



# WBPC Messenger

The Small Church with a BIG Heart!

12/2017

West Berlin Presbyterian Church

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## From the Pulpit...

By Robert J. Gustafson

### 5 Crucial Ways Your Gratitude Impacts Your Attitude

In this season of thankfulness and giving, I would like to share the following adaption of a blog by Carey Nieuwhof (<https://careynieuwhof.com/blog/>) that I found moving. Ever notice the people you're most attracted to tend to be the most grateful? At least that's true for me. Grateful persons make the best friends and leaders. Here are 5 reasons why that's true.

#### **1. Your Overall Gratitude Impacts Your Overall Attitude**

A grateful person tends to attract others. An ungrateful person, well, never does. I find when my gratitude is high, I am just better person. I'm kinder and more compassionate. I'm less resentful and I'm less suspicious. Your overall gratitude impacts your overall attitude. So be grateful.

#### **2. A Grateful Person Sees Opportunities Others Miss**

I believe a grateful attitude is tied to an abundance mentality. I'm a firm believer in abundance thinking. Why? If we have a God who created everything we see out of nothing and who rose after he died, he can accomplish anything—through me, without me and in spite of me. If he uses *me*...wow...that's *amazing!* Being grateful for what you have is tied, in a meaningful way, to thinking abundantly about the future.

Again...why? Well, an ungrateful mind tends to translate what hasn't happened into what can't happen, what won't happen and what will never happen.

A grateful mind thinks about everything that happened, gives thanks, and trust that even greater things can happen, will happen and should happen. A grateful person will almost always find the path to an abundant future. And, for the 'realists' out there, you think feeling grateful won't change anything? Few people said it better than Henry Ford when he said, "Whether you believe you can or whether you believe you can't, you're right."

#### **3. Gratitude Fuels Generosity**

I learned this principle years ago from Andy Stanley. Nothing fuels generosity more than gratitude. Think about it. If someone's given you anything (cash, a gift, their time), nothing makes that person want to give again quite like gratitude. Similarly, if you're thankful for the time you've spent together, they'll want to get together again. If you're not, they won't. Ditto with giving to a church or organization. People who are genuinely grateful for whatever they receive tend to be surrounded by people who want to give more. Ungrateful people are soon surrounded by non-givers or, ultimately, by no one.

#### **4. Teams Gravitates Toward Gratitude**

Your team gravitates toward gratitude. Far too many people despise their work because they feel underappreciated. People should always be paid well—generously in fact. But even money has its limits. Eventually, you can't pay people enough to overcome an ungenerous spirit. I've known people who have taken pay cuts because they would rather work for someone who was grateful than for an ungrateful leader.

#### **5. Gratitude Neutralizes Your Anger and Jealousy**

Grateful people are rarely angry. And angry people are rarely grateful. Ditto with jealous people. Cultivating gratitude will make you far less angry (you'll realize no one owes you anything) and it will make you far less jealous (because you'll realize God has given you what you need). Want to be far less angry and jealous? Stay on your knees long enough to be grateful.



*Pastor Bob*

## Mission and Ministry Activities December 2017

### Women's Society Meeting Annual Silent Auction



The WBP Women's Society Annual Silent Auction will be held on Wednesday, **December 6, 2017, at 6:00 P.M.** in the WBPC Fellowship Hall. Shop for Christmas gifts, decorations, and especially the crafts and goodies made by our congregation. Don't miss the Famous McCreary Cinnamon Rolls and other baked goodies!!!! Bring families, friends, and neighbors to this special annual event. Appetizers and goodies will be served. Please bring items for the auction to the church on Sunday, December 3, 2017.

For more details, please contact Diane Cox, President of Women's Society or Amy Martindale ([martindaleaj@hotmail.com](mailto:martindaleaj@hotmail.com)).

### Alice Cox Class Christmas Dinner

The Alice Cox Class Christmas Dinner is set for **5:30 PM, December 10, 2017**, at All Occasion Catering, 6989 Waldo-Delaware Rd, Waldo, OH 43356.

Please RSVP to Diane Cox or [sultanp446@aol.com](mailto:sultanp446@aol.com).  
Bring a white elephant wrapped gift to exchange.

### Christmas Joy Offering



On Sunday, **December 17<sup>th</sup>** we will be receiving our Christmas Joy Offering in worship. This special offering honors the faithfulness of current and retired church workers in their time of need by providing financial assistance to support them through life's changing circumstances. The offering also helps support racial ethnic education and leadership development for students attending Presbyterian-related colleges – a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years. These actions of generosity bear witness to our faithful response to God's charge to love one another as God has loved us.

You are invited to place your special gift in the offering plate on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Checks can be made out to WBPC with the memo reading: Christmas Joy Offering.

Thank you for your support of this vital ministry.



### WBPC Community Christmas Party

**Join us for our Annual Community Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 19, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.** This year we are having a Christmas Party with music featuring the Olentangy Men's Chorus and a Sing-a-long of Christmas carols in the church sanctuary, a reading of the "Christmas Story", and a visit from the Jolly Old Elf himself! Popcorn balls and candy will be served. Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship!!! Bring your friends and neighbors, kids and grandkids.

### Giving Tree – Turning Point Women's Shelter



You will notice a tree with envelopes attached to the branches. This year we will be doing a "Giving Tree" so that you can make a monetary donation to the Turning Point Women's Shelter for the construction of their facility in Delaware. This organization is being supported by WBPC Women's Society. You may also place envelopes in the Offering Plate during Advent Season Worship.

Turning Point is an organization that serves domestic violence victims and their families and has been in existence for more than 30 years. It serves Crawford, Delaware, Marion, Morrow, Union, and Wyandot Counties. They will soon open a facility in Delaware, Ohio.

See [www.turningpoint6.com](http://www.turningpoint6.com) for more information.

## Mission and Ministry Activities December 2017 (Continued)



### Christmas Eve Service – December 24, 2017 (3:00 PM)

Since Christmas Eve falls on Sunday this year and based on congregational input, Session has decided we will have just one worship service that day. It will be a service of lessons and carols to be held at 3:00 PM. Join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ!!!

### Thank You's Received

We have received a thank you for our contribution to the 2017 CROP Walk of Delaware. Overall, our Delaware Crop Walk raised \$7,119 this year.

Two letters were received from the PC (USA) Presbyterian Mission for our contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing (\$430) and Pentecost Offering (\$85) during this past year.

### Summary of 2017 WBPC Family Promise Donations



Donations given by WBPC for Family Promise this year have been very generous. The following is an itemized list of the items given to help those in need. Special Thanks to Bill Hanning for his effort in making this mission a success!!

**February Donations – Delivered on February 27, 2017:** Computer Paper, 6-reams/ Laundry Soap, 4-containers/Pillow, 1/Bounce, 1 small box

**March Donations – Delivered on March 13, 2017:** Paper Towels – 5 large packages/Garbage Bags – 3 packages/Laundry Soap – 1 container

**April Donations – Delivered on April 23 & 30, 2017:** Paper Towels – 8 large packages/ Garbage Bags – 10 large packages/Laundry Soap – 2 containers/Tooth Brushes – 2 packs of five each

**May Donations – Delivered May 31, 2017:** Tooth Brushes – 16/Deodorant - 53 containers (mixed & Female)/Brushes & Combs – 21 (many combs)/Garbage Bags – 1 package

**June Donations – Delivered June 30, 2017:** Pillows – 7/Dryer Sheets – 13 boxes/House Slippers – 2 pair/Shampoo & Conditioner – 2 (travel size)/Body Wash – 1

**July Donations – Delivered July 31, 2017:** Bath Towels – 26/Kitchen Bags – 2 boxes/Liquid Laundry Soap – 4 jugs /Cleaning Liquids – 7 bottles/Rubber Gloves – 6 packages

**August Donations – Delivered August 31, 2017:** Liquid Laundry Soap – 7 jugs/Cleaning Supply's – Cleaning Liquid – 14 each/Toilet Bowl Cleaner – 2 pkgs. Cakes/Rubber Gloves – 1 pair/Towels – 8 sets/Rubber Gloves – 1 pair/Cleaning Sponges – 3 each/Bucket – 1 each/Dish Brush – 1 each/Dish Soap – 2 each

**September 30, 2017 – Delivered on Oct. 2, 2017:** Laundry Soap – 8 jugs/Bottles of Glass Cleaner – 4 bottles/Toilet Bowl Cleaner – 2 bottles/Cleaning Liquids – 7 bottles/Rubber Gloves – 6 packages

**October 30, 2017 – Delivered on 31, 2017:** Women's Deodorant – 72/Tooth Brushes – 55/Toothpaste – 32/Body Wash – 12/Bar of Soap – 1/Mouthwash (small) – 4/Shampoo (small) – 4/Mousse (hair) – 1/Small Laundry Sample Box – 1/Small Body Wash – 2

**November 30, 2017 – Delivered on Nov. 30, 2017:** Paper Towels – 12 Rolls/Baby Wipes – 7 Packages /Boxes of Tissues – 7 each/Tooth Paste – 10 tubes/Tooth Brush's – 8 each

Note: Each month Family Promise lets us know of some of their immediate needs. This allows us to be responsive quickly to their most pressing needs. Donations will begin again in January 2018

