



Reverend Wade Giffin

Trinity United Methodist Church



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Chip introduced today's speaker, **Reverend Wade Giffin** from Trinity United Methodist Church. Wade has been pastor at the church since July of this year. In his career he has spent time at churches in Hilliard, Cincinnati and Columbus.

Reverend Giffin has a Bachelor's Degree from Xavier University and a Masters of Divinity from United Theological Seminary.

Wade said he fully aware that he is the stand-in for **Dick Wing** and would do his best to fill in. He noted how UA Rotary represents a great deal of the community's leadership. He associated this fact with the notion that the church seeks to exert leadership in the community in which it is located – not just within its own congregation.

One of the things that new pastors often do in the background is try to assess the spiritual literacy of their new congregation. In that vein, Reverend Giffin decided to give us a "Thanksgiving literacy" quiz today. Here are the true/false questions we answered individually and graded on the honor system:

TRUE OR FALSE

1. There will be about 45 million turkeys eaten this Thanksgiving in the United States.
2. California recently passed a law requiring the consumption of only organically raised turkeys by the year 2024.
3. The average weight of a turkey is about 16 pounds.
4. At one time there was a Republican and a Democratic Thanksgiving day.
5. The health value of cranberries is doubled when vodka is added.
6. The U.S. Supreme Court once considered banning Thanksgiving because of its perceived religious overtones.
7. Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to be the United States national bird.
8. Black Friday is the busiest day of the year for plumbers.
9. A group of adult turkeys is known as a congress.
10. Swanson TV dinners were originally developed to address an excess of frozen turkey.

ANSWER KEY: 1-T, 2-F, 3-T, 4-T, 5-F, 6-F, 7-T, 8-T, 9-F, 10-T

GREETERS

November 29

Scott Humphrys
Doug Burton

December 6

Mike Brady
Molly Fontana

December 13

James McKinney
Tom Westfall

REGISTRATION DESK

November 29

J.D. Dickerson
Dave Dewey

December 6

Andy Livingston
Tom Westfall

December 13

Jim Winfree
Kevin Brown

CALENDAR

November 29

UA Rotary Charter Member Day
Host: Knoop

December 6

Greg Lashutka
Host: Stone

Tuesday, December 13th

The Annual Rotary Holiday Party will be held on from 5:30PM until 8:00PM at Scioto Country Club. Note - There will be NO MEETING AT NOON.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

December 20th

YWCA - 5:30-7:00pm
Contact John Huneck
for more information

Please submit your volunteer opportunity to herb@herbgillen.com for inclusion in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

SOCIAL EVENTS

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On question 4, the Republican and Democratic Thanksgivings occurred in the year Franklin Roosevelt decided to move the holiday to the third Thursday in November in order to add another shopping week to the holiday season. Republicans objected and celebrated on November 30.

When the quiz was finished there were a couple of members who got 8 out of 10 correct (B grade) with the largest group falling into the C/D range with 6 or 7 correct answers. The rest of the folks were not asked to raise their hands.

Reverend Giffin reflected back on one of his earliest jobs working for Jeff Ruby. When Ruby became general manager of a Holiday Inn he gave every staff member a pin with the gold lettered word "Attitude" on it. This was a reflection of his insistence that everyone have and maintain a positive attitude toward customers.

This idea carries forward today in Wade's mind as part of his notion of "attitude with gratitude" toward life in general. Gratitude goes deeper than simply expressing it in words. He urged us to look within every aspect of our lives and realize all the things we have to be grateful for.

He summarized the "Wesleyan way of looking at things". From a place of gratitude to God we should follow three simple rules.

1. Do no harm
2. Do good
3. Stay in love with God

Doing no harm means to refrain from doing or saying things harm other people. This concept, when lived to the fullest, requires us to think about the impact of our decisions on other people who may live far away or with whom we have no direct connection. For example, how we spend our money and the things we buy have impacts far beyond the sphere in which we live every day.

Doing good suggests that we should "do our faith" – not just practice it. Helping others when the need arises is important. He gave the example of neighborhood help rendered by his then congregation a number of years ago during an extended power outage.

Staying in love with God applies to everyone regardless of their faith. A good portion of gratitude exhibited this week should be given to whatever God we identify with. He encouraged us to use the upcoming season to grow closer with our faith.

Finally, Reverend Giffin acknowledged UA Rotary's history of service and its current programs. He singled out the Interact program because of its outreach to youth. He regrets that the absence of strong leaders today may be due to a failure of one generation to "pour their lives" into the generation behind them.

The Meeting

President **Chip Knoop** asked Reverend **Wade Giffin** to offer the Invocation and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Paul Kulik, visiting Rotarian from the Westerville Sunrise Club announced his club's annual poinsettia sale. He distributed an order form. In recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Rotary International Foundation he indicated that one dollar from each poinsettia purchased by UA Rotary members would be contributed to the RI Foundation in the name of the club. Poinsettias will be delivered at our holiday party on December 13.

Next week's meeting will be UA Rotary Charter Member Day. **Jim Ayers** will host what promises to be an interesting and fun-filled program taking us back in time to the very foundation of the club.

Today was the third reading of the nominees for club leadership positions beginning in 2017. **Herb Gillen** is the nominee for club Secretary which will put him in the chairs for future leadership. 2017-19 Board nominees are **Paul Germain, Nicole Helfrich, Christine Taylor, Don Leach and Tom Davis**.

The December 6 meeting will be the club's Annual Meeting at which time the election will take place.

Price Finley was presented with his Paul Harris Fellowship +1 pin.

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Notes and Announcements

Signup sheets for the club's holiday party were on each table. There is also an electronic invitation floating out there in cyberspace. The party is December 13 from 5:30 to 8:00 PM at Scioto Country Club. NOTE: There will not be a lunch meeting on Tuesday, December 13.

YWCA Family Center evening meal service is scheduled for Tuesday, December 20. Let **John Huneck** know if you can help out.

Sandy Clary thanked club members for their ongoing support of the Holiday Wish program which benefits clients of the YWCA Family Center, the Van Buren Family Center and the Homeless Families Foundation. Cash and check donations are still being accepted. Mail your contribution to Sandy at her address in the directory.

Price Finley reappeared at one of our meetings! He has been on the road in District 6690 in his role as District Chair for the Rotary International Foundation. He urged us to contribute \$26.50 more than we did last year. The \$26.50 represents the amount of the initial contribution to the Foundation 100 years ago. It is not too late to make a contribution. Contributions to the RI Foundation count toward Paul Harris Fellowship status. Contributions to the Polio Plus campaign also count toward the Fellowship.