

The Circuit Writer

Mt. Jackson United Methodist Church



Pastor's Page

Fellow disciples,

As humans we seem to all have some desire to remember things, to capture a feeling or experience for all time. The T-shirt industry alone tries to help us remember that great time in Myrtle Beach or New York City or Pierce's Pitt Bar-B-Que. Then there's other souvenirs - magnets, tiny flags, pictures, posters, monument replicas - anything that will help us remember the great things we saw and did. Now, almost anyone can buy a cheap camera and take photos or videos of their vacations or pilgrimages.

I'm reminded of one particular time where I wanted to capture an experience for all time. Around my middle school years my family went with my grandparents and cousins to visit Disneyworld. One of the first places we went to there was the MGM Studios and the Indiana Jones Epic Stunt Spectacular! (something that awesome had to have an exclamation point!) My aunt had a video camcorder that she was using to remember the whole experience. I was excited about the performance, so much that I wanted to make sure that it got videotaped so I could relive it over and over at home. My aunt sat behind me, but I did my best to make sure that she got as much of the stunt show as possible. I think I even got a bit upset when she turned the camera off at times and enjoyed the performance herself. Sure, the show was great, but it was *so* great that I wanted to be able to relive it again and again.

The entire family watched the video of the whole trip when we got back, and even a few times since that trip. Even on that first viewing, I was surprised by how the Stunt Spectacular (!) didn't seem so spectacular on film. The more I thought about it, the more I realized that it wasn't the quality of the video or missing key moments. It was that this was only a record, a shadow, of the real thing. What I noticed even more is how, when the camera would pan to see the reaction of me and my cousins, I was looking back at the camera and pointing down to the action, making sure my aunt got it all on film. I was so preoccupied with remembering the experience that I missed out on some of the experience.

This kind of 'souvenir' mentality can happen to us at church too. We can be so focused on what we're going to take home from the service, what we need to

remember, that we miss out on the experience of worship or service. We almost make the experience of God's grace and love into more than it needs to be - something that will change our world and that we'll look back on every day. Great events do happen like that, but great events happen more often when we pay attention to the experiences in front of us. After all, not every experience has an exclamation point in front to let us know how important it's supposed to be. More often than not, God gives us experiences of healing and wholeness that come in the midst of our ordinary lives, when we're not looking for it or when we truly need it. It is those events, where God works in our lives even when we don't expect it or aren't ready to record it, that are truly spectacular!

Living in abundant grace,
Rev. Michael Dettmer



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



August 4, 2011

President Betty Luse called the meeting to order with 13 members present.

The July 7 Minutes were accepted as read.

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you from Jane Thomas. Thank you from UMCOR Global Ministries, Committee on Relief.

TREASURER: Shirley Hackenbracht read the report for July 31, 2011.

SUNSHINE Report for July: Get Well cards to Ethel Garber, Cyndy Frye and Harry Tusing. Thinking of You card to Jane Thomas, Encouragement cards to Brenda Stansbury and Ted Dent.

KITCHEN: August 17 will be work night to clean the church. Hot dogs, etc. will be served. August 28 is Homecoming, covered dish lunch following service. August 29 we will serve the Mason's dinner. Menu is chicken breasts, parsley potatoes, glazed carrots, coleslaw, brownies with vanilla ice cream, rolls, etc. UMM September 21 dinner will be lamb steaks, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, fruit on lettuce and angel food cake. UMM October 19 dinner will be chicken and stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, tropical fruit and pumpkin cake. October 31 Mason's dinner will be ham

loaf, sweet potatoes, broccoli, waldorf salad, biscuits, and pumpkin pie. November 16 UMM dinner will be pork loin, white beans, greens, oven fried potatoes, corn bread and apple crisp. Jean Estep will check with Ruritan's about their November meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: Cookbooks: we have 17 cookbooks left out of 454; we will offer the remainder for sale at the Mt. Jackson Apple/Bluegrass Festival on October 8.

NEW BUSINESS: Ted Dent's health issues were discussed, in addition to our best approach to help the family. It was decided we would send a card and donation.

The Pulpit Exchange scheduled for September 25 was discussed. The District office will send a Pastor for our 11:00 a.m. service, then we will plan on a covered dish dinner and service by Pastor Mike later in the day. Will discuss details further with Pastor Mike and suggest a 5:30 p.m. dinner followed by the service in the social hall.

Shirley Hackenbracht reported that the church received a letter from Liberty Brethren Church (which is located outside Quicksburg), requesting help to sponsor a luncheon for fire and rescue and police personnel to commemorate September 11. The lunch will be held in New Market on September 17. Joan made a motion to send \$200 donation, seconded by Jean, all approved, motion passed.

Joan discussed the UMW sponsoring a young woman in the service who has no family, by sending packages, drop cards in the mail, etc. Joan can get the name of a person through the VFW. Freddie made a motion that we send a package of goodies once a month, seconded by Sabrina, all approved, motion passed. Bring items for package to September 1 meeting.

Joan closed the meeting with a prayer.

Freddie Forster, Secretary



CLEAN UP NIGHT

Instead of the monthly meeting of the UMM there was a clean up night for homecoming at the church. Over 30 some people showed up to help. There was a great fellowship meal before the work started.

Lots of work got done. Now that we have two little additions to our church family there was much progress done in the nursery room.

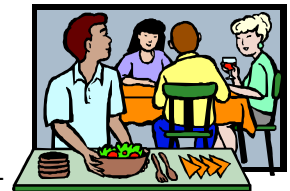
Thanks to all who came out and participated in a

lot of hard work.

If anyone has or knows of anyone who has a changing table in good condition, we need one to complete our nursery



HOME COMING WAS A GREAT SUCCESS



There was a great message by Pastor Mike with 94 people attending homecoming service. The food was delicious, thank you all that cooked your special dishes, it was a true feast. The fellowship was wonderful and a good time was had by all.



Happy September Birthdays!



- 09/02 Tammy Estep
- 09/04 Crystal Spitler
- 09/12 Bobby Clark
- 09/13 Pat Sperry
- 09/17 Doug Estep
- 09/21 Jeffery Rexrode
- 09/24 Megan Ryan
- 09/24 Jackie Hawkins
- 09/27 Sarah Rowling
- 09/27 Barbara Orndorff



WARNING

Bible Usage Can Be Habit Forming

Regular reading can cause loss of ANXIETY and FEAR; decreased appetite for LYING, CHEATING, STEALING, HATING, ANGER and ENVY.



Symptoms Include: Increased sensation of LOVE, JOY PEACE, COMPASSION and CONTENTMENT. If symptoms persist, just PRAISE GOD!

Side Effects are FORGIVENESS, GRACE, and LOVE!



AUGUST Trustees Report

The ceramic tile has been installed in the rear of the sanctuary. This was done to replace a badly soiled area of carpet surrounding the two entrance doors from the narthex into the sanctuary. Mr. Keith Mumaw is making oak thresholds to adjust the higher level of the sanctuary floor to the narthex floor and eliminate a trip hazard. These should be done this week.

The new water softener has been purchased and will be installed soon.

The contractor expects to start on the backyard drainage/grading project early in September.

One basement window was broken by unknown cause, and several other windows in the new addition were turning cloudy from loss of gas. Randy's Home Improvement of Maurertown has been hired to replace the broken window, repair and replace gas in all the other windows in the new addition needing work.

The Trustees still have chairs declared surplus we have agreed to offer to the congregation for a small donation to the church. If you are interested, see either Barry Davis or me before October 1. Any chairs left after that will be given to the Thrift Store or the Salvation Army.

Perhaps many in the congregation may not know our custodian, or even know who the custodian is. Diane Seemiller has served as our custodian for many years and does a very good job. Diane works for JMU and is a member of St. John's Bosco church in Woodstock. This summer, Diane on her own time and own expense, planted and cared for the beautiful garden next to the handicap ramp. It has been a joy for Shirley and I and I'm sure everyone who comes up that ramp stops to pause and enjoy the beauty that God with Diane's care has provided. If you know Diane, or you chance to meet her at the church sometime, please tell her how much the flower garden contributes to the church. She has a special place in her heart for our church.

Ken Hackenbracht, Chairman



OUR CONDOLENCES GOES OUT TO THE FAMILY OF HARRY TUSING

Harry Tusing passed away, Monday, August 29, 2011. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as go through this time of pain and the grief of losing your loved one.

"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Hebrews 13:5

ANSWERED PRAYERS



We never hear enough about answered prayers. We are asked to pray for others and then some times we never hear how they turn out. Some prayers are our own prayers and then there are those that are answered for other people. We all need to hear more about the many times God answers our prayers. I would like to run an answered prayer column in our newsletter each month. I know there are many out there, good ones, funny ones and even those that are sad. Those answered prayers that are sad is where God turns something bad into something good that will bring him glory.

If you would like to share an answered prayer to put in our newsletter please call me, write it up and give it to me or e-mail it to me. I know we all have at least one if not many answered prayers.

"THE OFFERING"

Gwen was about half way to church that warm Sunday morning when she realized that she had left her cash and checkbook on the dresser when she changed purses that morning. Now she had no money to put into the offering plate. She could never remember a time that this had happened. She would just have to make it up the next Sunday.

She said a little prayer as there was no time to return home to get the missed items that lay on her dresser top.

The stop light ahead turned red and she stepped on the brakes bringing the car to a complete stop.

While setting there something caught her attention out of the corner of her eye. It looked like money floating across the road toward her. She opened the car door and just as she put her hand down a \$20.00 bill blew right into hand.

As she pulled away from the stop light she offered a prayer of thanks to the Lord. "You sure did answer that prayer fast, Lord." Now she would have something to put in the offering plate that beautiful Sunday morning thanks to the Lord.

Written by Joan Towe, told by Gwen Frye



**Church Calendar
For September 2011**

- 9/4 Sun. 12th Sunday after Pentecost, Green**
9:45 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Children/Youth SS
11:00 AM Worship
- 9/5 Mon. 8:00 PM AA, Library
9/6 Tues. 7:00 PM Choir Practice
9/7 Wed. 7:00 PM NOW Meeting
9/9 Fri. 8:00 PM AA, Library
- 9/11 Sun. 13th Sunday after Pentecost, Green**
9:45 AM Sunday School
10:00AM Children/Youth SS
11:00 AM Worship
- 9/12 Mon. 8:00 PM AA, Library
9/13 Tues. 7:00 PM Choir Practice
9/14 Wed. 6:00 PM Church Counsel
9/16 Fri. 8:00 PM AA, Library
- 9/18 Sun. 14th Sunday after Pentecost, Green**
9:45 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Youth/Children SS
11:00 AM Worship
- 9/19 Mon. 8:00 PM AA, Library
9/20 Tues. 7:00 PM Choir Practice
9/21 Wed. 6:30 PM UMM
9/23 Fri. 8:00 PM AA, Library
- 9/25 Sun. 15th Sunday after Pentecost, Green**
9:45 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Youth/Children SS
11:00 AM Worship
TBA Pot Luck & Service
- 9/26 Mon. 8:00 PM AA, Library
9/27 Tues. 7:00 PM Choir Practice
9/30 Fri. 8:00 PM AA, Library