



## The Bridge

\*10:00 a.m. each Sunday: Intergenerational Devotional

\*10:10 a.m. Religious Education for all ages

\* The adults are studying the Old Testament.

**October 2: "Water Service"**-Congregation Sharing-Bring water to mingle with water from years past as we share meaningful events in our lives this past year.

**October 9: "Choosing Forgiveness"**-Reverend Claudia M. Frost-Forgiveness is something we need to revisit again and again. Between the Jewish High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur seems like a good time to turn our attention to forgiveness. The Fall of the year makes a good season for letting go of old wounds and hurts. How can we rescue ourselves from our grievances and become able to forgive? Is forgiveness or reconciliation even possible in some circumstances?

**October 16: "Hancock & Armistead, a Story of Duty, Friendship & Sacred Honor"**-Ed Clark-True story of two officers and best friends who met on the field at Gettysburg in July 1863, one wearing Union Blue, the other Confederate Gray-a human interest story that illustrates the great tragedy of the American Civil War.

**October 23: "Holy Both"**-Reverend Claudia M. Frost-Join us for a worship service about life and death...a journey into paradox. Holding opposites is a space of creative tension occupied by faith, hope, and love. Drawing from my sabbatical experiences in Mexico, we will remember deceased loved ones through the tradition of Dia de los Muertos. Please bring a photo or memento to place on our "affrenda" (display of memory and meaning).

**October 30: "The Kindness of Children"**-David Kundtz

### Dates to Remember

**October 1: Harvest Sale at 3:00 p.m. followed by Barbecue Supper at 6:00**

**October 8: UCONCI Business Meeting at Shelter Neck**

**October 9: Covered-dish lunch and board meeting following services.**

**October 13: AUW-meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. followed by meeting at 1:30 p.m.**

**October 23: Following social hour, our second Task Force Meeting: working on a long-range plan.**

**October 26: Musical Concert with the musical duo "Constellation", featuring Helen Wolfson on hammered dulcimer and Eric Thomas on guitar and vocals. Covered-dish dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. followed by musical concert at 7:30 p.m.**



## Claudia's Comments

Fall is officially here...or so the calendar says. The leaves are starting to turn and hopefully a crisp coolness will soon fill the morning air. It's time to get the annual pumpkins next week before they're all picked over. My favorites are the ones with the interesting stems that curve or curl in odd directions. I love this time of year with colorful mums decorating doorsteps and brightening the storefronts.

I'm excited that it's time for our annual Harvest Sale. The quilt design chosen for this year is particularly beautiful and there are a number of items already on display in the sanctuary which will be auctioned off on Saturday October 1<sup>st</sup>. I hope you've made plans to attend. Why not invite a friend to come with you, too? The auction bidding is fun and the barbeque dinner is always delicious plus fabulous desserts.

I was looking through some of my old newsletter columns earlier today and noticed back in October 2010 I mentioned the formation of a Mission and Covenant Task Force. They were diligent with their efforts and we have benefited from their creativity. Just this past Sunday, a *Plan for the Church Future* Task Force met to review our Mission Statement and Church Covenant to see if they still fit who we are today and if these documents remain articulate and relevant for who we are. The group did good work together and the Task Force will hold three more meetings (October 23<sup>rd</sup>, November 20<sup>th</sup>, and January 22<sup>nd</sup>) to continue working on a vision for the church that lives our mission in the community and creates a vibrant stability for our future. If you missed the first meeting, you are welcome to join us at the October meeting.

One of the other things about October is that it marks the beginning of our eighth year together since you voted to "call" me as your minister in 2009. For the past two years, I've been away from the congregation in October. Since studying Spanish in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico during my sabbatical, I've been looking forward to sharing the people's customs of Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebrations with you. I hope you can join us Sunday morning October 23<sup>rd</sup> for a simple ceremony from pre Columbian/Mexican roots that combines remembrance, celebration, and mourning. I invite everyone to bring a photo or special memento of deceased loved ones to place on our *affrenda* table. I have a few colorful items I've been saving that I brought back from Mexico for our celebration.

Although we'll have to wait until November 6<sup>th</sup> for the daylight savings to give us more daylight earlier in the morning, I hope you take time to go outside and enjoy the striking Autumn evening sunsets this month. This is a beautiful time of year. See you in church.



With Love, Hope, & Joy,  
Claudia