



A Spot of T

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



I want to talk about conflict.

You might be saying to yourself, “Self, with all the acrimony and hate filtering its way through our lives already, why would this guy want to shine a brighter light on it.”

To be sure, there is a lot of anger, hostility, division, and hatred coursing its way through the veins of humanity. Some of that is due to our modern modes of communication acting as a magnifying glass, allowing us greater access to all the places in our lives that see conflict. And yet, some of it is because we live in a particularly fraught time in human history. While we can understand that history may not repeat itself but it can rhyme, we constantly wonder what will be the watershed that relieves the pressure we’ve built up.

As well as feeling this conflict all around us, we also experience it in our very own lives. In 14 years of ministry, I cannot tell you the number of conversations I’ve had about some conflict someone is having with someone else in the church. No church is immune to this. Rather than facing the discomfort of confronting someone they’ve known far longer than they have myself, they nibble their way around the edges of the problem. When we avoid conflict, we allow it to grow. Also, when we avoid conflict, ensure that all we’ll ever be doing is finding ways to avoid further tension – and nothing else gets done.

When any organization or gathered group of people – the church, etc. – finds itself constantly having to fight little fires surrounding interpersonal issues, they will allow themselves to be swallowed up in them, rather than doing what they set out to do in the first place. In the church, our goal is making disciples of Jesus Christ. If you’ve not done that for a while, maybe there is something wrong. Maybe you are letting your pride, your ego, your fear of confrontation keep you from living as Christ called you to live. Either way, it is keeping you from fulfilling the purpose of why we’re here in the first place.

“Don’t let the sun go down on your anger.”

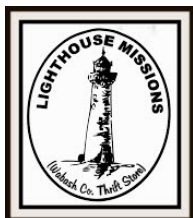
“Turn the other cheek.”

“I say to you love your enemies and pray for those who harm you.”

Scripture makes it pretty clear that the Christian needs to approach conflict differently than we see in the world around us, and even differently from how we would naturally react. Our job is pretty clear. Forgive. Forget. Make disciples. When we don’t do the first two, we might as well skip the last one.

Peace,

Community Outreach



As part of our participation with “*Focusing on the Missions*,” a project sponsored by Lighthouse Missions in Wabash, this month’s theme is “**Share the Warmth.**”

We are asking all members consider being a part of this mission by donating hats, scarves,

mittens, gloves, and socks (new or gently used). Jars of peanut butter (18 oz) and jelly (18-32 oz) are always needed, too.

With your help we serve those in need in our own neighborhoods.

All donations should

be brought to church on Sunday, October 29, or sooner.

Thank you for your kindness & generosity!



On the Calendar . . .

Dates to remember this month

The Urbana Lions Club is hosting an **Open House** (Thank You and Farewell) for **Mary Ann & Marvin Mast on Sunday, October 22 from 2pm-6pm at the Community Building.**

As you may know they are planning to relocate to the Bloomington area later this year.



Charge Conference

Sunday, October 15 at 3 pm at McGrawsville United Methodist Church.



The ladies and gentlemen are

making **noodles** again...next dates are **Monday, October 16 and Monday, October 23.** If you plan on helping, be at the church by **8:30 am.**

Starting Something New



There is a new tradition starting at Christ Church—’**Coffee Talks.**’

These are small gatherings at members’ homes to help get better acquainted with the pastor and his family as well as

each other, and an opportunity to share and discuss the past, the present, and the future of Christ Church.

Every 2nd and 4th Sunday afternoon of the month we will gather

and hope you can join us for one or more of these talks.

The first ‘coffee talk’ will take place on October 8 at Joe & Barb Adams’ home from 2pm-4pm.

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

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

Special Thanks

Thank you to all who participated and/or helped with the Blood Drive on September 24.

Thank you for sponsoring an American Red Cross blood drive. It was a great day! We collected 11 units ... thank you for having us.

American Red Cross Staff

Trunk or Treat



Christ United Methodist Church will be hosting a 'Trunk or Treat' on Tuesday, October 31 from 5 pm—8pm in the south parking lot. Please plan to decorate your car, bring treats, and dress up in your favorite spooky costume and help celebrate Halloween with the children of the community.



Mark your calendars for **October 15!** We are planning an **All-Church Carry-In & Fish Fry** following the 10am service. Plan on enjoying great food, and fellowship with your church family.

Serving for October 2017

8am Greeter — Laura Thomas

10am Liturgist — Dan Sparling

10am Greeters:

10/1 Dan Purdy, Jan & JP Mattern
 10/8 Dan Purdy, Jan & JP Mattern
 10/15 Dan Purdy, Jan & JP Mattern
 10/22 Linda McCaslin, Dave & Kelli Singer
 10/29 Linda McCaslin, Dave & Kelli Singer

10am Ushers — Lalon Allen, Dale Hollenback, Ellis Rice, Dan Sparling

Scripture Reading for October

10/1 Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32
 10/8 Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46
 10/15 Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22: 1-14
 10/22 Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22
 10/29 Deuteronomy 34:1-2; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46

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

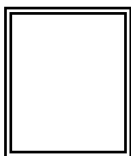


Items for the next newsletter should be submitted to the church office by **October 23rd.**

We're on the Web!
wabashchristumc.org



[Check us out on Facebook!](#)



Christ United Methodist Church
477 N. Wabash St.
Wabash IN 46992