

22 November 09

Thanksgiving Celebration

Following the God
made known in the life
and teachings of Jesus...

*Let the rain come and wash away
The ancient grudges,
the bitter hatreds
held and nurtured
over generations.*

*Let the rain wash away the memory
of the hurt, the neglect.
Then let the sun come out and
fill the sky with rainbows.
Let the warmth of the sun heal us
wherever we are broken.
Let it burn away the fog so that
we can see beyond labels,
beyond accents,
gender or skin color.
Let the warmth and brightness
of the sun melt our selfishness.
So that we can share the joys and
feel the sorrows of our neighbors.
And let the light of the sun
be so strong that we will see all
people as our neighbors.*

*Let the Earth,
nourished by the rain,
bring forth flowers
to surround us with beauty.
And let the mountains
teach our hearts
to reach upward to heaven.*

Rabbi Harold S. Kushner



Welcome and Announcements

Ringing the Bells and Prelude

*Call to Worship

Of small beginnings
great things have been produced by God's hand...
and as one small candle
may light a thousand,
so the light there kindled
hath shone to many,
yea, in some sort
to our whole nation.
Let the glorious name of Yahweh have all the praise!

Gov. William Bradford
<http://puritansermons.com>

*Hymn 422

"Come, O Thankful People" tune: St. George's Windsor
words: Alford, et al

**Come, O thankful people, come;
Raise the song of harvest home.
All is safely gathered in,
As the winter storms begin.
God, our maker, does provide
For our wants to be supplied.
Come to God's own temple, come,
Raise the song of harvest home.**

**All the blessings of the field,
all the stores the gardens yield,
all the fruits in full supply,
ripened 'neath the summer sky,
All that spring with bounteous hand
scatters o'er the smiling land,
all that liberal autumn pours
from its rich o'er flowing stores.**

**These to you, our God, we owe,
source from whom all blessings flow;
and for these our songs we raise,
grateful vows and solemn praise.
Come, then, thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.**

Sacred Text

Matthew 6:25-33

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life,
what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear.
Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?
Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns,
and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?
And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?
And why do you worry about clothing?
Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin,
yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.
But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is
thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you--you of little faith
Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?'

Welcome!

A word about diversity:

We strive to be a safe place for all people to worship regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background, sexual orientation or gender identity.

A word about children:

We love children, babies, and teens and we welcome all ages to share worship with us. Professional childcare is available throughout the morning for those who prefer. Activity folders (available in the Narthex) allow children of all ages to respond creatively to worship. A playtime for preschool age children is offered after the Chancel Steps at the 11:00 a.m. service.

A word about special needs:

We offer sign language interpreting at our 11am worship service as requested. Special seating is available as needed. We are happy to provide transportation to worship and special activities. Please let us know how we can help make this worship experience more accessible.

Welcome Center

New to our community? Please stop by the Welcome Center in center of the Narthex (outside the sanctuary) to learn more about our community, our facility, and our programs.



*An asterisk next to a section means that we stand for this part of the service as we are able.

or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Hymn 421

"We Gather Together"

tune: Kremser
words: Baker, Baylor

**We gather together to ask for God's blessing,
To live in community, seeking God's will.
We come now, as sisters and brother's confessing
the sins that divide and the wrong in us still.
All praise to the Spirit, provider, defender.
You offer us freedom, to follow or stray,
Empowering all by the hope you engender.
Grant wisdom and courage to follow your way.**

Historical Text

Edward Winslow, 1621
Governor of Plymouth Colony

Excerpt of a letter in which Winslow describes that first Thanksgiving:
"Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men on fowling, that so we might, after a special manner, rejoice together after we had gathered the fruit of our labors. They four in one day killed as much fowl as, with a little help beside, served the company almost a week. At which time, among other recreations, we exercised our arms, many of the Indians coming among us, and among the rest their greatest king, Massasoit, with some ninety men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted; and they went out and killed five deer, which they brought to the plantation, and bestowed on our governor, and upon the captain and others. And although it be not always so plentiful as it was at this time with us, yet by the goodness of God we are so far from want, that we often wish you partakers of our plenty."

Hymn

"Let All Things Now Living"

tune: Ash Grove
words: Katherine Davis

**Let all things now living, a song of thanksgiving
To God the creator triumphantly raise.
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.**

**We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
With glad adoration a Song let us raise
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, Hosanna and praise!"**

Sacred Text

From the Aquidneck Indian Council, 1997
<http://www.bigorin.org/waabu9.htm>

Great Spirit
I thank you today
I thank you for Mother Earth
I thank you for Grandmother Moon
I thank you for Grandfather Sun
I thank you for the four directions:
the east
the south
the west
the north
I thank you for all my relations:
the winged nation

creeping and crawling nation
the four-legged nation
the green and growing nation
and all things living in the water
Honoring the clans:
the deer
the bear
the wolf
the turtle
the snipe
Great Spirit
I thank you today

Response

"Halleluyan"

Native American, traditional



He - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan; he - le, he - le - lu - yan;



he - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan; he - le, he - le - lu - yan.

* May be sung as a round.

Chancel Steps

Children are invited to come to the Chancel Steps to share a story.

Following the story, young children may choose to go to the nursery (both services) or to Shepherds (11:00am—a play time in the Red Room downstairs).

Anthem 8:30am

"I Run to You"

Haywood, Kelley, Scott, Douglas

Youth Band

*I run from hate, I run from prejudice
 I run from pessimists
 But I run too late
 I run my life, Or is it running me
 Run from my past
 I run too fast, Or too slow it seems
 When lies become the truth
 That's when I run to you*

*I run to you baby
 And when it all starts coming undone
 Baby you're the only one I run to
 I run to you*

*We run on fumes
 Your life and mine
 Like the sands of time
 Slippin' right on through
 And our love's the only truth
 That's why I run to you*

Chorus

*This world keeps spinning faster
 Into a new disaster so I run to you*

11:00am

"Psalm of Thanksgiving"
Chancel Choir

Native American/
Arr. Carlton Young

Sermon

Strange Relations

Katherine Hawker

*Hymn 419

"Now Thank We All Our God"

tune: Nun Danket
words: Martin Rinkart

**Now thank we all our God—with heart and hands and voices,
 Who wondrous things has done—in whom this world rejoices;
 Who from our parents' arms—has blessed us on our way
 With countless gifts of love—and still is ours today.**

**O may this bounteous God—through all our life be near us,
 With ever joyful hearts—and blessed peace to cheer us;
 And keep us still in grace—and guide us when perplexed;
 And free us from all ills—in this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God—our Maker now be given;
 To Christ, and Spirit too—our help in highest heaven.
 The one eternal God—whom earth and heaven adore;
 For thus it was, is now—and shall be evermore.**

Where did the Pilgrims get their name?

These Puritan Separatists were pictured as pilgrims by William Bradford as he described their departure from Leiden in 1620. He quotes from Hebrews 11:13

"...that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth..."

In 1669 writers speaking of the Mayflower Company coined the term, the "Pilgrim Fathers". Thus is the evolution of referring to the Separatists as "Pilgrims".

<http://www.onlynewengland.com/>

We venerate

the Three Treasures

And give thanks for this meal,

The work of many beings

And the offering

of other forms of life.

Traditional Buddhist Prayer

So while I think of it,

let me paint a thank-you

on my palm

for this God,

this laughter of the morning,

lest it go unspoken.

From *Welcome Morning*
by Anne Sexton



In our Prayers



Joys and Concerns

Believing that each joy and/or concern expressed is indeed a prayer, After each expression, the worship leader will say: Lord in your Mercy. And the people may respond: Hear our prayer.

Our Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, above us and all around us,
May your unspeakable Name be revered.**

**Here to earth, may your kingdom come.
Here on earth, may your will be done as it is in heaven.**

**Give us today our bread for today.
And forgive us our wrongs
as we forgive those who wrong us.**

**Lead us away from the time of trial.
But liberate us from the evil.**

**For the kingdom is yours and yours alone,
And the power is yours and yours alone,
And the glory is yours and yours alone. Amen.**

Brian McLaren, <http://www.brianmclaren.net>

Moment for Mission

Table Fellowship

Invitation

Remembrance and Blessing

**Come, Holy Spirit, come.
Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine.
Bless all of us in our eating and drinking
that our eyes might be opened,
that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst
indeed, in one another. Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

The Congregation is invited to come forward by the center aisle... partaking of the bread and cup. We are also invited to respond to God's goodness as we place an offering in the plates beside the table, and/or light a prayer candle. After returning to the pews, please take a moment to sign the ritual of friendship pads.

Communion Hymn

Thank You, Lord

(United Methodist Hymnal no. 84)



WORDS and MUSIC: Trad.

THANK YOU, LORD
Irr.

Published by The General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church.
PO Box 340003, Nashville TN 37203-0003. Website <http://www.umeworship.org>.

Sharing our Gifts

During our Procession to the Table (8:30am) and Celebration of Giving (11:00am), we are invited to consider our offerings. The easiest way to make a financial offering is to drop check or money, marked clearly for EUCC or for special offerings, in the basket during worship. You can also set up electronic giving, which saves paper—and you never need your checkbook. Please contact the church office for more information.

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Prayer of Dedication

We are now ere long to part asunder,
and the Lord knoweth whether I shall live ever to see your faces more.
But whether the Lord hath appointed it or not,
I charge you before God and His blessed angels
to follow me no farther than I have followed Christ.
If God should reveal anything to you by any other instrument of His,
be as ready to receive it as ever you were to receive any truth of my ministry;
for I am very confident the Lord hath more truth and light
yet to break forth out of His holy word.

John Robinson, Pastor
spoken to the Pilgrims on the eve of their departure on the Mayflower

***Hymn 594** "How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies" tune: Materna
words: v. 1 K. Bates, v. 2-3 M.T. Winter

**How beautiful, our spacious skies, our amber waves of grain;
Our purple mountains as they rise above the fruitful plain
America! America! God's gracious gifts abound.
And more and more we're grateful for life's beauty all around.**

**Indigenous and immigrant, our daughters and our sons
O may we never rest content till are all truly one
America! America! God grant that we may be
A sisterhood and brotherhood from sea to shining sea.**

**How beautiful, all continents, and islands in the sea
That dream of peace, nonviolence, all people living free.
America! America! God grant that we may be
A global sphere where people here all live in harmony.**

***Blessing**

***Postlude**



A 'Thank You' from the Follow-up Committee...

You are doing what you promised - THANK YOU!! You made those pledges to spruce up our building and 95% of you are fulfilling those promises! We have now collected over \$165,000 and, of course, that number continues to change. The Building Committee is hard at work to come up with the best plan for the use of your generosity and we will hear a report from them during the stewardship reflection between services November 8. In the meantime, thanks again for your faithfulness. If you have any questions in regard to your pledge, please do not hesitate to contact Norma Leuthauser (314-821-1731) or Jill Thompson (314-367-8224) of the Follow-Up Committee.

Fill in the blanks..

There are several ministry Opportunities available on the round table in the Narthex. Opening available in...

Coffee Hour
Welcome Table
Liturgists
Shepherd Room

Please take a minute to check them out. There is something for everyone!!



Who Are We . . . in the UCC?

Previously, we outlined the formation of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, which was the union of the German Reformed Church and Evangelical Synod. The Reformed were originally 18th century Swiss and German Reformed immigrants, while the Evangelicals combined Lutheran and Reformed elements for 19th century German immigrants. Now, we'll continue the story of the history of the UCC.

Congregational Churches, a third strand of our history, followed Calvinist, English Reformation (Puritan), and Congregational beliefs. Opposition to state control of their religious worship prompted followers of the Congregational form to emigrate to America, where they colonized New England during the 17th century. Not until the 19th century were Congregationalists self-consciously a denomination, rather than a collection of local churches, and since then they have made strong contributions to the religious, civil, educational and secular dimensions of American culture.

A fourth denomination, the Christian Churches, had its start in 1794 when in Virginia the O'Kelly "Christian" group was formed. The Christian Churches emphasized Christ as the only head of the church, the New Testament as their only rule of faith, and "Christian" as their sole name. This loosely organized denomination eventually found in the Congregational Churches a similar disposition.

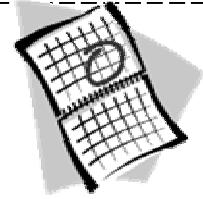
In 1931, these two denominations – Congregational Churches and the Christian Church – joined, stressing congregational freedom and a continuing reformation. They formed the Congregational Christian Churches, bringing together 100,000 "Christians" and 700,000 Congregationalists.

In 1957, the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the Congregational Christian Churches came together and joined what had at one time been four denominations to become the United Church of Christ. Because our congregation had been members of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, when we became a UCC church we blended the names to become EUCC. The UCC joined 348,000 Reformed, 281,000 Evangelicals, about 100,000 "Christians," and about 1,500,000 Congregationalists, for a total UCC membership of 2,193,000.

The UCC is both united and uniting. Having once been several church bodies, the UCC is now united as one. The UCC is uniting in its goal to be joined together in one church on earth with all who share allegiance with Christ. Our motto is "That All May Be One."

Watch for the mission, values, and goals of Evangelical United Church of Christ.

Don't miss out! It's time to mark your calendar for all of EUCC's festive Advent Activities...



Sunday, December 6th 9:30am...*Mission Advent Fair*

Your opportunity to get away from the madding crowds while supporting the mission work of Plowsharing Crafts, Shining Rivers School, Eden Seminary and others.

Sunday, December 13th 9:30am... *Artists' Advent Fair*

Another non-hassle browsing opportunity while enjoying the works of local artists and craft-folks such as Judy Guerrero and Gloria Wells. Of course, cookies and treats will be available at both of our Advent Fairs.

Sunday, December 13th 12:30pm... *Annual Christmas Caroling Event*

ALL voices are invited to join Donita Bauer and Jill Thompson after worship as we visit the homebound members and friends of our congregation.

Sunday, December 13th 2:00pm...*Lydia's Christmas at Jerry and Fran LaMonts'*

The Servant Team is delighted to announce that EUCC members Jerry and Fran LaMont are offering a unique and fun outreach opportunity which will benefit Lydia's House, an agency which provides long-term housing and social services to abused women and their children. On Sunday, December 13, from 2 to 4 p.m., the LaMonts will hold an open house at their home for our church family to enjoy viewing their amazing display of some 50 Christmas trees. "Admission" to this special event is a Christmas gift for a Lydia's House resident. The Servant Team suggests you consider donating items that would be appreciated by a woman who has been going through difficult times, such as nice toiletries with which she would not otherwise pamper herself. Of course cash contributions to Lydia's House are always appreciated too. The LaMonts address is 9139 Garber Road, Crestwood 63126.

Sunday, December 20th 3:30pm...*Carols and Cookies!!!*

Join us for an afternoon of singing Christmas carols around the piano. We will enjoy some holiday cookies and good fellowship together. If you like, bring some of your favorite cookies to share with the group. This is for fun - all are welcome! If you have questions, please contact Julianne Smutz, 314-752-9105 or jsmutz@sbcglobal.net

Spectrum Music Series TODAY!!!

Spectrum Music Series presents Hanser-McClellan Guitar Duo featuring the music of Scarlatti, Bellinati and Portnoy.

The program takes place at EUCC November 22nd, 2:00 pm, a reception will follow. Tickets are \$10 for adults, children and students are free.

For more information please contact Paul Huppert-314.913.5579



Boughs, Bows and Brunch

Saturday, November 28th 10:30am

It's time for our annual Hanging of the Greens.

We will gather Saturday, November 8th for a little fellowship and fun while we deck the halls!! Please bring a breakfast or brunch item to share or simply come by and lend a hand. For more information contact Don Schindel at 314-920-8506.



EUCC Moms' Group to meet December 3rd at 9:30am

Calling all Moms wondering how to navigate through the holiday season. Join Dee Ban and other Moms in the Fireside Room on Thursday morning, December 3rd, to share ideas to calm the season. Coffee and goodies will be provided.

Neighborhood Houses Annual Christmas Pilgrimage...

Please mark your calendars to join St. Louis Association Women United Church of Christ at the annual Christmas Pilgrimage at Neighborhood Houses on Friday, December 4. This fun and festive event will take place at Caroline Mission 9:00 a.m.– 1:30 p.m. Event includes a tour, lunch and closing worship. For further details, contact Marge Engelsdorfer at (636) 225-3128

November Special Offering (last chance!)

Is this church one of the things you are thankful for this year? Can you help with an extra donation? The mission moment for this Sunday, November 22, is the Thanksgiving Fund at EUCC. This is an opportunity to give the money you might usually save for a mission moment to the general fund at EUCC, in an effort to fulfill our budget commitments for calendar year 2009.

Please mark Thanksgiving Fund on your check or giving envelope. Thank you!

The Servant Team needs YOU!

The Advent Fair is coming to our very own Fellowship Hall on December 6 and December 13. Do you like to bake cookies? Do you make brownies, bars, or other sweet treats? Do you like to feed crowds of hungry church-goers? Would you sell great items for Plow-sharing Crafts? Can you make change, with or without a calculator, for artists selling their wares? We need bakers, table-watchers, and folks to bring the congregation down the ramp to the sale. Please consider helping and watch the narthex for a sign-up sheet. Thanks!

Union Avenue Opera presents...

MENOTTI: AM AHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS

Friday and Saturday December 11th
and 12th at 8:00pm

&

Sunday, December 13th at 3:00pm
733 Union Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63108
314-361-2881

The St. Louis County Community Chorus presents...

Songs of Peace and Joy

Thursday, December 10th
8:00pm

Kirk of the Hills Presbyterian Church
12928 Ladue Road, Ladue, MO

&

Friday, December 11th
Keating Center-Kirkwood High School
901 West Essex, Kirkwood, MO

Under the direction of Merry Keller
Tickets: \$10 in advance at Metrotix
(314-534-1111) or \$12 at door

THIS WEEK AT EUCC

Sunday, November 22nd

8:30am—Worship

9:45am—Bible Workbench (Last class until Sunday, January 10th)

9:45-10:45—Intergenerational Thanksgiving Event

9:45am—Wellness Initiative Mtg (Sanctuary)

11:00am—Worship

4:00pm—Youth in Service

Monday, November 23rd

12:15pm—Staff Meeting (Katy's Office)

Tuesday, November 24th

12:15pm—Al-Anon Meeting (Adult Lounge)

7:00pm—Orchard House Bible Study (Orchard House)

7:00pm—Phase 1 Building Committee Meeting (Adult Lounge)

Wednesday, November 25th

6:30pm—Children's Choir

7:00pm—Coffee House Practice (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, November 26th

Have a blessed Thanksgiving Day!

Friday, November 27th

9:00am—WG Moms' Connections (Red Room/Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, November 28th

9:00am—Yoga (Narthex)



Youth in Service Circle meets TODAY at 4:00pm!!

We will be making goodies with Darcy Swanson and Carolyn Held.

Sunday Morning

Shared Ministry Opportunities — Signups are in the Narthex

Ministry		Today	Next Week
Liturgists	Read the Morning Scripture and Prayers	Lucy Allen (8:30) Cheryl Palmer (11:00)	Lucy Allen (8:30)
Shepherds	Help Carolyn play with our preschoolers	Joe Kelly	Phil and Kate Barbier
Crib Room Assistants	Help Carole play with our babies (two shifts)	Sandy Bowe	TBD
Ushers	Greet worshipers and (at 11:00am) collect offering	Bob and Bobbie Pahmeier Karen Acker Phil Barbier Stacey Morris Wynn Miller	Joli Baker Sean Bryant Paul Detrick Bob Risk Ray Mulligan Earl Brown
Coffee Hour	Provide finger foods and greet community between services	Janet Rundquist and Cheryl Palmer	OPEN-
Money Counters	Count the weekly offerings and enter into database	Nick Gilham and Jeremy Meyer	Don Hubatka Jeanne Smith
Welcome Table	Greet visitors and members	Marilyn Stavenger	Marilyn Stavenger

Pastoral Team
Katherine Hawker,
Marilyn Stavenger, Al Schon

Pastoral Assistant, Sue Schindel

Music Team
Donita Bauer,
Jill Thompson, Darcy Swanson

Field Ed Student, Deborah McBride

Parish Nurse, Lisa Von Stamwitz

Sunday AM, Carolyn Held

Nursery, Carole Janssen

Campus Minister at Webster, Laurel Hayes

President, Laura Bardelmeier

Secretariat, Paul Mack

Financial, Ken Ulmer

Facilities, Wynn Miller

People, Debbie Gregg

Community, Patty Pelikan, Janet Rundquist

Servant, Lori Winter, Laura Evans

Learning, Ruth Panhorst

Worship, Lil Lau

Endeavoring to maintain the unity of the Holy Spirit in the bond of peace, we are open to and affirming of each child of God, recognizing that we are called to be as one reconciled Body with members of every race, gender identity, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, class, age and physical or mental health and ability.

Evangelical United Church of Christ
204 E. Lockwood Webster Groves, MO 63119
314-968-1727

