

Pastor Peter's message notes from Nov. 15, 2020

Rich Church, Poor Church: Know the Mission

What is the mission of the church? In Matthew 28, Jesus gives what we call the great commission. **And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'**

Our mission is to make new disciples. To be focused on new people. To invite new people to follow Jesus Christ. To live that all may know Jesus.

Our mission is easily measured in lives. When the church makes a disciple, it has evidence because one goes from never claiming Christ as her or his Lord and Savior to making a profession of such. Her or his life then becomes one of living for the Master and Lord, Jesus Christ. It is the changing of a person from following themselves as lord to following Christ as Lord.

Each time an adult or young person chooses to follow Jesus as the Shepherd of their life, our church is accomplishing our mission. Each time parents decide to have their children baptized into the family of Jesus Christ, we are accomplishing our mission.

Over 50% of our community in Warrensburg and Johnson County is not actively engaged in a community of faith. This includes young families, children, college age, people who are middle aged, and retired. Many of our neighbors are not religious or are nominally religious. Many of the people we know and care about don't have a community that supports them in growing in their relationship with God. They aren't actively guided by the hope that comes from faith in Jesus Christ.

Through my prayer time, I have discerned a need for our church to focus more on our mission to reach new people. In 2021 we will form an evangelism team to help our church become more comfortable and skilled in reaching new people for Jesus. The measure of our church's success in fulfilling Jesus's Great Commission is seen through the number of lives changed through our church.

The money that is graciously given to our church is a tool we can invest to accomplish our mission to live that all may know Jesus. Financial resources can be invested to provide curriculum for Bible studies, to hire staff who empower our church volunteers to accomplish God's ministry, to feed the hungry, and to maintain a safe and welcoming facility which we can use to host events where lives are changed for Jesus.

Last week we asked everyone to reflect on the question, "Why should I give to the church?" We give to the church when we believe that the church is changing the world to be more like the kingdom of heaven.

Preparing For Worship

Scriptures for the coming week

Monday	Nov. 23: Psalm 34:1-22
Tuesday	Nov. 24: Psalm 30:1-12
Wednesday	Nov. 25: Luke 7:22
Thursday	Nov. 26: Psalm 40:1-17
Friday	Nov. 27: Psalm 138:1-8
Saturday	Nov. 28: Psalm 65:1-13

Upcoming Worship Messages

- Nov. 22: Rich Church, Poor Church: Transformation
- Nov. 29: Giving Thanks
- Dec. 6: Christmas According to Luke: Zechariah's Story

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; Anastasia, Tilly Agymang's sister-in-law in Ghana; the Russell Jackson family on the loss of Russell's father Myron Jackson; the Sample family on the loss of George's brother, Jack Sample.

Birthdays for the coming week

- Nov. 22: Arley Taylor
- Nov. 25: Jim Baker, Krystle Gremaud, Katie Koepke, Mike Quimby, Susan Jackson
- Nov. 26: Earlene Brown, Tim Chaloupka, Sally Hart
- Nov. 27: Paul Rowland
- Nov. 28: Joshua Werling, Oliviah Dossett, Jennifer Yost, Ashley Ingram



Doug Christie Named New Office Manager



Doug Christie, a member of UMC-Burg for approximately 30 years, has been named the new office manager.

Doug and his wife Bettina were married at UMC-Burg in 1989. Doug said, "Later we decided to join the church because of all the programming, mission work, and youth programs. This was a very active church. We raised both of our daughters in this church. I'm very proud to be in this church and very proud of the work I've been able to do through this church including the Jamaica mission and CROP walk. I owe this church a lot, and I want to somehow try to pay it back and help it grow in the ministry of Jesus Christ."

Doug will retire Nov. 30 after 35 years in the Missouri Army National Guard. He served in unit logistics and supply chain operations. In 2013 he was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom serving as Platoon Sergeant for Delta Company 1-135th. He deployed again as a Unit Supply Sergeant in 2019 to Ft. Belvoir, Virginia, with Delta Co. in support of the United States Homeland Defense mission.

Doug is currently working on a master's degree at Indiana Wesleyan University in ministry with an emphasis on intercultural studies; he will graduate in June.

Pastor Peter Norton commented, "Doug Christie has a real passion for Jesus Christ and the people of this church. His friendly personality will make him a great representative for our congregation. The office manager is often the first person a guest to our church interacts with. He will represent our church and Jesus well. His experience supporting teams to accomplish their mission in the military as a Unit Supply Specialist has prepared him to coordinate support for our staff and volunteer leaders as we accomplish Jesus' mission. I'm especially excited about Doug's ability to recruit, train, and support a team of office volunteers to accomplish our church's mission. He is going to be a great office manager."

Doug will be in the office Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m.-to 2 pm. and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon.

Christmas Store 2020 Seeks Donations

In December, our community will come together to host Christmas Store 2020. This will be the 47th year, and our community needs this now more than ever.

Due to COVID, this year the Christmas store will have to rely solely on financial contributions rather than collect food donations as in years past. Because approximately 500 families are planning on this for their Christmas dinner, over \$20,000--\$40 per family--is needed to make this ministry work. The plan is to distribute vouchers for perishable food such as meat, dairy, eggs, and fresh fruit/vegetables.

Donations are needed by Dec. 1. Please mail donations to Christmas Store 2020 c/o Shiloh Baptist Church, 212 N. Main St., Warrensburg, MO 64093. Make checks out to Christmas Store 2020. You can also donate online at www.mannaharvestinc.org For more information call 660-362-2675.

A Thank You To Cub Scout Pack 399

Taking some poetic license from Timbuk 3's song lyrics, Cub Scout Pack 399 worked so hard that "the sanctuary's so bright, I gotta wear shades." November 9 the scouts polished everything made of wood in the sanctuary. A huge thank you to the troop for making our church shine.



Church Clean-Up Day December 5

Join us Saturday, Dec. 5 from 9 a.m. to noon for a church clean-up day. Let's make UMC-Burg festive and bright for the holiday season.



Let's Fill The Mitten Tree!

Help keep community members in need warm this winter season! Bring hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, socks, or fleece blankets to the church atrium and place them on or beneath the mitten tree. Items are needed for all ages.

Hanging of the Greens

The season of Advent is almost upon us and we need your help!

Join us immediately following worship (10:30ish am), November 29th, for our Church Christmas Decorating Party.

For more info, message us or contact:

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