



Activate Advent!

It's time to "Activate Advent," as we look toward the season that prepares us for the celebration of Christmas. This year Advent begins on December 2, and we will have multiple opportunities to be involved. Please mark your calendars!

This Saturday, November 10, from 9am-noon in Room 202 (second floor next to the choir room), we will be creating art that will hang in the sanctuary. All ages are welcome.

On Sunday, November 18, during/after the Thanksgiving meal, we will continue creating art. Look for a table set up with supplies.

On Sunday, November 25, after worship we will be decorating the sanctuary and other areas of the church for the Advent season. Tasks will be distributed according to your time frame. If you have 15 minutes, 2 hours, or anything in between, it will be a big help!

A Note from Linda

Dear friends,

The midterm elections are over, and without assuming that we all voted for the same candidates or have similar feelings about the results, it does feel to me like there's been some sort of collective sigh of relief that they are done. The barrage of TV ads has ended. The particular kind of tension that accompanies the run-up to an election is behind us.

The work, however, continues. We care about the electoral process because our vision of society connects with our deepest values. We continue to work and believe that work to be based on love, and so it is spiritual work. Rev. William Barber, a Disciples preacher and leader of the Poor People's Campaign, has called for a moral revival. A couple of weeks ago here in Indianapolis, Michelle Alexander said that creating real change requires a moral and spiritual revolution even more than a political one.

We pray for Thousand Oaks and for Pittsburgh, for Columbia, TN and Taft, TX and so many other places touched by violence in recent weeks. We pray for the poor and disabled, for all who are marginalized. Let us bring out from ourselves and one another our most compassionate and loving sides, in hopes of overcoming the violence and hate that is around us.

I look forward to seeing you on Sunday to praise our loving and compassionate God!

Blessings, Linda

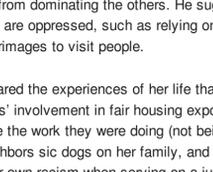
This and That

Fellowship Hosts Needed: Sharing simple refreshments after worship on Sunday is an important way to welcome visitors and for our regular members to fellowship with one another. Volunteers are needed to host the fellowship table for the rest of November and December. Please sign up in fellowship hall or contact Marilyn Porter (c.m.porter@att.net). Instructions will be provided.

Greeters are needed to welcome people before worship. It's a great way to make contact with first-time visitors, welcome back newcomers, or say hi to familiar faces. Sign up here!

Sunday's post-worship Central Justice Network gathering in the Conference Room will feature our own Julia Holloway. Our topic will be mental and behavioral health services for those who come in contact with the criminal justice center. How do we make sure that people get the care they need rather than just being cycled in and out of jail?

An Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship Service will be held Tuesday, Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 6050 N. Meridian St. Join people from other local congregations to offer thanks and celebrate how we can work together for peace and provide care to those in need. The freewill offering at this worship service will go to the Umoja Project school lunch program.



Last Sunday four members of Central shared their stories of race:

Angel Rivera shared examples of racism in Latin America and the Caribbean (including the taking of the land by white persons, slavery, disappeared persons, and the oppression of revolutionary movements that sought freedom). He pointed out when one people dominate another people, God often intervenes like he did with the Tower of Babel when the many languages kept one people from dominating the others. He suggested some ways to more fully learn about people who are oppressed, such as relying on many sources for your information and making pilgrimages to visit people.

Carolyn Higginbotham shared the experiences of her life that helped her become more aware of racism. Her parents' involvement in fair housing exposed her to the attitudes of other whites who did not like the work they were doing (not being allowed to swim in a neighbor's pool, having neighbors sic dogs on her family, and being called n-word lovers). She was confronted with her own racism when serving on a jury where all the white jurors were ready to decide guilty but all the African American jurors were ready to decide not guilty. After conversation the whites were able to see how their white privilege affected their view of the trial.

Molly Leraris shared her thoughts on racism from a high school point of view where she attends a very diverse school. She is part of the most diverse generation in the history of the U.S., and is therefore exposed to issues like immigration and racial prejudice through the eyes of her personal friends. She pointed out that that exposure makes you more accepting, although people still befriend those that look like themselves. She observed that race plays a big role in self-identity and meeting new people can help expand your world view.

Grace Wagnon shared her experiences with the "Youth on Race" conversations that some of our youth participated in with three other churches a couple of years ago. These were youth-led conversations where the diverse youth shared stories of their lives and asked "Is this racist?" During the give and take of the conversation, youth would challenge each other to examine their view of race. The group presented their experience at the last General Assembly and some Regions picked up the idea to use in their Region. Grace stressed the importance of education on race throughout one's life and stressed that the journey is the important part.

If you missed the opportunity to hear these stories, please feel free to ask these four to share part of their stories with you.

Events This Weekend

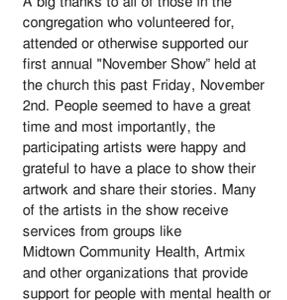
Saturday, November 10

- Activate Advent I in the gym at 9am.

Sunday, November 11

- Bible Study in the conference room at 9am.
Worship in the sanctuary at 10:30am.
Lunch in the community room following worship.
Exploring Faith in room 205 following worship.
Central Justice Network in the conference room at noon.
Card Making in the art room at noon.

To see a full monthly printable calendar of our meetings and events, click here.

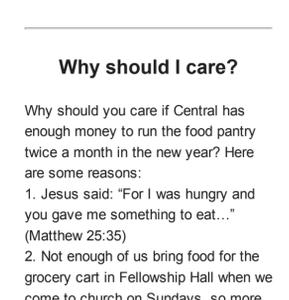


The Thanksgiving Offering provides direct support to Disciples colleges, universities and theological institutions. Disciples have a long history of post-secondary and theological education. This offering provides a direct connection to 14 colleges or universities, 3 seminaries and 4 seminary foundations/divinity houses.

November Show Wrap-Up

A big thanks to all of those in the congregation who volunteered for, attended or otherwise supported our first annual "November Show" held at the church this past Friday, November 2nd. People seemed to have a great time and most importantly, the participating artists were happy and grateful to have a place to show their artwork and share their stories.

Love to all, Chris Tower



SHORT-TERM THRIFT STORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Set up for Christmas Sale after church Thanksgiving dinner, Sun., Nov. 18. Arrange tables, cover with cloths, display merchandise.

Tear down from Christmas Sale, 2:30, Mon., Nov. 19 and 26. Box up merchandise, take down tables.

Help monitor the Christmas sale area (Community room) any of these Mondays: Nov. 19, Nov. 26, Dec. 3 or Dec. 10.

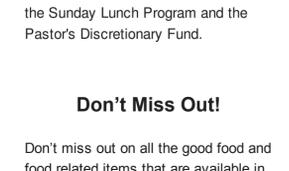
If you can help, see Marcia Phillips or email her at pmarcia275@aol.com.

Every year at this time, we buy poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas.

If you would like to sponsor a plant, forms will be available during worship.

They must be returned to the Church Office by Monday, November 25.

The number of poinsettias that will be ordered will be limited. If orders exceed available plants, proceeds above our gross cost will be donated to an outreach ministry.



New options have been added to our Givelify profile. In addition to the General and Building Funds, you can now donate to Concerts with a Cause, the Sunday Lunch Program and the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

Don't Miss Out!

Don't miss out on all the good food and food related items that are available in Fellowship Hall after worship this coming Sunday. Still available are Mindy Hamm's famous peanut brittle, an African dinner with the Barnes, homemade cinnamon rolls by Jean Brandenburg, and more.

Help monitor the Christmas sale area (Community room) any of these Mondays: Nov. 19, Nov. 26, Dec. 3 or Dec. 10.

If you can help, see Marcia Phillips or email her at pmarcia275@aol.com.



Why should I care? Why should you care if Central has enough money to run the food pantry twice a month in the new year? Here are some reasons:

- 1. Jesus said: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat..."
2. Not enough of us bring food for the grocery cart in Fellowship Hall when we come to church on Sundays, so more food has to be bought.
3. Contrary to what some people think the food we get from Gleaners is not free, although it is greatly discounted.
4. Gleaners often doesn't have what is needed and we have to shop at full-price stores.
5. Hunger is a big issue in the lives of many of our neighbors around the church and beyond.
6. What we're able to offer our hungry neighbors is minuscule to what we buy for ourselves at the grocery store.
7. We give families of any size the same amount of food and would love to have enough to give according to family size.
8. Jesus said: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat..."

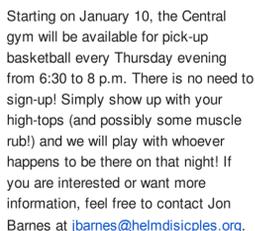
During Advent, we will need dancers to participate in the opening of the services. On Dec 2, Mariel, a dancer from Dance Kaleidoscope will be with us to work with the dancers before the service.

This year, for Christmas Eve, we are inviting all children and youth who would be available to sing two special songs at the 5:00 service. The first song is "Believe" (from the Polar Express) and the other is "Peace, Peace" (Click on the title for links to listen to the songs.)



Volunteers are needed again this year as we host Wheeler's overflow in our gym from December 31 through March 15. Two staff members from Wheeler will be present each night, but volunteers are needed in the following time slots:

You can sign up for one or more of those time slots here. If you sign up, please notify the church office that you are going to volunteer at office@indyccc.org.



Pick-up Basketball in the Central Gym!

Starting on January 10, the Central gymnet will be available for pick-up basketball every Thursday evening from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Thank you also to those who helped in the office this week: Bob Riestler and Jessica Rodenberger

CELEBRATIONS Birthdays and Anniversaries\*

- November 13 Brian Grant
November 14 Leon Riley

Upcoming Preaching Texts

- November 11 Mark 12:38-44
November 18 Mark 13:1-8

Thrft Store needs: Kitchen size trash bags, large black trash bags, men's belts, cookware, small kitchen appliances, linens, and towels
Free Clothing needs: Men's and women's jeans, belts, bras, sweatpants, sweatshirts, backpacks, light weight jackets, raincoats, and hats

CHECK US OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA!
Our General Facebook Page - https://www.facebook.com/indyccc/
Our Facebook Family Page - https://www.facebook.com/CentrallndyFamilies
Our Church Website - http://www.indyccc.org
Our Facebook Justice Network - Central Justice Network
Our Twitter Account - https://twitter.com/indyccc46204