



## WADE GIFFIN A THANKSGIVING MESSAGE

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For make up locations, check the club web site or call the make-up hotline at (614) 470-1002.



Our speaker today was fellow UA Rotarian Reverend **Wade Giffin**. Wade has been Senior Pastor at Trinity United Methodist Church since 2016.

Wade noted that this is his fourth Thanksgiving address to the club. He opened with a funny story which, in fact, seemed like a good way to get your grown children to return home for Thanksgiving.

An underlying theme for Wade's remarks was that we need to "stop running and return to give thanks". He suggested that we take inventory of the people and things we have to be thankful for. We were encouraged to plan a tangible act of thanksgiving for the upcoming holiday.

He noted that Thanksgiving and holidays are complicated. Family dynamics along with work responsibilities collide with logistical issues on occasions like Thanksgiving. Another element is the urge to try to live up to everyone's expectations for the holidays. We all know that meeting all of those expectations is impossible. Fitting a holiday into your everyday life is difficult.

This week is one of those weeks.

Getting everyone together in the same place at the same time gets more and more complicated as families grow larger. Thus, it becomes necessary to acknowledge that it's unlikely to happen and to be prepared to have empty seats around the table on Thanksgiving Day. Rather than lament the absence of family members Wade suggested that we not dwell on their absence but consider reaching out to them - not to lament their absence but rather to thank them for what they mean to the family.

He made the point that gratitude is, for some reason difficult for us. He shared a bible passage that focused on this notion and how remarkable and unusual it often is for many people to return to express their gratitude to someone important in their life. Despite the urge that so many of us have to just keep running we should consider the idea of turning around at times to express our thanks. The urge to keep running is symptomatic of our lives today. Perhaps we should "stop running and return to give thanks".



## GREETERS

**December 3**  
Steven Schoeny  
Jack Cotter

**December 10**  
Bill Hosket  
Sandra Cotter

**December 17**  
NO REGULAR WEEKLY  
LUNCH MEETING

## REGISTRATION DESK

**December 3**  
Ted Foster  
Brendan King

**December 10**  
Don Leach  
J.D. Dickerson

**December 17**  
NO REGULAR WEEKLY  
LUNCH MEETING

## CALENDAR

**December 3** | Scioto CC  
Gene Smith, Director,  
The Ohio State University  
Department of Athletics  
Host: Jones

**December 10** | Confluence Boathouse  
UAHS Vocal Ensemble  
Performing  
Host: Theado

**December 17** | Scioto CC  
NO REGULAR WEEKLY  
LUNCH MEETING

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Submit your volunteer opportunity to [herb@herbgillen.com](mailto:herb@herbgillen.com) for inclusion in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

## SOCIAL EVENTS

Please submit your social event reminder to [herb@herbgillen.com](mailto:herb@herbgillen.com) for inclusion in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

## OUR NEXT MEETING

**December 3rd**  
Scioto CC

Upper Arlington  
**Rotary**  
Club



# WADE GIFFIN

## A THANKSGIVING MESSAGE



Wade encouraged us to make some kind of commitment today, before we left the meeting, to stop for a moment, step out of the frantic pace of life and think about returning to be grateful and give thanks. We enjoyed a minute of quiet reflection and were asked to consider what specific acts of gratitude we will plan to execute on Thanksgiving Day. Wade will spend part of Thanksgiving afternoon texting those missing family members with messages of gratitude. He suggests that if one does this it should also include those folks with whom

they have “complicated relationships”. There is something about all of them to be grateful for.

Implementing a plan like this may well help change something in the world for good.

Wade thanked club members for inspiring him with their works in the community – making the world a better place. He closed hoping that it might become known that the members of the UA Rotary club injected a whole bunch of gratitude into the world and because of it the world took a big positive leap.



## UA ROTARY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tuesday, December 17th 5:30 – 7:30 PM at Scioto Country Club

All Rotarians and their guests are invited to attend the Upper Arlington Rotary Annual Christmas Party December 17th at Scioto Country Club. The gathering will feature heavy hors d'oeuvres and drinks. As last year, the charges for regular paying members will be \$10, for pay as you go members \$26, and for spouses/guests \$15. We will be using drink tickets at the bar. For your convenience, payment for any tickets that you purchase will be included on your club charge. Tickets will be available at meetings and at the event. As in past years, valet parking will be available. 'Tis the season – let's dress up! Members should have received a Punchbowl email invitation or you can RSVP with Anne Croskey or register at a meeting. To avoid confusion, please only RSVP via a single method. Contact Anne at [acroskey@columbus.rr.com](mailto:acroskey@columbus.rr.com) for more information.



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# The Meeting



**President Gillen** called the meeting to order and asked **Andy Schmidt** to offer the invocation and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Andy shared with us the recent loss of his 20 year old Bible and its surprising and seemingly miraculous recovery from a dumpster in Worthington. He was thankful for its recovery.

**John Adams** asked **Kip Greenhill** to introduce his guest **Michaela Burris**.

**Eric Smith** was recognized for achieving Paul Harris Fellow +8 status.

The club received a thank you letter from a 94 year old UA resident for raking his leaves on Senior Service Saturday.

“Officer **Dave Dewey**”, whistle in hand, reminded us about the final few days for November Rotary International Foundation contributions that will be matched by the club up to \$500.00. Officer Dewey also handed out two District 6690 citations – one recognizing UA Rotary as a club of distinction and the other recognizing the club for Polio Plus support. **Price Finley** accepted the Polio Plus citation.

Our speaker next week will be Ohio State Athletic Director **Gene Smith**.

Herb reminded us that we will also conduct the club’s annual business meeting next week.

**Joe Valentino** conducted an effective harassment session. Members without pins paid a dollar as did those who have yet to respond to the holiday party invitation and those who have yet to say “thank you” to someone this week. Finally, we spun the new and improved birthday wheel. When it landed on the scarlet square all the non-November birthday folks in the room ponied up a dollar. Nice work, Joe.

Herb asked **Matt Hare** to come forward for a Getting to Know You session. The most significant experience for Matt was his battle with a rare blood cancer at the age of 25. He feels incredibly fortunate to have beaten the disease 10 years ago. Matt works at Cover My Meds which is software company primarily focusing on electronic prior authorizations for medications. The most influential person in his life was his maternal grandmother. His grandmother cared for the family – including Matt’s mother as well as her grandchildren - after the early death of his grandfather. His most memorable family experience is his honeymoon in Italy and his bucket list is topped by a desire to go to Ireland and investigate his Irish heritage in the towns where his family has its roots.



# Notes and Announcements

**Anne Croskey** reminded everyone to sign up for the holiday party (12/17 at Scioto) online. Reply to the electronic invitation. There were also forms available on the tables to sign up for drink tickets. No cash will be handled at the bar – charges will go on your club account.

**Jim Nicklaus** reminded us of next week’s Rotary Roundtable (12/3) featuring OSU’s **Dr. Stuart Ludsin** who will discuss Ohio’s weather/climate changes. The Roundtable begins at 10:30.

**Sandy Clary** thanked folks for supporting the Holiday Wish Campaign which supports the Homeless Families Foundation, the YWCA Family Center and the Van Buren Center. She was still collecting checks today.

**Andy Schmidt** announced that we currently have eleven readers for West Broad Elementary School. We would like to be at twenty. Andy or **Tom Davis** can set you up if you’d like to help out. President Herb chimed in and recalled his very fulfilling experience reading at West Broad early in his club membership. Red badge holders should consider this opportunity to involve themselves in a club project as West Broad volunteering is once again part of the Red Badge program fulfillment.

