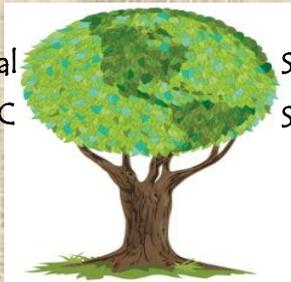


# THE TRI-COUNTY PARISH CIRCUIT RIDER



Canton Ecumenical  
Ward UMC



St. John's UMC  
Shunk UMC



## NOVEMBER 2016 EDITION

### St. John's Hayride 2016

Thank you to Jim and Beverly Unruh for opening up their home for us! The weather was a little chilly, but bearable. The food was delicious! A great time was had by everyone in attendance!



**The Parish Office Address is:**

The Tri-County Parish:  
103 North Center Street  
P.O. Box 313  
Canton, PA 17724  
**(Second Floor of Canton Ecumenical Parish)**

The Office phone number is:  
(570) 673-5294

(Please make sure all correspondence is clearly marked with P.O. Box 313 as without it, it is undeliverable by the US Postal Service and will be returned.)

Be sure to check out our new and improved website! There are pictures, videos, event calendars, birthday lists, past and present editions of the Circuit Rider and more!  
Go to:

**[www.tricountyparishumc.yolasite.com](http://www.tricountyparishumc.yolasite.com)**



**Like us on Facebook! (Tri-County Parish)**



**Parish Office Hours:**

**Pastor Jerry Schmidt:**

**Monday - Thursday**

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

**Certified Lay Minister Kathy Miller**

**Wednesday**

12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Administrative Assistant**

**Paula Schmidt:**

**Monday – Thursday**

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Office Hours are subject to change due to emergency calls or other unexpected events.**

**Parsonage phone number:**

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*The Circuit Rider* is a monthly publication of the Tri-County Parish.

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Suzi Fisher, Kathy Miller, Jerry and Paula Schmidt, Andrea Sutton, Susan Stull, and Dana Vermilya.

Items for the newsletter can be sent to your church's contact person or by e-mail to Paula at:

[tricountyparishumc@gmail.com](mailto:tricountyparishumc@gmail.com)

**(Please do not send items to Paula's AOL address)**

The Deadline for the December 2016 issue is Wednesday, November 16, 2016.

The Circuit Rider is available by e-mail. If you would like to have your copy delivered by e-mail, please contact the parish office or send an e-mail to Paula at:

[tricountyparishumc@gmail.com](mailto:tricountyparishumc@gmail.com).

Please help us conserve paper!

The Circuit Rider is also available at:

[www.tricountyparishumc.yolasite.com](http://www.tricountyparishumc.yolasite.com).

If a member of your family or a friend is hospitalized, please contact the parish office (673-5294) as soon as possible. (you can leave a message after office hours) Pastor Jerry and Kathy would like to make a visit, but since hospitals discharge patients so quickly, we need to know as soon as possible when your family member is in the hospital. Also, if you or a member of your family would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please let us know so Pastor Jerry can arrange a visit. No one should go without this important sacrament in their lives.



## Pastor's Ponderings

By Jerry Schmidt



Greetings in the Name of the God of Peace,

I recently attended a spiritual retreat at World's End State Park in Sullivan County. The focus of the day was "release". Release of all that takes us away from focusing on God. There are many distractions that take us from God, and some of those distractions may be in the name of our Christian faith if we are not careful in separating those things of the Kingdom from those things of this world.

I would invite you to get into a relaxed state before reading further. No, I'm serious...relax from the top of your head to the tip of your toes. Come on. I fought it too. Just do it. Now, doesn't that feel better? (For those of you who want to know what is next before relaxing, please come back to this exercise in relaxation and reread what comes from God)

As you are in this relaxed state, focus on God in your heart. What are you ready to thank God for right now? Don't skimp on the details. God has done wonderful things around you. Look at the beauty in nature out your nearest window in this Fall season. God has prepared all of that beauty for you. Did you get a phone call from a friend or a family member? Are you having a good day? Do fewer body parts hurt today? Is there an emotion that came into your heart that made you feel warm? Did you feel like hugging someone? What are YOU thankful for today?

*I am thankful for all of you who make me proud to be your pastor. I am thankful for your comments of encouragement, for your friendships, for your desire to become better people, and advocates for your faith. I am thankful for what you do for others. Being thankful every day makes every day a great day!*

Having thanked God, determine if these things that you are thankful for are constant or temporary things. Do they happen always, or was there some special occasion for which you were thankful? Now that we have thanked God in detail, ask God to help you see more clearly how you might grow in your faith. Ask God to help you to eliminate those things or people who stunt your spiritual growth. Ask for God's help to help to keep the flame of your faith glowing in this dark world so that people may be guided to Christ Jesus because you are a beacon of light for the path that leads to the healer of brokenness.

*I ask God to take away bitterness and resentment from my heart. I ask God to help me to show Christ's light to those who truly want help from God. Sometimes my bitterness keeps me from seeing the truth about myself, and keeps me from opening my heart to others.*

Now that we have humbled ourselves; what is God telling you about that which you have NOT done to help others to see the love of God? What actions have you done that kept others away from you? What thoughts have you had that made you stay away from others? How have these things affected your relationship with God? It is okay if these actions or omissions, and thoughts have brought you closer to peace with God.

*I have honored the wishes of my family in some ways, but have not supported them in other ways. I pray that God will change my heart to be more what God wants me to be. I pray that God will convict the hearts of those who do not see my heart. I pray that God will allow me to see the true heart of others, and I pray that what I see in others is not their true heart, but a barrier that needs to be knocked down. (continued on next page)*



(Continued from page 3)

Ask God to keep your heart filled with gratitude. God has given you the strength for all that you have done, and need to do today. Keep your focus on the One who gives all that you need to get through another day. Ask God to help you get rid of “mind-sets” that dampen your relationship with God, the Creator of all that is. Ask God to keep your hearts, minds, and eyes open to where the Holy Spirit leads.

How can you more fully rely on God in your daily lives? What might you have to change to hear God more clearly?

*I can only change MY “mind-sets”. Others would have to change theirs, or at least meet me half- way. I try to be understanding of the issues that others have, and try to separate myself from those issues that cause harm. Remember – Wesley’s three rules. 1. Do no harm. 2. Do good. 3. Stay in love with God . I try to keep these rules in my life. I am not perfect, therefore in need of the grace of God.*

As we transition into a new way of thankfulness and searching for God in our lives, we should see the difference that God makes in all that we do. We should have an excitement for a new outlook on life. We should breathe a sigh of relief because we trust that this new thing is done; not because of me, but because of God’s presence.

The retreat facilitator asked us to find a rock, pebble, or stone that represents what we must let go of and lay at Jesus’ feet. Imagine walking toward Jesus with a heavy burden. As you get closer to Jesus, the weight that you are carrying is large and unbearable. Imagine that as you look into the eyes of Jesus, you are comforted and able to lay that burden at the feet of the source of Salvation. Then you sit next to Jesus, and bask in the light that envelopes you. What more could you ask for? You have relied on scripture and now see, hear, and feel the results. Matthew 11: 28-30 says “Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

Rejoice in all that God has done for and given to you. Bless others with your journey of faith story. And lay your daily burdens at the feet of the Savior. Lay your life burdens at the feet of Jesus and feel the power of God’s love through Jesus Christ.

In His Service,

*Pastor Jerry*

**Later in this issue, you will hear the story of Shirley Bachelder, who will amaze and inspire you! Below is a picture of the billboard featuring her picture all around the Nashville area where she lives. She wanted to convey the message that God had given her, “Love One Another!”**



## Minister's Musings

*By Kathy Miller*

Dear Friends,

As a parish, we all are concerned about our diminishing attendance numbers. Of course, the “numbers”, are simply a record-keeping statistic. The reality is that members, our friends, for one reason or another, have chosen to either attend a different church, or no church at all. We pray that those who have begun attending another church are receiving the true gospel message and growing in their relationship with Christ. But we pray and grieve for those who have simply abandoned the church completely.

Unfortunately, very few churches today are actually maintaining or increasing their membership rolls. We know there are many factors contributing to this decline. However, in an effort to make our churches vital again, the Williamsport District, under the leadership of District Superintendent Beth Jones and the Vitality Team, is making a concerted effort to reverse this trend.

Towards this end, a Discipleship Network Worksheet has been compiled to give us all the opportunity to self-evaluate the vitality of our churches. It is a simple one page form asking for a list of existing ministries in the five most important areas of a vital church, and what other ministries in those areas you would like to see implemented.

I will be bringing these forms to be given to each individual on a Sunday early in November. It is “Vital” for our churches to earnestly seek new ways to be “disciples making disciples” as we have been called by Jesus to do.

In His Name. . . .Kathy Miller

*Happy Thanksgiving*



*Thank you, Father, for having created us and given us friends, health, and grace. Thank you for being with us in all our joys and sorrows, for your comfort in our sadness, your companionship in our loneliness. Thank you for yesterday, today, tomorrow and the whole of our lives. May we live this and every day conscious of all that you have given us.*

*Amen.*



## Parish News



Congratulations to The Rev. Bonnie Browning and David Goodwin who were married on Sunday, October 9 in Ohio. Bonnie is the former pastor of Canton Church Of Christ, (Disciples of Christ). They went on a honeymoon to Mexico. She has accepted a new appointment in Ohio beginning November 1, 2016. We wish them all the best in their new life together!



Pictures courtesy of Paula Schmidt

Congratulations also go out to Michael and Hong Shang Wood who were married at Canton Ecumenical on October 22 with Pastor Jerry officiating. We wish them all the best as well!



Photos courtesy of Jerry and Paula Schmidt

## More Parish News

Members of the Canton Music Club met for their October meeting at CEP. Pictured are (from left to right) Joyce Castle, Florence Finogle, Donna Stone, Marie O'Hara, and in disguise, Carol Kneller.



## Pastor Appreciation Dinner at Ward



## Shunk News

By Suzi Fisher



**Sunday School** at 10:00 AM. It's a real wakeup call ☺

**November 8- VOTE!!!** I know this election is a scary one. It is one of the most important elections in our history. **Get out and vote!!!** *Pray, pray, pray and pray some more during this election!!!*

**November 11- Veterans Day** Pray for our brave men and women who are bravely protecting our freedom.

We are collecting items for the **Christmas Shoe Boxes (Operation Christmas Child)**. Please contact the parish office if you have any questions.

**November 24- Thanksgiving**...Take time out to praise God for all the wonderful blessings he has bestowed on you. Say an extra prayer for the families who have lost loved ones that the Lord will comfort them. **HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!**

*Sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God Who covereth the heaven with clouds, who prepareth rain for the earth, who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains. ~ Psalms 147:7-8*

**Extra Prayers** are asked for the folks in our community who are having health challenges!

**Conference Report:** Messiah College was under construction, but all was well there. It was like "Old Home Week" seeing friends and pastors from the past years. Our church made donations to Cup of Water, Bishop's Partners in Mission, and Mongolian Mission. The main thing I would say is our bishop is definitely a people person. He rejoices at triumphs and prays. Bishop Park encourages us to pray, pray and pray some more.



## Canton Ecumenical News

By Paula Schmidt



**Thank You, LORD!**

The Canton Food Pantry item for November is tomato soup. Thank you for your faithfulness to this local ministry, helping people in need right here in our community! Your generosity is greatly appreciated by the needy in our town.

Join us for our Monthly Dinner on Tuesday, November 15 (note the date change due to Election Day). Our meal will feature Chicken and Biscuits, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable, Beverage, and Dessert. The price is still a bargain at \$6.00 per person. Take outs are available.

Many thanks to those who helped with our annual Trick-or-Treat night at Canton Ecumenical. If you handed out treats, donated treats or prayed for this ministry of our church, thank you so much!! It really is an important (and fun) way to show our presence in our community!



## Ward News

*By Dana Vermilya*



Ward held its pastor appreciation dinner on October 23. It was a lovely evening filled with great food, great fellowship, and, of course, kickball! Thank you to all who came, brought food, and joined in the fun.

We will be packing boxes for Operation Christmas Child in the next couple of weeks. Listen for this announcement in church. How many boxes will we pack this year? Will we beat last year's number?

We will also be planning our next business meeting and holiday events before long. Be thinking about the Angel Tree Service. We typically hold that somewhere around the first week of Advent. If you have any questions or ideas for that, let me know.

As you have seen in the bulletin, our annual charge conference is today, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm in Troy. I realize that there will be many who are not able to attend this event. However, I wonder if everyone knows what this is and the purpose of the meeting.

Every fall, we hold a charge conference. According to what I find from the book of discipline, the district superintendent determines the date of the charge conference and is to preside over the event, or is able to designate an elder to preside. Also, a joint charge conference for two or more pastoral charges may be held at the same time and place, as the district superintendent may determine. This is the case for our parish. We are taking part in a joint charge conference and will have a pastor who was designated by the district superintendent to preside.

The charge conference is to serve as the connecting link between the local church and the general Church and to have general oversight of the church council. The primary responsibilities of the charge conference are to “review and evaluate the total mission and ministry of the church, receive reports, and adopt objectives and goals recommended by the church council that are in keeping with the objectives of The United Methodist Church.” Basically, this is where we vote on the budget, the percentages paid by each church, the alternative minimum structure we recommended, etc. It is also the charge conference that would recommend candidates for licensed or ordained ministry. They also recommend candidates for any church-related vocations as well as persons for lay servant or certified lay minister. Because we are a parish with more than one church per pastoral charge, the charge conference may provide for a parish council, parish treasurer, and any other committee or officers necessary to carry out the business of the parish. We see this happening in our parish with the position of the parish treasurer, Mark Betzer (Thank you Mark for all of your work with the parish!). I believe that we also see this with our Ad Council. Every charge, whether one church or multiple, has a PPRC. While there are many other possible goals of the charge conference, these are some of the main points. At our charge conference, the focus will be those areas of approving our budget, alternative minimum structure, percentages, etc. (continued on the next page)

(Continued from page 9)

Next we get to who is invited to attend the charge conference. The membership of the conference is to be all members of the church council or other appropriate body. In the case where there is more than one church in a parish, it is stated that members of each church council, together, make up the charge conference. Anyone is welcome to attend. Each church must have two members present in order to vote and approve the proposed plans.

I hope this information helps answer any questions you may have had about the charge conference. If you are able, consider attending today, or in the future.

Information source: <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/the-charge-conference>



### **Following the Master**

*From the "Fishwrapper", Online/mailling edition March 17, 2015*

One summer Sunday morning I sat with the other members of the church choir behind the minister's pulpit. My five-year-old son, Chuckie, sat beside me.

During prayer I felt something rub against my leg. Looking down, I saw Chuckie's little dog, Skippy, who must have followed us, and finding the church doors wide open, came in. I placed my hand on the puppy's head, and he lay quietly at my feet unnoticed by the others.

All went well until the choir rose to sing. Then the puppy wandered over to the pulpit and began sniffing all about. I leaned down to my son and whispered for him to leave by the side aisle, certain that Skippy would follow him. The puppy, peeping through the spokes in the prayer rail watched Chuckie go until he reached the door. Then, putting his front paws on the prayer rail, his ears went up and with a joyful yip, he leaped the rail and bounded down the aisle to follow Chuckie home.

My embarrassment was quickly relieved when our kindly, elderly pastor smiled and said to the startled congregation, "Would that we were all so eager to follow our Master."



## **St. John's News**

*By Andrea Sutton*

Several members of the congregation enjoyed breakfast at the home of Don and Anna Mary Heller. As always the food was delicious and the fellowship wonderful. It was also a time to reflect and ask God for His loving kindness and tender mercies.

The choir is back. Hurray! Members sang for the first time on Oct. 16th. Wish there were more people in the congregation to hear them.

The annual Thanksgiving dinner will be Friday, November 4. It will feature turkey with all the trimmings including homemade pie. Everyone is invited to attend. It will start at 5:30 p.m. A Jacobs Brothers concert follows the meal. Come out and tell God just how Thankful you are. We know it is early, but this way it will not interfere with your families time of Thanksgiving. Hope to see you there.(It might not run quite like it usually does, due to a major spoke in the wheel of cooks being a little out of shape). Get well soon!

Remember to turn back your clocks on Nov. 6th. You gain an hour and everyone should be bright and bushy-tailed in Church that morning!

Remember to vote. God used criminals, thieves and liars to get the job done. Ask Him before you vote for guidance and keep praying for our country that it will be a Country under God, once again.

### **Today's Prayer**

*Thank You, Lord, for this day and for life and for my many blessings.*

*I believe in your goodness with all my heart.*

*So I am asking You to go before me today, being my guide should situations make me wonder which way to turn.*

*As each hour passes on this day, Lord, bless me with Your strength, Your joy and please keep me under your watchful eye the entire day, ever ready to help me and to offer me comfort.*

*In Jesus' name. Amen.*



## Dog Dictionary

*From "The Fishwrapper" February 2, 2016 edition*

**LEASH:** A strap which attaches to your collar, enabling you to lead your person where you want him or her to go.

**DOG BED:** Any soft, clean surface, such as the white bedspread in the guest room or the newly upholstered couch in the living room.

**DROOL:** Is what you do when your persons have food and you don't. To do this properly you must sit as close as you can and look sad and let the drool fall to the floor, or better yet, on their laps.

**SMIFF:** A social custom to use when you greet other dogs. Place your nose as close as you can to the other dog and inhale deeply, repeat several times, or until your person makes you stop.

**GARBAGE CAN:** A container which your neighbors put out once a week to test your ingenuity. You must stand on your hind legs and try to push the lid off with your nose. If you do it right you are rewarded with margarine wrappers to shred, beef bones to consume and moldy crusts of bread.

**BICYCLES:** Two-wheeled exercise machines, invented for dogs to control body fat. To get maximum aerobic benefit, you must hide behind a bush and dash out, bark loudly, and run alongside for a few yards; the person then swerves and falls into the bushes, and you prance away.

**DEAFNESS:** This is a malady which affects dogs when their person wants them inside and they want to stay out. Symptoms include staring blankly at the person, then running in the opposite direction, or lying down.

**THUNDER:** This is a signal that the world is coming to an end. Humans remain amazingly calm during thunderstorms, so it is necessary to warn them of the danger by trembling uncontrollably, panting, rolling your eyes wildly, and following at their heels.

**WASTEBASKET:** This is a dog toy filled with paper, envelopes, and old candy wrappers. When you get bored, turn over the basket and strew the papers all over the house until your person gets home.

**SOFAS:** Are to dogs like napkins are to people. After eating it is polite to run up and down the front of the sofa and wipe your whiskers clean.

**BATH:** This is a process by which the humans drench the floor, walls, and themselves. You can help by shaking vigorously and frequently.

**BUMP:** The best way to get your human's attention when they are drinking a fresh cup of coffee or tea.

**GOOSE BUMP:** A maneuver to use as a last resort when the "Bump" doesn't get the attention you require...especially effective when combined with "The Sniff".

**LOVE:** Is a feeling of intense affection, given freely and without restriction. The best way you can show your love is to wag your tail. If you're lucky, a human will love you in return.

## **Want a Better Life? Try a Bucket List**

*A UMC.org Feature by Susan Passi-Klaus*

Shirley Bachelder's bucket list has ballooned into a lifetime of adventures and celebrations.

She celebrated her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 3, 2016 with her Sunday School class at Christ United Methodist Church near Nashville, Tennessee. Billboards now show her image at spots around her hometown with a message she says God asked her to share: Love One Another.

We first wrote about Shirley in November 2014 when the 93 –year-old made her way to a remote Tennessee field at 5:45 a.m. in 27 degree weather. There she swung her short legs into a wicker gondola to take a hot air balloon ride, a testament to her spunk. With a delicate silk flower garland worn atop her woolen hat, this whippersnapper checked another item off her bucket list.

“I would have gone up in that balloon if it was below zero,” she said. “All I needed was a couple of pairs of gloves, my Egg McMuffin and a cup of coffee and I was ready to go.”

Was the sunrise balloon flight to Leiper's Fork, Tennessee a dream come true to the California transplant? “God was there,” she said. “I felt so close to him and felt him saying, ‘Well, what do you think, Shirley?’”

When fellow Christ United Methodist Church Member Allen Johnston discovered Miss Shirley had “hot air balloon ride” still unchecked on her bucket list, he conspired with his Sunday School class to make the aerial adventure happen. On November 3, Miss Shirley, in the company of another 90-something church member, lifted up, up and away.

### **Shirley's halo**

At Shirley's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday she looked around the purple-decked room (purple is a signature color for Shirley) and counted her blessings. She wanted to find a way to honor God. Ever since she's worn a flower “gratitude garland” in her hair – even on her hot air balloon ride! Some people call it her “halo”.

Christ UMC friends will continue helping Miss Shirley fulfill her bucket of wishes: taking a trip to Ireland, becoming a contestant on *Wheel of Fortune* (she's hoping to audition for a second time), visiting a butterfly house, and even sighting a bluebird in Tennessee.

“If you have a bucket list, it proves you're still alive.” Shirley said. “People who have stopped looking forward to creative things have made up their minds to die. We all need some crazy scheme in mind to keep us excited, so we can face life with a lot of fun and love.”

Shirley started on her bucket list when she was just 9 years old, fascinated by stories from her teacher of far away places and out-of-the-bucket ideas. Her bucket list has led her to do everything from going back to college at age 50 (graduating with honors at age 60), publishing stories in *Reader's Digest*, and sampling all kinds of foods. Ostrich...yummy. Buffalo...tasty. Whale...no thank you!

Not long ago, an acquaintance suggested she see a geriatric doctor who would likely tell her to slow down. But being put out to pasture is not on Miss Shirley's bucket list. “I've been to several geriatric doctors and none of them have ever told me to slow down,” she huffed and puffed. “Life is for the living and I won't coast to the finish line!”



Photos courtesy of Shirley Bachelder



## **Changing the Atmosphere**

*By Joanna Gaines, Co-author of “The Magnolia Story”  
and co-host of HGTV’s “Fixer Upper”  
(taken from Faith Gateway devotional)*



*... to be made new in the attitude of your minds... — Ephesians 4:23*

I’ve been recently reminded that the way I perceive my circumstances can really make or break my day and can have a major effect on those around me.

My attitude going into places can either add or take away from the atmosphere.

I want to choose to be positive, reminding myself that every opportunity is a gift.

Chip is really good at this. He typically finds the positive things in any situation while that tends to be a bit harder for me. I think more about what needs to get done and how it’s going to be accomplished. But I’ve realized I can choose which lens I’m going to view life from. Even though our life is crazy right now, I want to think of this as an opportunity more than anything else. I can trust that this is a chance to grow and learn. And it’s a chance to enjoy each other as a family doing what we love to do most.

It all starts in my mind. Am I viewing the current circumstance as an opportunity or as a burden? Am I overwhelmed by what could go wrong or am I excited about what could go right?

I want to be able to find the positive in each situation, believing God brought me there for a specific purpose and will sustain me through it.

If I start the day overwhelmed by everything that needs to get done, then I’m missing some of the good things along the way!

Whether you’re a stay at home mom picking up after your kiddos or work a full time job, we can all choose to be atmosphere changers. And by that I mean, we have the power to set the tone with our kids at home or with our coworkers at the office. Rather than view life as a constant to do list, think of it as an opportunity to love and serve others well. This will shift the atmosphere and you will find others inspired to do the same.

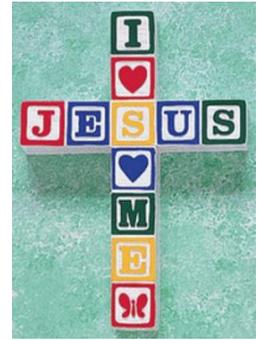
*Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. — Romans 12:2 NLT*

## Tender Talks: Jesus Loves Me

By Mary Kristoff

From *Christian Life, Part 11* – May 15, 2016

*Jesus loves me this I know  
For the Bible tells me so  
Little ones to Him belong  
They are weak but He is strong*



In the year 1860 Anna Bartlett Warner wrote that poem for Sunday school children. Set to music in 1862 by William Bradbury, the song continues to bless countless lives of people around the world.

When I was about four years old, a dear aunt taught my sister and me this beautiful song. Today my sister is in a nursing home. Even with impaired memory, she still enjoys singing, “Jesus Loves Me.”

Another special memory goes back to Flora, Indiana, where we lived for a while. One hot, muggy day, I took a stroll to relax. The sidewalks were shaded by mature trees; however, my steps soon began to drag.

Suddenly, three little girls came skipping from behind a house. With bright smiles, they began to sing.



*Yes, Jesus loves me,  
Yes, Jesus loves me,  
Yes, Jesus loves me,  
The Bible tells me so.*



Their praise struck a responsive chord within my heart, and I felt energized. What a precious reminder of God’s unchanging love!

I felt compelled to thank them and to give a word of encouragement. Those three young girls had been to Bible School. Their innocent expressions, contagious cheer, and spontaneous praise had brought special joy!

Another memory was the first day of a Navajo Bible School in a rural area near Keams Canyon, Arizona. My small class consisted of preschoolers who knew almost no English. And I knew very little Navajo.

That hot, windy day, we assembled outside a small Hogan (house). I had brought some Bible pictures for the children to color on their laps as they sat in the sand. To my dismay, the crayons had melted. Then a wind gust scattered the papers. Soon a hungry goat enjoyed the snack!

What was I to do? We held hands, and I began to sing, “Jesus Loves Me.” Each day we practiced, and by Friday those bright youngsters had memorized the words and sang it a cappella to their amazed parents.

Surely the children of our nation and the world need to hear the wonderful message of God’s love!



## **Apple Bars**

*From "Basics and More" Cookbook*

### Ingredients:

1 cup flour  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 cup brown sugar  
1 cup oatmeal  
1/2 cup shortening  
2 1/2 cups sliced apples  
2 tablespoons butter  
1/2 cup sugar



### Directions:

Stir together the first 5 ingredients; cut in shortening and mix until crumbly. Spread half of the mixture into a greased 10x7 pan. Slice apples over crumbs. Dot with butter and sprinkle with sugar. Cover with remaining crumbs.

Bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes. Good drizzled with powdered sugar glaze. Cut bars while warm.

## **Coconut Orange Cookies**

*From "Grandma's Cookbook"*

### Ingredients:

3/4 cup shortening  
1 1/4 cups sugar  
2 eggs  
1 cup coconut  
2 1/2 cups flour  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
3/4 cup orange juice  
2 Tablespoons grated orange peel



### Directions:

Cream shortening and sugar. Beat in eggs. Beat in coconut. Combine dry ingredients and add alternately with orange juice to creamed mixture. Add orange peel. Drop by teaspoons on an ungreased baking sheet. Sprinkle with additional coconut and orange peel or with icing. Bake at 375 degrees for approximately 12 minutes.

## Tri- County Parish Events - November 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p>All Saints Day Pastor Jerry Preaching with Power</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Betty Mordan</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>Prayer Warriors 11 am St. John's Bible Study 6:30pm</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>FLPAM Meeting Country Cupboard 9:30am</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Michael Bacon Randy &amp; Amy Bellows</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>Pastor Jerry at Theology Study Day, Williamport First 9:30am</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Dianna Thompson Joe Miller</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Janice Hertel</i></p>
<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>All Saints Sunday Daylight Savings Time Ends</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Dick &amp; Kathy Turner</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>Minister's Network 9am COC</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Shannon Abercrombie</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>Election Day</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>Prayer Warriors 11 am St. John's Bible Study 6:30pm</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Brandon Ridall</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Neva Hartford</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Orin Finogle</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>Gideons at all churches</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Jean O Conners</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>CEP Monthly Dinner 5 pm (note the day change) Pastor Jerry Preaching with Power Pastor Jerry DCOM 10:30am</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Dorothy Smithgall Randy Bellows</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>Prayer Warriors 11 am St. John's Bible Study 6:30pm</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Ronnie Vermilya Charlie Hickok</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Florence Finogle Fern &amp; Jerry McNett</i></p>
<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>Christ the King Sunday</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Sheila Woodward Will Unruh</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Jason Robertson</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>NO Preaching With Power</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Ronn Seely</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>Prayer Warriors 11 am St. John's Bible Study 6:30pm</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Barb Machmer Warren &amp; Donna Strout</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Ken &amp; Dawn Boyd</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">  </p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Lois Greene Lyle Vermilya Jerry &amp; Paula Schmidt</i></p>
<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>The First Sunday of Advent</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Roger Caslte</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Brian Greenough</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>Pastor Jerry Preaching with Power</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Diane Deljonavan Bill Garber</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>Prayer Warriors 11 am St. John's Bible Study 6:30pm</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Megan Slater</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">  </p>		

All events are subject to change.  
 Birthdays and Anniversaries are in italics.

# Tri-County Parish

## November Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Canton Ecumenical

- 3- Michael Bacon
- 4- Joe Miller
- 5- Janice Hertel
- 9- Brandon Ridall
- 11- Orin Finogle
- 15- Dorothy Smithgall
- 19- Florence Finogle
- 21- Jason Robertson
- 22- Ronn Seely
- 26- Lois Greene
- 27- Roger Castle
- 28- Brian Greenough

#### Anniversaries:

- 23- Warren & Donna Strout
- 26- Jerry & Paula Schmidt

### St. John's

- 4- Joe Miller
- 17- Charlie Hickok
- 20- Will Unruh
- 29- Diane Deljonavan

#### Anniversaries:

- 6- Dick & Kathy Turner
- 19- Jerry & Fern McNett
- 26- Jerry & Paula Schmidt

### Ward

- 1- Betty Mordan
- 4- Dianna Thompson, Joe Miller
- 7- Shannon Abercrombie
- 13- Jean O'Connors
- 15- Randy Bellows
- 17- Ronnie Vermilya
- 20- Sheila Woodward
- 23- Barbara Machmer
- 26- Lyle Vermilya
- 29- Bill Garber
- 30- Megan Slater

#### Anniversaries:

- 3- Randy & Amy Bellows
- 24- Ken & Dawn Boyd

### Shunk

- 4- Joe Miller
- 10- Neva Hartford

#### Anniversaries:

- 26- Jerry & Paula Schmidt



If you have corrections or additions to this list, contact Pastor Jerry or Paula immediately so we can keep this list as accurate as possible.

# Lectionary November 2016

November 6: (The 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

Haggai 1: 15b – 2: 9  
Psalm 145: 1 – 5, 17 – 21  
2 Thessalonians 2: 1 – 5, 13 – 17  
Luke 20: 27 – 38

November 13: (The 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

Isaiah 65: 17 – 25  
Psalm 118  
2 Thessalonians 3: 6 – 13  
Luke 21: 5– 19

November 20: (Christ the King Sunday)

Jeremiah 23: 1 – 6  
Luke 1: 68 – 79  
Colossians 1: 11 – 20  
Luke 23: 33 – 43

November 27: (The First Sunday of Advent)

Isaiah 2: 1 – 5  
Psalm 122  
Romans 13: 11 – 14  
Matthew 24: 36 – 44



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