

Sunday
November 12, 2017
10:30 a.m.

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor Greg

We are alive in Christ.
We love God,
we care for one another,
and we help people here
and around the world.



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Seek the Lord

Plain print indicates worship leader.
Bold print indicates congregation.
**Indicates please stand as able.*

Gather to Worship

Welcome

Ministry Opportunities

*Call to Worship

In search of light in times of darkness and consolation in times of struggle, as we celebrate in times of joy and rejoice in God's presence, let us worship the Wonderful Counsellor, the Prince of Wholeness, the Bringer of Peace.

Let us worship the Lord!

*Prayer of Adoration & Confession

Lord God, You invite us out of darkness into the light of Your love.

We confess today that sometimes we prefer the darkness.

We prefer what we know, we resist the less familiar but still You call us and promise us something different.

God forgive our lack of faith that keeps us from wholeheartedly following You, our lack of vision that keeps us from imagining what You lay before us, our lack of hope that keeps us from expecting greatness.

Forgive us, Lord, and open us up to possibility, open us up to trusting and to daring to believe that still, You have the power, still, in the face of all that speaks otherwise, You have the power to make all things new.

And God, as You awaken that trust in us, awaken too a boldness to join You in that kingdom work. We follow in Jesus' name, amen.

*Hymn: #157 Jesus Shall Reign (verses 1, 4, 5)

Scripture Lesson: Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24

Children's Time: *Pastor Greg*

Anthem: *Karla Stubblefield and Barb Hosner*

Sermon: "Go! Seek!"

*Hymn: #273 Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands

Praying for Others and for Ourselves

Stewardship Moment: Bill Oswalt

Our 2018 stewardship theme is "Going Forward in Grace — One Step at a Time."

Invitation

The Lord God in His goodness has seen fit to call us together as the Church of Jesus Christ in this place. In our history of being God's people of Vicksburg United Methodist Church, God has given us His word of creation, redemption and blessing. He has given us His word of forgiveness and grace. He has given us His word of guidance and mission, and sent His Holy Spirit to empower us for that mission. And when we have strayed from His word, God has called us to return to him that we might continue to be blessed by His grace and favor. We are nothing without our God and His word of hope and promise.

(Pastor) Therefore, people of God, on this day I invite you to commit yourselves and your whole lives to God's holy word and to His loving purpose for you and for us as Vicksburg United Methodist Church, so that our lives may be enriched and the work of our hands blessed and prospered.

Litany of Commitment to God's Word

Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your holy word, all that we know has come into existence: our universe, our world, our lives, our loved ones, and all that we have and hold so dear. By Your holy word, You sent forth Your Son to bring us salvation through the cross of death and resurrection. By Your holy word, You have called us together to be a Church of love and service in the world. By Your holy word, we know that we live in grace and hope. Keep us ever close to your word, that it might be written upon our hearts.

We commit our lives to Your word, O God.

Help us to grow in faith and love toward You, so that we might always live in trust and hope.

We commit our lives to Your word, O God.

Center us in routines that keep us close to You, O Lord. Center us in weekly worship.

We commit our lives to Your word, O God.

Center us in daily prayer.

We commit our lives to Your word, O God.

Center us in knowledge of holy scripture.

We commit our lives to Your word, O God.

Center us in the mission of the church.

We commit our lives to Your word, O God.

Center us in lives of thankful giving and loving for all the blessings which You have bestowed upon us.

We commit our lives to Your word, O God.

(Pastor) By Your word, O Lord, guide our lives, forgive our sins, inspire our thoughts, shape our attitudes, lighten our darkness, give us eternal hope, and fill our hearts with joy, assuring us of Your constant presence, until You bring us at last into the glories of Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Dedication of Pledges and Commitments

(Pastor) Accept, O God, the tokens of our love and signs of pledge and commitment which we bring forward today. By Your word of blessing and grace, may they blossom forth as leaves on a tree, as flowers in our hearts, as blessings in Your kingdom, as joy in Jesus Christ.

Amen.

***Offering Our Gifts, Tithes, Stewardship Commitments**

(As the Holy Spirit guides you, please go forward and place offerings and pledge cards in the offering plate on the table in front of the altar. Thank you! God bless you! God bless Vicksburg United Methodist Church!)

Offertory: *Karla Stubblefield and Barb Hosner*

*Hymn: #2184 Sent Out in Jesus' Name

***Blessing**

***Depart to Serve**

*Coming up next Sunday, November 19: Fall Sermon Series — “Go! Walk!” Isaiah 9:1-7.
Brad Addis will be the preacher of the day.*

Prayer for Family and Friends

Lynne Melvin is thrilled to announce the birth of Leo Howard Melvin to parents, Nathan and Angie Melvin, and big sister, Stella. Leo arrived on Friday, Oct. 27. 11/19

Barb Addis needs healing and pain relief.

Eloise Emmert is recovering from insufficiency fractures and needs healing and pain relief.

Kellie Hiemstra (Joe and Betty Gruber's granddaughter) is recovering from surgery on Thursday.

Holli Inman has an appointment scheduled at Mayo Clinic in January to review her health issues.

John Matyasik (Steve and Kathy Phillips' friend) needs healing from cancer.

Darlene Melching (Mary Ann Kudary's daughter-in-law's mother) was just diagnosed with lung and brain cancer.

Diane Reece (Vera Walker's sister) is having more difficulty with congestive heart problems.

Bethel Sult (Arden's mom) had a stroke Wednesday afternoon and is on comfort care.

Brad Addis is recovering from a big toe implant operation.

Jack and Cynda Buckallew and family at the passing of Jack's twin brother, Joe

Kat Gensler-Nic met with a brain surgeon/Chiari specialist.

Bruce and RaeAnn Graves and family at the passing of Bruce's mother, Jackie Graves

Bonnie Holmes had back surgery.

Andrew Lewis' friend needs healing.

Ryan Miller is in Iraq. He feels your prayers, and the family is thankful for their church family!

David Oswald's little boy (Gordon and Bonnie's grandson) was evaluated recently.

Gordon Oswald is recovering from a run-in with a bull.

Rebecca Penning is seeking God's guidance for the future of her ministry with youth.

Larry and LaVon Rolfe

Julie and June Taylor and family at the passing of their brother, Robert

Lauren Valette is serving her country on board U.S.S. Carl Vinson.

Chuck and Vera Walker and family at the passing of their niece, Marilyn Butcher

Please pray that the Lord will send five more mentors to the Kids Hope program.

For Cheer and Hello

Liz Anderson	Beverly Nimmo
Mary Evelyn Bell	Robert & Carmen
David Bretz	Parsons
Alice Dibble	Char Rice
Barb Griner	Marv & Kitty Starbuck
Pat McClelland	Al Thomas
Iris McGahan	Mina Willett

Notice

A special coffee hour will take place today AFTER the church service. Please stay and join us in celebration of our commitment renewal to our church.

In Service to Our Country

Matt Kohler	Walker Polsinelli
Jeff Kudary	Tyler Smith
Ryan Miller	Richie Steinacker

This Week's Celebrations

<u>Birthdays</u>	11/17 Joe Hayes Sr.
11/12 Patrick Hillenbrand	11/18 Donietta Hamilton
11/13 Janet Noel	<u>Anniversaries</u>
11/14 Holly Fryling	11/12 Chuck & Lois Myers
11/16 Rick Bladt	11/14 Stephen & Kathy
JoDee Nelson	Phillips

Today's acolytes are
Kylie Tuinier and Kelsie Tuinier

November 5 attendance: 144

Red Cross Blood Drive



Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. One donation can help save the lives of up to 3 people.

You can help by giving blood on Friday, Nov. 17, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Register online at <http://www.redcrossblood.org/> or by calling 1-800-733-2767. Walk-ins are always welcome!

Volunteers to work the Blood Drive are also needed. Set up is from 9 to 10 a.m., and tear down is from 5 to 6 p.m. No heavy lifting is involved. Shift workers are needed to help with signing in donors and assist with nourishment. Please call Jessica Hawkins at 275-3557.

Food donations are also needed: cookies, breads, 100% juice, veggies, fruit, cheese, crackers. Please call June French at 649-3374.

Boy Scouts are selling poinsettias



The Vicksburg 251 Boy Scouts will once again sell poinsettias. The money they raise helps pay for camping trips and camping equipment throughout the year.

The poinsettia colors are red, white, pink, or burgundy, and the sizes are 6.5" for \$10, 8" for \$16, and 10" for \$20. They are absolutely beautiful plants. Please contact Tamara Young at youngwife73@gmail.com or 720-4173 if you have questions of if you would like to order. Thanks for considering.

Coming deadlines

- ScripCents orders are due by 2:00 Wednesday, Nov. 15

Carolers are needed

We are looking for carolers to carol downtown Vicksburg during Christmas in the Village on Dec. 2. The caroling time for Vicksburg United Methodist Church is from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. All interested parties should contact Mary Ruple at mruple@gmail.com or 616-283-6090.

Adult volunteers are needed for HELIX Youth on Wednesdays from 5:00 to 6:45. Please contact Hank.

Calendar

Today - Stewardship Sunday

Priscilla Circle Bake Sale

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m. PIT Crew in the Chapel
- 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
Coffee Hour following Worship

Monday, November 13

- 6:30 p.m. Family volleyball in the FLC
- 6:30 p.m. Scout Troop meeting, Taylor Rm

Tuesday, November 14

- 10:00 a.m. *Staff meeting in the Library*
- 2:00 p.m. Sew What Now God, Taylor Rm
- 6:30 p.m. *Scout Committee meeting, Room 125*

Wednesday, November 15

- 10:30 a.m. SCCS Wednesday Winners, Taylor Rm
- 2:30 p.m. SHED (7th-9th grade outreach), Rm 107
- 5:00 p.m. HELIX (7th-9th grade) in Room 107
- 6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir practice in the Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. Pickleball in the FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the Sanctuary

Thursday, November 16

- 10:00 a.m. Play Gym in the FLC
- 5:30 p.m. ROUTE 56 (5th-6th grade)
- 6:00 p.m. Play Gym in the FLC
- 6:30 p.m. RAW (HS Youth) in the FLC

Friday, November 17 - Pastor's Day Off

- 10:00 a.m. Knit & Stitch 2gether in Room 219
- 11:00 a.m. *Red Cross Blood Drive, FLC till 5:00*
- 6:00 p.m. *Scout Pack meeting in the FLC*

Saturday, November 18

- 8:30 a.m. *Loaves and Fishes, FLC till 10:00 a.m.*
- 9:00 a.m. *Wesleyan Heritage class in the Library*

Monday through Friday

- 9:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Heart & Hands Preschool

Coming Events

Sunday, November 19

after Worship Senior Adult Lunch with Pastor Greg

Monday, November 20

7:00 p.m. Finance Committee meeting, Library

Tuesday, November 21

- 6:30 p.m. *Scout den meeting, FLC*
- 6:30 p.m. *Personnel Committee meeting, Library*

Thursday, November 23 - Thanksgiving Day

Preschool and offices will be closed

Friday, November 24

Preschool and offices will be closed

Mission Moment—Plus 10 Families

Nov. 12:

Nov. 19: Marshall Linebaugh



**Priscilla
Circle**

Bake Sale

TODAY



The General Rule of Discipleship

To witness to Jesus Christ in the world, and to follow his teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.



The Bazaar and Vendor Show Is COMING!!!!

Saturday, December 2
10:00-2:00

Sunday, December 3
after church

Set up is from 3:00-5:00 on Friday, December 1
OR
from 8:30-9:45 Saturday, December 2

Not only will there be wonderful crafts from the folks in the church, but there will also be a number of home based business vendors.

PLEASE plan to come do some Christmas shopping

and support the crafters and vendors involved.

