

Pastor Peter's message notes from Nov. 8, 2020

## Rich Church, Poor Church: Why Give to the Church?

I enjoy the generosity season each year because it is an opportunity for us to pause and prayerfully discern with our families where God is calling us to invest our time and treasure. This season is a time to ask ourselves, "Where should we be investing the gifts that God has given us in the next year?"

When the disciples saw Jesus coming to save the world, they were overwhelmed by what God was doing in their midst. They screamed out for everyone to hear, "**Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven.**" Luke 19:38

Whenever we see how Jesus is changing lives through the church, we can't help but want to be a part of it. I want to share with you three reasons my wife Katharine and I are overwhelmed by what Jesus is accomplishing through our church and why we have prayerfully decided to give to the church.

**1. We believe in the mission of the church.** Several years ago, this congregation developed a faithful mission statement: "Living that all may know Jesus." One way we are accomplishing this mission is by providing life-changing worship services every Sunday. In response to the pandemic, our finance committee adjusted our budgeted resources to invest in live stream worship. Now every Sunday we reach an average of 274 people both in person and online with worship that draws us closer to Jesus Christ.

### **2. We believe in our church staff and church leaders.**

Every day I see our staff giving their all to reach new people for Jesus Christ. We have amazing church leaders who dedicate their lives to support our church family. One staff member who lives that all may know Jesus is our building manager, Chuck Linville. He always greets guests and members of the church warmly. He ensures our worship services and other events at the church are well prepared for. Chuck was also a key member of our reopening task force, researching and implementing safety practices that keep the people God sends to our facility safe.

**3. We believe our church is a fiscally responsible institution.** We have an excellent finance team, trustees committee, church council, and staff who are dedicated to ensuring that we handle our church's resources with transparency and accountability. Our trustees have developed 10-year plans to ensure that we are financially prepared to maintain a safe facility. We have developed clear financial goals for ministry and effectively invest each dollar given by faithful congregants to achieve these goals.

Like the disciples who entered Jerusalem with Jesus, we've seen through the members of this church God's deeds of power and love. We want to support the church financially when we see that the church is the most effective organization at bringing the Kingdom of Heaven here on earth. That's my answer for why I give to the church. I encourage you to talk with your family about what inspires you to give to our church.

## Preparing For Worship

### Scriptures for the coming week

Monday	Nov. 16:	Romans 12:2
Tuesday	Nov. 17:	John 3:1-10
Wednesday	Nov. 18:	John 3:11-16
Thursday	Nov. 19:	John 3:17-21
Friday	Nov. 20:	John 4:1-26
Saturday	Nov. 21:	John 4:27-42

### Upcoming Worship Messages

Nov. 15: Rich Church, Poor Church: Know the Mission  
Nov. 22: Rich Church, Poor Church: Transformation

## Our Church Family

### Prayer concerns from our church family

Aura Tavernner, Judy Murray, Donna Rosiere, Jaccie Blaszczyk, Linda Riddle, Camden Garcia, Peggy Province, Irene Miller, Ann Wilson, Nancy Walters, Michael Smith (Hubert Neth's son-in-law), Jim Hudson, Alice Hanrahan, Waneta Lane, Paulette Moore (Chuck Linville's mother)

### Birthdays for the coming week

Nov. 15: David Anderson, Bob Muir, Ginny McTighe  
Nov. 16: McKenna Roach  
Nov. 17: Marcella Fleeer, Mike Thompson, Hudson Vesecky  
Nov. 18: Evan Holmes, Nancy Scism  
Nov. 19: Olivia Dais, Elizabeth Henks, Jim Hudson  
Nov. 20: Betty O'Neal, Peyton Schmidli  
Nov. 21: Ede Coleman

### Anniversaries for the coming week

Nov. 20: Earl and Sandy Karas



We welcome Sharon Marnholtz to our church family. Sharon transferred her membership to UMC-Burg on Nov. 8.

## Volunteers Needed for Thanksgiving Meal

The Johnson County CROP Walk continues the tradition of offering a Thanksgiving meal Thursday, Nov. 26, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Donations Needed for Dessert:** To limit the amount of people handling the food due to COVID, UMC-Burg members are asked to contribute \$10 for a dessert rather than bake one. You can sign up and donate Sunday at the Welcome Desk in the atrium or place your donation in the collection plate, mail a check to the church, or drop it off at the church office. Make checks payable to The Food Center with "Thanksgiving Meal" in the memo.

**To Volunteer:** Call Erica at 660-223-3260 or email [johnsoncountycropwalk@hotmail.com](mailto:johnsoncountycropwalk@hotmail.com). There are opportunities to package meals for delivery, be a part of the delivery team or help with curbside pick-up.

**To Make a Monetary Donation For Food:** Make checks payable to The Food Center and put "Thanksgiving Meal" in the memo line. Place cash donations in a sealed envelope marked "Thanksgiving Meal." Donations can be given to Doug Christie or Christi Riddle, or if preferred mailed directly to The Food Center, P.O. Box 872, Warrensburg, Mo 64093.

**Reservations:** Reservations need to be made by Monday, Nov. 23. Contact Doug Christie at 660-624-9597 or email [johnsoncountycropwalk@hotmail.com](mailto:johnsoncountycropwalk@hotmail.com). The menu will be turkey, mashed potatoes, brown gravy, stuffing, green bean casserole, sweet potato casserole, rolls, and dessert.

## A Time To Pledge Tithes, Time, and Talents

November is traditionally the time to thank God for his blessings and to determine our commitment of time, talent and tithes for the coming year. As such, pledge cards were mailed out earlier this week. We encourage you to consider your spiritual commitments to this church and to the people its ministry touches.

We invite everyone to share their pledge as an act of worship. Please bring your giving card and Time and Talent sheet to worship Nov. 22, mail them to the church, or drop them off at the church office.

## College Age Bible Study Monday Nights

Looking to meet new people and grow in your relationship with God? College age students (18-29) are invited to a Bible study on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. at The Rock, 305 S. Holden St., Warrensburg. Through the series, "Something Needs to Change" by David Platt, we will be looking at how God calls us to respond to extreme physical and spiritual needs in our world. Although the first meeting was Nov. 9, people are welcome to come any time.

## UMC-Burg Seeks Part-time Office Manager

*Job Description:* The office manager will undertake administrative tasks, ensuring the rest of the staff and the church's volunteers have adequate support to accomplish the church's mission. The office manager will be self-motivated and able to prioritize duties. He/she will be trustworthy and maintain confidentiality.

Resumes and references can be emailed to [peter@umcburg.org](mailto:peter@umcburg.org) or mailed to the church office at 141 East Gay St. Warrensburg, MO 64093

## Church Clean-Up Day December 5

Join us Saturday, Dec. 5 from 9 a.m. to noon for a church clean-up day as we make our church sparkle and shine for the Christmas season.

## Thank you . . .

I'm taking part of Carol's column inches today to express our thanks and appreciation to her for writing a great newsletter each week. She told us one time she was confident in her skill to teach writing, but perhaps questioned her talent to actually write. Well, she has proved she can do both!

The summaries of Peter's and Susan's sermons have been especially helpful for those of us who are not attending worship on Sunday. The communication about the boards and commission of the church has been both interesting and informative, and the featured introductions of different people have brought us closer to fellow members of our congregation.

Carol highlights events and activities which provide us opportunities to be of service and to participate in the programs of the church. Birthdays and anniversaries are added tidbits to keep us connected.

Information is important, and Carol finds a way each week to bring us up to date on what is happening. I know we are all grateful for her efforts and recognize the time and talent she is sharing. Thanks, Carol, from all of us.

-Dee Hudson

