

# ORACLE

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## Learning from Autumn Leaves



Every fall, I marvel at the beautiful leaves, studying the intricate shapes and God's creative, colorful displays. Despite its deterioration, the foliage reveals splendor – mere months after bursting out in spring and providing summer shade.

I often think I'm like an autumn leaf. Through many seasons, God has transformed me from a self-absorbed person to one who trusts his steady promises. Winter is approaching for me too. Yet the Holy Spirit keeps molding me to reflect God's goodness and beauty. During the autumn of my life, I pray that God helps me embrace changing seasons while reflecting his love and light to all.

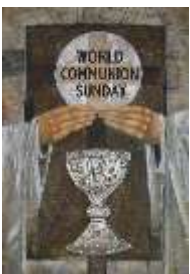
—MaryAnn Sundby



5 Diana Cherry      16 Sarah Torrens      23 Ina Heath  
25 Kathy Butcher      28 Terry & Mary Holobaugh  
31 Jeanne Fawcett  
    Todd Salome

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**Sunday, October 4 10:30 a.m.**



In 1916, a group of pastors launched World-Wide Communion Day. Amid the Great Depression, they were looking for a way to meet people's spiritual needs and unite Christians in their dedication to Christ.

The observance, now known as World Communion Sunday, is held on the first Sunday of October. It has served as a reminder that Christians around the globe share the same meal in remembrance of Jesus.



Here we go again, the changing of the season. It was only two weeks ago I was working on the roof of a new hotel in Columbus. We were insulating air ducts that would keep the eight-floor restaurant cool on hot summer days. As the sun peaked in the sky the sweat poured down my face as my shirt became soaked from the heat. The next day as I opened the outside door to leave for work wearing only a t-shirt, I stepped back in to put on a sweatshirt. The temperature had dropped drastically overnight. God must have a sense of humor or he does not want us to be bored with his weather. No matter what we think, God is always right. We must remember that we live in God's space and in his time and he is perfect. He created seasons of time so the earth could replenish itself, just as he did with his children.

We are born in the early season of life when time seems to move rather quickly and we find ourselves being trained by the hand of God. Then, as time moves a bit slower in the middle ages of life we receive the blessings which God has offered to us and as we know he offers more than we could ever ask for and why does he offer so much? Because God has that much love for us. We truly haven't anything to compare God's love to but Psalms 63:3 says "Because your love is greater than life, my lips will glorify you." God's love is greater than life itself, therefore, we need to share that love with others and enjoy the blessings that comes with that love. Then in the fall of life things slow down or at least they are supposed to slow down but we remain busy doing the Lord's work, such as the ladies quilting for mission and other people or making masks for the front line workers, nursing homes and school children or being the secretary of the church and keeping your pastor in line, taking people to appointments and visiting the housebound friends. We don't do it as an obligation for the love of God but as an opportunity to serve the Lord. Then comes the winter of life when we truly slow down and allow God to take over. We stay so busy throughout life that we can only give a small amount of time to the Lord, he only asks for what is right not what is left.

As we try to reenter some sort of normal life, it is good to be able to worship together. I was planning to go to see our granddaughter and her children in North Carolina but mother nature again saw fit to rain during this time, so the plans were changed again. God does have a sense of humor. Let's enjoy life and the seasons he gives us. May you be blessed with all God offers you.

***Pastor Terry***

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*Please Pray for  
the following people*



- |                                  |                       |                |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Sue Dixon                        | Ethel Davis           | Mary Holobaugh |
| Greg Freed                       | Laura Lynskey         | Jane Smith     |
| Virgil Bradford                  | Connie Kaufman        | Bob Fierstos   |
| Richard Walton                   | Olivia Clark (4 yrs.) | Bonnie Epps    |
| Linda Shamell                    | Ronna Eagle           | Harvey Canter  |
| Aileen Hiltner                   | Anthony Knight        | Nancy Hissong  |
| Gail Neighbarger                 | Cindy Fry             | Lydia Lynskey  |
| Mike Morrison                    | Phyllis Riley         | Mike Riley     |
| Mike Coss                        | Wyatt Anderson        | Nathan Frennze |
| Don Mc Laughlin                  | Donald Lee            | Barb Bevard    |
| Andrew Nichols (13 yrs.)         |                       | Josh Bias      |
| Abbie Coogle & the Coogle Family |                       |                |

Lynn & Margaret Fawcett

Cameron Mobley (youth hurt in farm accident)

The Families of Lucille Coss and Walter Martin

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On the third Sunday of each month, we are collecting items for the Utica Food Pantry. Items needed at this time are: Laundry detergent, Dishwashing liquid, Flour, Sugar, and Chicken Noodle Soup (Regular cans Not family size). Other non-perishable items and also monetary donations are also acceptable (making it possible to buy in bulk).

## WELCOME BASKETS



We are collecting items to put in a basket to give to new families in our community. Items needed are: Liquid hand soap, Kleenex tissues (small box), Dish towels, Sponges, Small notebooks, Windex & Lysol wipes, Tooth brushes & toothpaste, and Hard candy (small bag). Monetary donations are also accepted.

Please see Diana Cherry for more information. A basket is in the narthex for donations of items.

## Operation Christmas Child

We are joining others in the mission of Operation Christmas Child. Now more than ever, children need hope! We want to let them know that God loves them and has not forgotten them!

During the month of October and first part of November, please either pack a shoebox yourself or bring items to the church that can be put in a shoebox. Items needed are; Ivory soap bars, small stuffed animal/doll, toy cars, toothbrushes, socks, sunglasses, flip flops, pens, pencils, markers, crayons, sharpeners, flashlights w/batteries, play jewelry, watches, small foam soccer and footballs, jump ropes & yo-yos, combs brushes, washcloths, notebooks/paper, coloring books, and calculators. In packing a shoebox, start with a quality “wow” item such as a stuffed animal or clothing outfit that will capture the child’s attention. A \$ 9.00 donation per shoebox is critical to cover shipping and other ministry expenses. So, monetary donation will also be accepted.

Please bring to church by November 15. Grace Pointe will be accepting the shoeboxes the week of November 16-23. See times on bulletin board in narthex.



The Presbyterian Women met on Monday, September 14 with six members present. Bonnie Ramseyer opened the meeting by lighting the Christ candle and Cara Morrison had the devotions for the evening.

We reviewed what has been done since our last meeting and discussed some items for the rest of this year. We will be taking up our Thank offering during worship on November 22 so don’t forget your little red stockings. We will participate in the Utica Christmas Walk on December 2 if they have it. We will have our annual Christmas Party on December 14 and are checking on a mission project for it. Our next meeting will be on March 8, 2021.

Barb Young then showed us how to make a tote out of a t-shirt. She learned this a PWPSV meeting. It was stated that at a food pantry, the people coming did not bring bags to put their items in and the pantry ran out of theirs, so one group got together to make these bags out of cloth & not plastic to give the food pantry. If you wish to get the pattern, see Barb.

Following our tote making, we enjoyed refreshments furnished by Sharon Cashdollar who was unable to attend.





Joint Session/Deacon's Meeting

Sunday, October 11 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday 9-3

October 7, 14, 21, 28



Quilting Bee



Utica Halloween Treat Night  
Thursday, October 29 5:30-7:00 p.m.

We will be passing out treats to the children. We are asking for donations of candy for this project. Please bring to church by October 25.



## A PLANTING PARABLE

Jesus had to explain his Parable of the Sower to the confused disciples.

*Directions: Use the word bank to answer the clues. Then fill in the correct words below to complete Matthew 13:23, NIV.*

**WORD BANK:** sow, soil, wither, root, thorn, crop, seed, farmer

1. Plant part that absorbs water . . . . .
2. Contains what's needed to grow a plant . . . . .
3. To plant . . . . .
4. Sharp part of a plant . . . . .
5. What is harvested . . . . .
6. To dry up and shrivel . . . . .
7. Person who plants . . . . .
8. The earth a plant grows in . . . . .

“But the     <sup>2</sup> falling on good     <sup>8</sup> refers to someone who hears the word and understands it.

This is the one who produces a     <sup>5</sup>, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was     <sup>3</sup> n.”

M A T T H E W 1 3 : 2 3 , N I V

Answer: root, seed, sower, thorn, crop, wither, farmer, soil, seed, soil, crop, sower



