

FOOD AND COAT COLLECTION

We will be collecting non-perishable food items and your used warm coats for the needy on Halloween, October 31st, starting from the church at 6:00 p.m. Please consider joining this fun and important ministry. Food items will go to the St. Ambrose Food Pantry for distribution. Warm coats will go to the Troy Area United Ministries in Troy for distribution.

OCTOBER BUSINESS MEETING

On October 30, following worship service, we will have a church business meeting to address the 2017 budget and the officers and board members for 2017. The Trustees and Nominating Committee have been working very hard to prepare for this important meeting as we set our leadership and stewardship priorities for the coming year. Please plan to attend.

CARE CORNER

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/4	Scott Lorey
10/4	Brian Freer
10/8	Linda Nadler
10/11	Heather (Freer) & Ray Kurut
10/17	Jennifer Church
10/20	Fayette Wing
10/25	Linda Rosenthal
10/26	Kevin Durante
10/31	Nicole (Haskins) Haley



We have completed work on the church profile. You might ask, "So what?" That would be a good question. Let me try to explain why church profiles are becoming important in the life of the modern church.

In the past, church profiles were only prepared when the church began a search for a new pastor. The profile defined the beliefs of the church, current ministries, mission, some information about the neighborhood surrounding the church, and a description of the type and temperament of the pastor being sought by the church. Once a pastor was called, the church profile is forgotten until the process required repeating for a new pastor.

The last published profile for our church dates back more than 15 years ago. Think about your life for a moment and ask yourself, "How much has changed in my life and my town in the last 15 years?" I am confident we would all agree the rate of change in life has increased and that much of "what was," is no longer. If a church does not reflect on its mission, ministries, and neighborhood for 15 years, it may find the specific ways relates to people's spiritual, physical, and emotional needs are outdated. As we have discussed throughout this year, we need to be a church grounded in Biblical teaching, simple in our approach to mission and ministry, and in ways relevant to our members and neighbors. Engaging in the work of updating a church profile every few years, helps keep the church focused on its purpose in a Biblical, Simple, and Relevant manner. I would expect the church would update the profile again in the next two or three years. Doing so keeps the church more focused on its mission than on its next pastor.

Please take the time to read over your church profile. We will be working hard over the next few years to fulfill what it says.

Peace,

Pastor George

SCHEDULE OF MAJOR EVENTS FOR OCTOBER

 <p>COMMUNITY DINNER</p>	<p>Monday, October 3 – We will serve our community meal and distribute personal care items and clothing to those in need at the Troy Area United Ministries facility.</p>
	<p>Sunday, October 16 – There will be a special congregational meeting called by the Pastoral Search Committee regarding a vote to call George Stefani as Pastor.</p>
	<p>Sunday, October 30 – Join in a time of fellowship with a harvest dinner starting immediately after worship. We will dine and hold our meeting for new officers and board members.</p>
	<p>Sunday, October 30 – We will have an business meeting to act on the budget for 2017 and approve officers and board members for 2017.</p>
	<p>Monday, October 31 – Food and coat collection on Halloween starting at 6:00 pm at the church</p>

INTEGRAL MISSIONAL LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

Our church received a grant in the amount of \$13,200 from the American Baptist Home Mission Society (ABHMS) to create and implement an alternative model for developing leaders for local missions. Our initiative is open to those attending LCBC, any CABA church, and our ministry partners such as TAUM, Youth for Christ, Backstretch Ministries, etc. The bulk of the funds from the grant, about \$10,700, will be invested in training materials, online technologies, and stipends for guest speakers. The remain funds, about \$2,500, will be invested in equipment for the church and any costs incurred by the church itself. Funds from the congregation are not required to support this initiative.

This is an exciting opportunity for our church to move its purpose statement, “Centered on Christ; Serving the Community,” from the cover page of the church profile into our own neighborhood. It is also an exciting time to develop stronger associational connections within CABA, and with other Christian organizations outside of CABA. Please consider joining this initiative and see what doors God may open up to you.

PERSONAL CARE MINISTRIES – GRANT APPLICATION

The American Baptist Churches offers grant funds through the Matthew 25 program for local churches with missions focused on addressing poverty. Pastor George submitted a grant request for our personal care ministries program. The grant in the amount of \$1,200 was approved. The additional funds received through this grant will help the church expand its outreach to the homeless and families in need.