



Experiencing  
Joy in  
Generosity

*....Rejoice in the Lord always;  
again, I will say, Rejoice.*

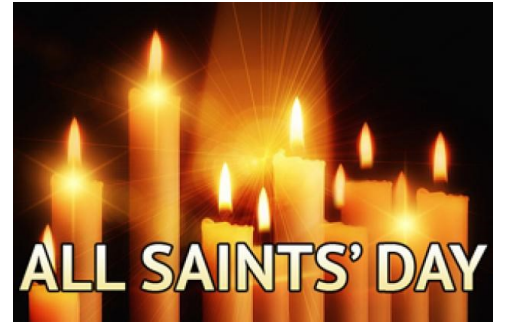
*Philippians 4:4 (NRSV)*

**Vision Statement:**

To **Be** a faith community that **Loves** God and all creation, **Grows** in the knowledge of God and **Serves** actively because of our faith in God.  
If not us, then WHO?

## Honoring the Saints - November 5th During Worship

Historically, the Church has confessed a belief in the "communion of the saints," which includes not only all living believers, but also all who have gone before us. When we celebrate Holy Communion, we experience the communion of saints, feasting with believers past, present and future. The author of Hebrews 12 reminds us that these saints, a "great cloud of witnesses," surrounds us and cheers us on. On All Saints Day, United Methodists publicly remember and honor those who have passed away. Celebrated on the first Sunday in November, many congregations light candles, ring bells of remembrance, and call the names of those lost in the previous year as a way of honoring the impact their lives have had on us. Please bring a picture of your loved ones who passed away during the last year to be placed on the Remembrance table as part of our honoring "those who have gone before us" with a special prayer.



*Experiencing  
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A series on our giving, emphasizing God's blessings and generosity to us.  
Several of our Friendship friends in faith will share their stories.  
Plan to attend!

*November 5: The Joy in Managing God's Blessings  
November 12: The Joy in Sharing God's Blessings  
Week 19: The Joy in Thanksgiving for God's Blessings*

*....Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice! Philippians 4:4 (NRSV)*

## Thanksgiving Celebration-Friendship Style Sunday, November 22 10:00am~Worship | 1:30am~Celebration Lunch



Plan to attend this special service and stay for the delicious meal after! Reservation forms will be available in the November 5th worship bulletin as well as on the information station.

Please return your completed form to the office by November 12th so we can be sure to have enough eats and seats for everyone!

## Reflections from Pastor Anna Shin

*“Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, ...”* (Hebrews 10:24-25, NRSV)

The writer of Hebrews encourages the followers of Christ to provoke one another to love and good deeds. I somehow understood the word ‘provoke’ as something negative as a way of defense or “an attempted excuse for violence”, saying, “He provoked me!”

But the early Christians knew to be faithful what we need is to be in community where good people of faith provoke one another to love, encourage with their words, thoughts, and actions. Otherwise our world can be quickly filled with provoking the worst out of us.

The word of Pope Francis delivered at one of the TED talks has reminded me of my call to be a Christian leader: “To Christians, the future does have a name, and its name is Hope.” I have realized more and more that giving hope, showing hope, holding fast to hope so that becoming hope in life together should be my main theme for life.

This month we begin a stewardship focus on *Experiencing Joy in Generosity*. We will offer a daily devotional for three weeks, starting October 30 through November 17. I believe most of you have experienced the real joy in life can be found in generosity, and generosity begins when we become aware that all that we have are not our own earnings but are given as gifts from God.

Have you ever wondered why you are left with such a joyful feeling when you are able to give a gift to your church or to help a person in need? The answer to that question may be rooted in us as Christians who are being created in the image of God. To be made in God’s image means we are made to be like our Creator whose nature is to give.

Giving helps us feel fulfilled as we reflect God’s nature. Although the image of God was broken and wounded by sin, as those converted by faith in Jesus, we “*have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator*” (Colossians 3:10). Our Creator empowers us to restore whom we are created to be. And with this attitude of joyful giving, others find hope through us as we become witnesses and instruments of God’s faithful love.

Like David, we exclaim, “*But who [are we]...that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you*” (1 Chronicles 29:14).

Come and join us in worship. I hope our message and sharing faith from your friends in faith will be a blessing to you and your family!

Excited in God’s grace,

*Anna Shin*



# Children and Family News



## November 2017

**November 5, 12, 26 - 10am**  
Sunday School

**November 1 - No Choirs**

**November 8, 15, 29 - 6:30pm**  
Alleluia/Choralier Choirs

**November 19 - No Sunday  
School**



## Sunday School - Sundays at 10:00am

Join us each week during the month of November as we learn about wise King Solomon.

Remember: no Sunday School on November 19. Children will attend worship with their families and enjoy the celebration dinner!

Bring your friends!  
Don't miss the fun!



## There's still time to join the choir!

*The Choralier Choir for children  
ages 4 years old-5<sup>th</sup> grade  
And*

*The Alleluia Choir for youth in grades 6 and up*

The combined choirs rehearse  
Wednesday evenings, 6:30 - 7:15 p.m.

November 8-December 6  
(No rehearsal on 11/11 or 11/22)

The choirs will sing in the church services  
Sunday, November 19 (Thanksgiving worship service)  
Sunday, December 10 (Advent worship service)  
December 24, 5:00 p.m. (Christmas Eve service)

We hope every child and youth will join us and sing in one of these two choirs for Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas! We need a chorus of strong children's voices to Sing to the Lord!

## Friendship Café

The Friendship Café  
is now open!

Wednesday evenings  
November 1 – December 13  
6:00 – 7:45 p.m.  
(No Café on 11/22)

Each Wednesday night meal with consist of the main course with chips, salad or veggies, beverages and desserts!

There is no cost so come join us and bring the family!



# Youth Happenings

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**November 4, 18** - The Foundry 7pm

**November 11** - Leaf Raking Fundraiser

**November 12** - Parent/Adult Participant Meeting for Mission Trip

**November 25** - No Foundry - Thanksgiving weekend

### Middle School Sunday School- Sundays @10am

Youth in grades 6-8 are invited to join us as we listen in on Jesus' calling of his disciples and the parables he taught his followers.

No Sunday School on November 19 - youth are encouraged to attend service and the celebration dinner following.

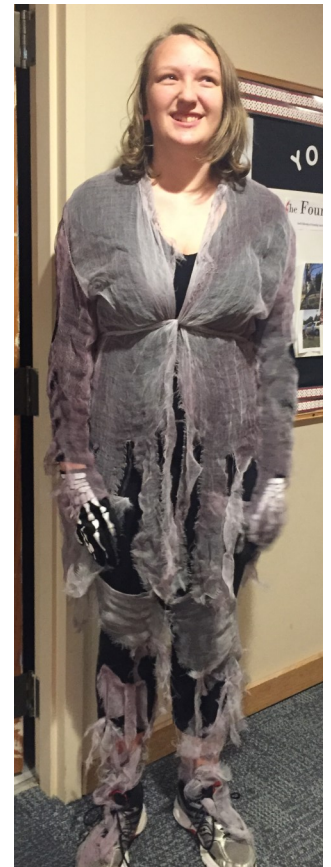
### The Foundry Youth Group Meeting

#### Saturdays, 7-9pm

Youth ages 6th-12th grade are invited for a time of worship, devotions and of course, youth group games! The praise band "Band of Bread" will rehearse from 6:30 to the start of the evening at 7pm.

Contact Miss Melissa [mell0cell0@aol.com](mailto:mell0cell0@aol.com) or Mr. Tom [thomas.d.marsh@gmail.com](mailto:thomas.d.marsh@gmail.com) for more information.

Thanks to the youth for your generous contribution of your time to help make the Glow in the Dark Party a huge success!



### **Women in Mission become United!**

On October 20, a group of twenty-five women of Friendship Church came together to hear the life stories of four of our sisters in faith. Their journeys to Christ brought them from four different countries to America and each woman had a moving and inspirational story to tell. From Nigeria, India, the Philippine Islands and Sierra Leone, each one of these dedicated women showed strength and perseverance through their love of Christ and a desire to lead a better life for themselves and their children. Yetunde Olatunde told of her large United Methodist congregation in Nigeria whose women unite in groups called "societies" which raise funds for the betterment of their church and community. Yetunde's group formed a health clinic which serves not only her congregation but her community. A fourth generation United Methodist Indian woman, Irene Christian shared her story of her relatives who became Methodists after missionaries came to India to preach the love of Jesus. So influential was the faith of her forefathers, that today Irene is studying to become a local United Methodist pastor. Our third story came from Mila Valdez who shared her story of being raised Catholic and finding both the love of Jesus and the love of her husband Boyet as they worked together side by side to raise awareness of the plight of tenant farmers in their homeland. Becoming United Methodists, they emigrated to the US and found their home in Bolingbrook and at Friendship Church. Finally, we heard the story from Mariatu Nettey who was raised a Muslim yet learned the love of Jesus Christ by "following her neighbors to church." During civil war in her homeland of Sierra Leone, Mariatu had to leave all that was familiar, including her father and mother and flee to America with her small child. Only her faith that God had a plan for her kept her going forward toward the life she leads today. We are so grateful for these strong women who shared their life stories as witnesses of what the love of Jesus can do!

At our meeting, our group discussed the mission and focus of United Methodist Women of the United Methodist Church. After careful consideration, it was unanimously decided that our Friendship Women in Mission would become a chapter of United Methodist Women. With the focus on women's issues and supporting youth, we are looking forward to working together in mission to achieve these goals. We invite all women of Friendship Church to join us!



## Glow in the Dark/Trunk or Treat Party!

Trunk or Treaters don't care if it is cold outside! They just love the decorated spooky, scary car trunks and of course, the candy they collect in their treat bags!

The Glow in the Dark and Trunk or Treat party held on Saturday, October 28 was a huge success! Children and the adults they brought with them all had a great time. There was bingo, a photo booth, face painting, lots of games, cute craft projects, food, the infamous haunted tunnel, prizes, a bonfire and hot chocolate!

*Many thanks to all the adults and youth who made the ghosts and goblins come alive that night! Melissa Schoonover, Tom Marsh, Greg and Amy Hanna, Wendla and Mike Pidgeon, Barb Collins, Carolyn and Harry Larsen, Sandy Kozlowski, Justyna Ledwon, Loren and Carolyn Weber, Roger and Jane Pierce, Chris Bosacki, Amber Pidgeon, the Boy Scouts, our own youth group, Pat Prins, Keith Deatrick and everyone who decorated their car trunk!*

Overheard was one of our church members saying it is his favorite thing we do at Friendship Church! Lots of food, fellowship and just plain fun! Stay tuned for next year's party date!



## Stewardship and Financial Update

The Stewardship team is pleased to report that our members have shown strong support for the ministries of Friendship Church. The Church Council approved a budget that projected a total of \$242,000 in giving from our members. Through September 30<sup>th</sup>, our members have given a total of \$183,715 which is 76% of our annual goal. There is normally a drop off in giving in the summer but this year there was very little change. We are so grateful for your conscientious and faithful support of Friendship Church.

Our Financial Secretary, Carol Fetters, recently sent out financial statements. If you turned in a pledge card last year, the statement shows your progress towards your annual pledge. To be "on target" you should be at 75% of the annual total. If you have fallen behind and can catch up by the end of the year, it will help us fully support our ministries. If you did not turn in a pledge card the report shows how much you have given to date. Please give prayerful consideration to what God is calling you to do to show your appreciation for the many blessings in your life.

The annual Stewardship campaign will kick off on October 29<sup>th</sup> with the theme, "Experiencing Joy in Generosity." You will hear testimonials in the worship services and you will receive daily devotional emails that will guide you in your decision of how you will support Friendship Church in 2018 with your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness. On Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> we will have our annual Thanksgiving dinner celebration.

Thank you all for your faithful support of our ministries. We are so grateful for your generosity.

The Stewardship Team



## Sacred

The Christmas season is a time when the juxtaposition of the sacred and secular feel sometimes blatantly opposed, and sometimes quite blurred. The word "sacred" points to something dedicated as "holy" and "set apart". This year, we invite you to a spiritual journey of seeing all things pregnant with the possibility of the holy. What could your Advent and Christmas season experience be like if you lived it looking through the kaleidoscope of the sacred?

- \* December 3 - Sacred Time
- \* December 10 - Sacred People
- \* December 24 at 10am - Sacred Space
- \* December 24 at 5 & 10pm - Sacred Being



## Holiday Gift Drive 2017

Join ChildServ for their holiday gift drive. There are several ways to help:

- \* Sponsor a Child
- \* Donate a Toy
- \* Host a Toy Party
- \* Make a Monetary Gift
- \* Volunteer.

Toy collection runs from December 1-10.

Visit their website at [ChildServ.org](http://ChildServ.org) for more information.





## First Friends Preschool

The preschool has been abuzz this month getting ready for Halloween! We've been working on puzzles, carving pumpkins, and ended the month with a fun party complete with costumes and treats! Thanks to all who supported our two fundraisers!



## Friendship Community

### Prayer Chain:

Please email your requests to [prayerrequests@friendshipchurchmc.org](mailto:prayerrequests@friendshipchurchmc.org). If you don't use email please call the church office and the request will be forwarded. If you do not have access to a computer and wish to join the prayer chain, please advise the church office or see Kathryn Bulman, prayer chain coordinator. Please be mindful that even though prayer requests may be common knowledge, it is our responsibility to maintain confidentiality.



### Celebration offerings

The tradition of the Celebration Offering came to us from our African Fellowship.

On the first Sunday of each month as we celebrate God's abundant gifts on our lives, a special offering is taken in addition to the general offering.

It's a chance to celebrate the blessings God has bestowed upon our lives. Look for the special offering envelope in the bulletin. There is a place to mark if you would like to share your story with the congregation during a Sunday worship.

We have received 4 envelopes for a total of, \$56.20. They are for the celebration of the confirmands of 2017; giving glory to God for our sons' birthdays; my sister and brother-in-law's 52<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary.

May God continue to bless you richly as your compassionate heart grows daily!

Blessings,

Pastor Anna

### DAYBREAK

Serving at *Daybreak* is a long standing tradition at Friendship. On the third Friday (and following Saturday morning) we donate food, cook and serve two meals. Watch inserts in 2nd Sunday bulletins for details on how to donate and get involved in serving at the shelter.

*Dinner on Friday, November 17 @ 5:30 pm*

*Breakfast on Saturday, November 18 @ 5:00 am*

Richard Guzman, Coordinator

### SENIOR BIBLE STUDY & LUNCHEON

Is open to all senior adults. It meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:15am. The study is led by Pastor Anna and is followed by a delicious luncheon. If you would like to attend, contact the church office at 630-972-1011.

*Study & Lunch: Thursday, November 16th at 11:15am*

### AA & GA

Friendship is a place of help and hope for those struggling with addictions. Meetings are open to all.

**AA Meetings:** Saturdays @ 9am & Sunday @ 5pm

**GA Meetings:** Fridays @ 7:30 pm

### ANXIETY/PANIC ATTACK SUPPORT GROUP

Meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month from 7—9pm. Open to all.

### DONATIONS FOR LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES:

**7th Day Adventist Pantry**

**POWER Connection**

**West Suburban Community Pantry**

1st Sunday of every month

### FIRST FRIENDS CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL MONDAY-FRIDAY

9:00am-12:00pm

Contact Chris Bosacki, Director,  
for more information.

[chrisbosacki@firstfriendspreschool.info](mailto:chrisbosacki@firstfriendspreschool.info)

# November 2017 ~ Friendship Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<p><b>1</b> 10:15am Ladies' Christian Study</p> <p>6pm Friendship Café 6:30pm Boy Scouts, Bell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<b>2</b>	<p><b>3</b> 10am BPC Ministry</p> <p>6:30pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>4</b> 9am AA</p> <p>7pm The Foundry</p>
<p><b>5</b> 9:15am Prayer in the Chapel 10am Worship &amp; Sunday School 11:15am Youth Bells 11:15am Following Jesus</p> <p>5pm AA</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>5:30pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>7</b> 10am BPC Ministry</p>	<p><b>8</b> 10:15am Ladies' Christian Study</p> <p>6pm Friendship Café 6:30pm Boy Scouts, Children's Choirs, Bell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>7pm Anxiety Support</p>	<p><b>10</b> No Preschool 10am BPC Ministry</p>	<p><b>11</b> Veterans' Day 9am AA</p>
<p><b>12</b> 9:15am Prayer in the Chapel 10am Worship &amp; Sunday School 11:15am Youth Bells 11:15am Following Jesus</p> <p>5pm AA</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>5:30pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>14</b> 10am BPC Ministry 10:30am Worship Planning Meeting</p> <p>6pm Girl Scout Leaders 7pm Church Council</p>	<p><b>15</b> 10:15am Ladies' Christian Study</p> <p>6pm Friendship Café 6:30pm Boy Scouts, Children's Choirs, Bell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p><b>16</b> 11:15am Sr. Lunch and Bible Study</p>	<p><b>17</b> 10am BPC Ministry</p> <p>6:30pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>18</b> 9am AA</p> <p>7pm The Foundry</p>
<p><b>19</b> 9:15am Prayer in the Chapel 10am Worship 11:15am Thanksgiving Celebration Dinner</p> <p>5pm AA</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>5:30pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>21</b> 10am BPC Ministry</p>	<p><b>22</b> No Preschool Office Closed at Noon</p>	<p><b>23</b> Thanksgiving Day Office/Building Closed</p>	<p><b>24</b> Office Closed</p>	<p><b>25</b> 9am AA</p>
<p><b>26</b> 9:15am Prayer in the Chapel 10am Worship &amp; Sunday School 11:15am Youth Bells 11:15am Following Jesus</p> <p>5pm AA</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>5:30pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>28</b> 10am BPC Ministry</p>	<p><b>29</b> 10:15am Ladies' Christian Study</p> <p>6pm Friendship Café 6:30pm Boy Scouts, Children's Choirs, Bell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>		