



# A Spot of T

(Get it? 'Cause my last name starts with a 'T'?)



Last year, I read a book entitled *From Tablet to Table* by author Leonard Sweet. His thesis is this:

“Christianity in the West is suffering from an identity crisis. Instead of finding our identity in Jesus, we have tried to build an alternative identity on a Christian worldview, on biblical values, or on Christian principles, as though these are the cure-alls for our deteriorating faith and declining condition. But none of these salves our fear and confusion about who we are and help us to feel joyful and secure in our lives and in a challenging world. None of our “silver bullets” or “golden hammers” can replace what we have lost...we were made for a relationship with our maker.”

In other words, ideas like worldview, values, and principles – words the modern Christian uses nearly reflexively – are utterly insufficient when it comes living into an actual relationship with God. I would go even farther to say that they act as crutches which allow the church to hobble along at a pace that suits them where they're at. Sweet says that is no way to live. I do, too.

You see, it's not enough to call yourself a Christian. It's not enough to insist to the world that your faith informs your every move. It's not enough to insist the rest of the world make room for you and your particular beliefs because you believe it's important enough.

Sweet makes the argument that the remedy for this cellophane type of faith is Jesus' constant invitation to “the table.” Of course, when we hear that, we automatically think about communion, which is understandable. However, if we are to understand the invitation correctly, we should understand it to mean that we should constantly seek out “communion” with God and each other.

If we've learned anything from the continuing decline of our public discourse – where rancor and outrage are default positions – we know that continuing to exist as separate peoples and groups is unlikely to be helpful. Might I suggest we begin where Jesus has invited us all?

Let us all join Jesus at the table and begin the healing.

Peace,



## Thanksgiving Prayer

Dear Lord,

Today we give thanks for our many blessings, as we pray for those in need.

We give thanks for our family and friends as we pray for those who are lonely.

We give thanks for our freedoms as we pray

for those who are oppressed.

We give thanks for our good health, as we pray for those who are ill.

We give thanks for our comfort and prosperity as we share our blessings with others.

On this day of Thanksgiving, may the love of God enfold us.

The peace of God dwell within us and the joy of God uplift us.

Amen.

*Mark your  
calendars  
for Nov 27*

## Bible Study Starting Up

As the Advent season comes upon us, a new bible study program begins on **November 27**. This year's focus is on Adam Hamilton's book, *"Faithful: Christ-mas through the Eyes of Joseph."*

From his beginnings as a humble carpenter, to

his important role as the earthly father of Jesus, to his role in the Nativity story, Joseph's life is often overlooked.

This bible study session will explore the information provided in the Gospel about Joseph's life and help us connect the relatively

small bits of information to earn the importance of Joseph's life.

There will be **two sessions: one in the morning, and one in the evening.** *Please let Sheila Gilley know if you are interested.*

## A Time to Talk



We completed our first **'Coffee Talk'** last month. The small gathering proved to be an enjoyable and productive time spent with members of our church family.

This month coffee talk

will take place on **November 12 at Gary & Lynn Huddleston's home from 2pm—4pm**, followed by a bonfire for the youth group.

If you would like to attend this event, a signup sheet is located in the

narthex. All attendees are asked to sign up as soon as possible.

Due to the upcoming holidays, there will be one more coffee talk on December 10th. Hope you can join us!

### Please Pray for ...

Mary Davenport  
 Lois Koehler  
 Dorothy Hahn  
 Jon Helfin  
 Esther Lewis  
 Richard Purdy  
 Connie Rosen  
 Janet Ross  
 Phyllis Shambaugh  
 Colleen Weesner  
 Lowell Karns  
 P.L.Wilson—cancer

Gary Meyer  
 Deloris Anderson  
 Jimmy Harding  
 Steve Weesner  
 Ed Berghorn  
 Margie Eltzroth (Dave & Jane Wagmer's sister-in-law)  
 Steve Reed (Kelli Singer's cousin)  
 Tiffany Frank (Kelli Singer's cousin) - health concerns  
 Alice Proffitt (heart/lung issues); (Henderson family friends)

#### College Students:

Karla Singer, Lyndsie Thomas, Carli Henderson, Danielle Sparling

#### Military Personnel:

Daniel Smith (Frank & Barb Nordman's grandson)

#### Also pray for ...

- The leaders of our country
- Our shut-ins (make it a point to call them or send them a card)



- Pastor Chris, church leaders, teachers, our youth and for church growth
- Those serving in our military and their families
- Those who have lost loved ones
- Those struggling financially
- Those countries suffering through war



### Thanks!



Thank you to everyone who shops at Kroger and use their community rewards card to earn money for Christ Church. This quarter 12 households shopped and earned the church \$52.88. Thanks again for your thoughtfulness!

#### Serving for November 2017

**8am Greeter** — Dave & Jane Wagmer

**10am Liturgist** — 11/5: Barb Adams; 11/12: Tammy Allen; 11/19: Lana Garber; 11/26: Tammy Allen

#### 10am Greeters:

11/5 Carol McDonald, Rich & Kathy Wehrly  
 11/12 Carol McDonald, Rich & Kathy Wehrly  
 11/19 Grant Long, Rich & Kathy Wehrly  
 11/26 Grant Long, Rich & Kathy Wehrly

**10am Ushers** — Joe Adams, J.P. Mattern, Rollin McCoart, Joe Schneider

#### Scripture Reading for November

11/5 Joshua 3:7-17; Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37  
 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12  
 11/12 Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7;  
 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13  
 11/19 Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123;  
 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30  
 11/26 Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100;  
 Esphesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

## CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Worship Services**  
**Sunday 8 am & 10 am**  
**Sunday School for all ages 9 am**

Phone: 260.563.3308  
Email: [wabashchristumc@hotmail.com](mailto:wabashchristumc@hotmail.com)

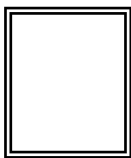


Items for the next newsletter should be submitted to the church office by **November 21st**.

**We're on the Web!**  
**[wabashchristumc.org](http://wabashchristumc.org)**



[Check us out on Facebook!](#)



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