



Sunday July 13, 2014

A Collection of Musings
and Ideas from the Pastor

Let's Gather School Supplies

Koni Purscell, our Church and Community Worker, has reminded us that school is just around the corner and it might be a good idea to start gathering school supplies. I was in Walmart (Norton) this week and noticed they were setting up for back to school. I'd suggest we concentrate on a few basic items: loose leaf paper, pencils, glue (bottles/sticks), and crayons. If we just get those items, especially in quantity, we should be able to really help out some kids and/or schools when they go back into session the first week of August. You can place supplies on the table in the fellowship hall we normally use for such collections.

You are Invited to a Baptism

On Sunday afternoon August 10th, we are going to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism in a very special way. We are going to have a river baptism. Conner Clendenon has indicated that he wants to make his profession of faith and be baptized. We are currently seeking to get permission to use the river behind the Cedar Ridge Baptist Church out in Crackers Neck and we are looking at 2:00 p.m. as the time. Since baptism is a rite of the church, I would hope that some of the church members could be present for the celebration of this Sacrament. Also, if there are other persons that have not been baptized that would like to receive the sacrament, please get in touch with me and we can discuss if you are ready. Remember, in United Methodism, we only baptize one time. So if you were baptized as an infant, I cannot "re-baptize" you as an adult.

Mission Group to Spend Night at the Church

The Rev. Joel Hubbard (best man at my wedding) will be leading a mission group from his church in New Jersey to the Red Bird Mission. The group, of about 20, will spend Saturday night August 9th in our church. I anticipate that they will then be present to worship with us on Sunday morning. I don't know when they will arrive, but it might be nice to have some snacks for them. I might also be asking some of you to supply breakfast casseroles, fruit, and juice for Sunday morning. Please keep this group in your prayers as they travel to Red Bird Mission.

Clean Up Day Scheduled for the Church

Kathleen Gillespie has asked that we announce that Saturday August 2nd will be a clean up day at the church. Each year, she typically gets some of the women together to give the church an extra cleaning. This year, she invites all of us to join with her. More details will be given as the date approaches. So, please plan to give a couple of hours on the 2nd to help us clean up the church.

Do You Need a Handyman?

Dennis Ashley is starting a handyman business. So if something needs fixing, give him a call and see if he is available.

on the
HORIZON

A Look at Upcoming Events

Free Coffee Friday Continues This Week

We learned a few things on our first go around. First of all, 6:30 a.m. is too early to start. This week we will set up at 6:30 and begin serving from 7:00 a.m.-8:15 a.m. Secondly, we will be moving the operation to the corner rather than the back of the church—drive through becomes drive-by. Third, we will need more orange juice. We gave away more bottled juice than we did coffee! The stats: We had contacts with 25 people and two of them gave us prayer requests. This week, we hope to have more response. All that stopped were appreciative and glad to see a church reaching out like we were doing. Keep this ministry in your prayers. We have three more weeks to go. A special thanks goes out to the workers this morning: Bill Cole, Martha Spurlock, Patty Robbins, Debbie and David Goodman.

Friday Night at the Movies Continues This Week

With Despicable Me 2 now behind us, we go retro this week and will be showing the classic film, Mary Poppins. Mark your calendar and come out and join us this Friday around 9:00 p.m. We'll have popcorn, cookies and kool-aid.

United Methodist Men Meeting

and Meal is Just Around the Corner

On Monday night July 14th, the United Methodist Men will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Fellowship Hall. A meal will be provided by Kathleen Gillespie. I understand it's going to be hamburgers and appropriate sides. We will also have our monthly meeting following the meal. All the men of the church and community are invited to attend this meal and the meeting. Please let Bill Cole know if you plan to attend, so that he can give Kathleen a head count for the meal.

Help Us Get Books Ready for RAM

We will gather at the church this Thursday, July 17th, at 3:00 p.m. to sort through about 2,000 books and get them classified by age so that we can give them away at the RAM this coming weekend at the Wise fairgrounds. There will be no lugging them down the stairs this year! We'll get them in out of Angie Clendenon's car. Helpers are also needed July 18-20th to distribute the books. Talk to Angie if you want to volunteer.

**There will be NO meeting of the
Administrative Board in the Month of July.
The next regularly scheduled meeting is the
second Sunday of August.**

Welcome



Let me tell you how glad we are to have you at our worship service today. We hope that you will encounter the presence of the risen Christ. Please feel free to join in any of the activities or events that you see mentioned. Please come back and worship with us again!

The Pastor's Ponderings is a weekly publication of Rev. Terry Goodman. It contains thoughts, ideas, articles, and other writings designed to inform and, hopefully, cause you to stop and ponder.

The Romans 12 Project

A Community That Sings

Old North United Methodist Church in Evansville, Indiana, is a mid-sized congregation with a heart for worship that is enhanced by its love of congregational singing, both a cappella and with well-accompanied pipe organ and other instruments.

The vitality and importance of congregational worship and song are fed by the church's renovated worship space, excellent acoustic and aesthetic surroundings, and the fact that they regularly use all three of the hymnals in the church's pew racks: "The United Methodist Hymnal," "The Faith We Sing," and "Worship & Song."

The church has a gifted Director of Music Ministries, Daniel Craig, who also serves as a professor of music at the University of Southern Indiana and frequently creates worship and music materials that are incorporated into the congregation's worship. His dual church-school role has provided opportunities to bring the community together in music, worship, and concert in the church sanctuary.

The congregation has used its combined assets of a passion for music, good facilities, and people with connections to the local college to reach out to the wider community. The church, college, and community have contributed to worship and concerts featuring major musical works of the classic past and the challenging present. For example, the church hosted a large First Nations Service that included newly composed music and involved the congregation, community, and a local Native American pastor and congregation. The church has also coordinated and hosted a community Taizé service for the season of Lent.

Old North UMC is thus the site of several communities: the local congregation, combined college and church, and a truly inclusive and engaging community of those within the surrounding area of Evansville.

Question for Discussion

- What are your congregation's assets? How can these assets be combined to reach out into your community?
- How does your congregation's experience of worship and music foster a sense of community?

Dean McIntyre is the Director of Music Resources at GBOD. He can be reached at dmcintyre@gbod.org. You can listen to a blessing from the Old North UMC choir at: <http://www.oldnorthumc.com/images/File/irishblessing.mp3>

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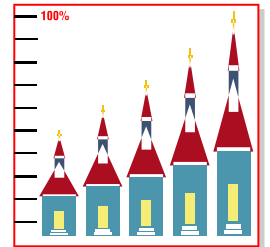
An Update on the Capital Campaign

A special thanks goes out to all the persons and groups that have responded to our Forward Trinity Capital Campaign to raise funds for needed equipment and repairs at the church. Below is where we stand to date on this campaign:

Total Received-Equipment: \$ 4,825
Equipment Goal: \$ 7,000

Total Received Maintenance: \$ 10,967
Maintenance Goal: \$15,000

Just a reminder, we ask everyone to try and have their pledges completed by September 30, 2014. This will allow us to complete the work we need to do during the summer months. Again, thanks to all that have pledged and contributed.



The Pastor's Thoughts on Discipleship



Since I mention baptism on the other side of this page, let me share with you some thoughts on the topic.

First of all, in Methodism, baptism (along with Communion) is a sacrament. That means that they are an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace. In other words, we believe that something actually happens in the sacrament. We believe that God imparts grace. I could spend countless pages trying to explain that one!

Secondly, a Sacrament is something that involves God's action. In baptism, it is not the individual that is really doing anything. Neither the pastor nor the person being baptized are really in charge. Instead, it is God that is moving and acting. That is why we baptize infants. Baptism has nothing to do with the ability of the infant to understand what is going on. It has everything to do with the grace that God infuses into that infants life.

Thirdly, baptism is not repeatable. Some denominations allow for re-baptism. Some require it if you wish to join their church. In these instances, baptism is seen as a response on the part of the person. I come to know Jesus and I want to be baptized. In some churches it is seen as the way to membership. In both these cases, the focus shifts away from God and onto the person being baptized and a decision that he or she is making. It becomes a decision made by the individual rather than a grace filled action in which God is doing something.

I hope that these brief words have helped you to understand a United Methodist view of baptism. I think that it is very important for us to consider baptism and its role in making us stronger disciples. If you have any questions, then give me a call. I'd love to talk to you about this important Sacrament of the church. I also hope that you will plan to be present when Conner is baptized on Sunday August 10th.