

WinCHIMES



Winfield Community United Methodist Church

An Affiliate of Gary United Methodist Church

NOVEMBER 2009

There is great joy in my life to be able to spend my time reading and talking about my readings. It's why I like seminary so much. We can sit down and read the great thinkers for centuries and to try and decide how their work effects my life and our culture. Are things applicable? Does it mean anything to today?

It's a wonderful thing for me to see that there are always new ways to look at God. If God is eternity and we are just a small part of time, then there is so much about God that we may never know or that we haven't seen yet. What greatness is revealed of the universe as the satellites continuing outward in space, what greatness is revealed of God with each passing day, each new experience we have.

Sometimes I struggle with what the trinity means, how it looks and how it works but there is a beautiful way of looking at the relationship of the three as being a dance. Dances are practiced, the dancers know the steps and learn to anticipate each other. Dances are fluid and interactive and art. It's a little different every time, there is always something new being created. And what we do with God can be a dance as well. We are in the kind of relationship with God where we can dance and be creative together.

We're made in God's image. We are part of the dance with God, and with all of creation. On one of the days when it's not raining watch the leaves as they

dance their way to the earth. In the spring when the birds dance and chase each other. The music of the rain as it falls of the back porch. The young couple as they start life together. The parent and teenager finding ways to understand each other. The friends learning how to forgive. Our interactions with each other are a dance, we try to read each other, we learn, we moved when the other moves. It's a balance of you and another moving through some part of life together. It's creative and art.

But the dance cannot be done alone. In isolation we miss the beauty that can be found in the interaction. In the learning, in the art. In community, while we learn to dance, to interact, to create something together, we are all better for our time.

May we this fall find time to see the dance in creation. May we learn and create and dance with each other. To interact in ways that are beautiful and life giving.

Leanne

Assistance Needed. Winfield Community Church has decided to install a handicap (i.e. family) bathroom on the sanctuary level of the church. We have had a generous member donation of \$10,000 and a donation from the Conference of \$1,000. Since announcing the project we have had additional contributions of \$250. We have a preliminary plan and estimate ranging from \$8,000 to \$16,000 to build the bathroom. The range of cost depends on actual bids to do the various parts of the construction and details found during the demolition of the area where it is to be build. We feel that the present contributions are enough to begin the project. The contractor we have selected is considering when he can start the project. Also the contractor has indicated that he is willing to work with us to use volunteer labor on the various stages of construction.

We are asking that members of Gary and Winfield consider how they might contribute both financially or with their talents for construction. If you are interested please contact: Bill Miller, Trustee chair persons, Winfield UMC, 630-668-4925.

Sign up for your Gary/Winfield photo directory portrait session by clicking on the link at www.winfieldumc.org or by calling Gary's office at (630) 668-3100. Photography sessions will be Mon.-Tues., Nov. 2-3, 3 – 9 PM, Sun.-Thurs., Dec. 6-10, 3 – 9 PM. There is no cost to you or the church to have your photograph taken, and you will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and directory for participating. You will be able to view your images electronically immediately after you are photographed and have the option to purchase additional portraits. All photos will be delivered before Christmas. We look forward to "seeing you in pictures!"

Our Choir rehearsals on Monday nights at 7 p.m. All are welcome to join us.

Please continue to check the bulletin boards for ways in which you can serve in different areas of the church. We are always looking for Sunday School teachers, readers for scriptures and prayers, fellowship and flowers.

Fellowship volunteers still needed. Our new format for fellowship continues with a different family hosting a Sunday or even an entire month. Duties include making coffee, lemonade or other cold drink, bringing goodies and cleaning up afterwards. Contact Fran Miller to volunteer.

Mission Project: "Shoebboxes for Christmas." Items will be collected through Nov. 15. Fill empty shoeboxes or small plastic containers with gifts such as small toys, school supplies hygiene items hard candy, mints, gum, t-shirts, socks, caps, sunglasses. Personal notes can be included. Please do not include used or damaged items, war-related items, chocolate, out-of-date candy, liquids, lotions, medications, vitamins and breakable items. A \$5 or more donation would be appreciated. Make checks payable to Samaritan's Purse and put OCC in the memo line. A more complete listing of gift ideas is in the weekly e-announcements. If you are not able to fill a shoebox, please purchase what you can and other items will be added. Empty shoeboxes are also available. There will be baskets in the Narthex to receive these items.

Needing transportation to church? Jim Wiggins will be happy to provide transportation to anyone who needs a ride to church. Please call him at (630) 293-7324. If anyone is able to help provide transportation on days that Jim is not available, please contact him directly.

Non-perishable food being collected every Sunday. In response to the growing need for food at the local food pantry, we are asking everyone to bring in canned goods and non-perishable food every Sunday. A collection basket is located in the foyer along with a donation container for those who wish to contribute money that will go towards the purchase of food..