiveness)
- 13 New beginnings
- 14 All our church family
- 15 Finance Committee members
- 16 Those who have lost loved ones
- 17 School Employees
- 18 Sunday School teachers as they prepare their lessons
- 19 Give thanks for our great community
- 20 For those in need
- 21 Give thanks for Jesus
- 22 Give thanks for Dad's
- 23 Give thanks for good friends
- 24 Give thanks for Mom's
- 25 Give thanks for 3 things you are thankful for.
- 26 Give thanks for your family
- 27 Give thanks for all the blessings you have been given
- 28 Pastor Wayne and Connie
- 29 Administrative Council Members
- 30 Leaders of the Church

**CLICK ON THE CALENDAR TAB FOR THE CHURCH
CALENDAR**

OPEN HOUSE FOR REV. HOOVER

THIS IS YOUR INVITATION TO THE CELEBRATION OF REV. JOHN P. HOOVER'S 61
YEARS IN SERVICE AND DEDICATION FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 14TH FROM 2:30 – 4:30 P.M.

IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER OF JOHN STEWART UNITED METHODIST CHURCH