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***T H E G O O D N E W S L E T T E R***

**First United Methodist Church**

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**Learn** the story. **Live** the story. **Tell** the story.



As most of our church family knows, I am recuperating from knee surgery. During this time of restoration, I realized how fast my mind was constantly working, but my body would not respond.

 I wanted to heal fast and be more productive, but this is when I realized how much of the beautiful things each day I had hurried through, as sitting on the porch swing each morning with Henry while doing therapy on the knee. (The chickens, hummingbirds, and little finches really make a lot of noise.)

 This story from Robert Hastings, will say all I wanted to say that I have learned, only better.

 The Station

 “Tucked away in our subconscious is an idyllic vision. We are traveling by train, out the windows, we drink in the passing scenes of children waving at a crossing, cattle grazing on a distant hillside, row upon row of corn and wheat, flatlands and valleys, mountains and rolling hillsides and city skylines.

 But uppermost in our minds is the final destination. On a certain day, we will pull into the station. Bands will be playing and flags waving. Once we get there, our dreams will come true and the pieces of our lives will fit together like a completed jigsaw puzzle. Restlessly we pace the aisles, damning the minutes—waiting, waiting, waiting for the station.

 “When we reach the station that will be it!” We cry. “When I’m 18,” “When I buy a new 450sl Mercedes Benz!” “When I put the last kid through college.” “When I have paid off the mortgage!” “When I get a promotion.” “When I reach retirement, I shall live happily ever after!”

 Sooner or later, we realize there is no station, no one place to arrive. The true joy of life is the trip. The station is only a dream. It constantly outdistances us. “Relish the moment” is a good motto. It isn’t the burdens of today that drives men mad. It is the regrets over yesterday and the fear of tomorrow. Regret and fear are twin thieves who rob us of today. Regret is reality, after the facts.

 So stop pacing the aisles and counting the miles. Instead, climb more mountains, eat more ice cream, go barefoot more often, swim more rivers, watch more sunsets, laugh more, and cry less. Life must be lived as we go along.

 The STATION will come soon enough.”

Enjoy this day. Terry Jones

 **Vespers**

**Camp Meeting Style**

**6:00 pm Fellowship Hall**

**Singing, prayers, inspirational thoughts, and special food treats.**

**August 6—Watermelon**

**August 13—Ice Cream social**

**August 20—Unique desserts**

**August 27—Church wide Fish Fry**

**Make plans to attend!**

**A View from the Pew by Peggy Keady**

**Power**

Do you realize that as believers we have great power? We do.

The Bible says, “this tongue has the power of life and death’, (Proverbs 18:21)

 God has put His Holy Spirit within us to enable us to speak: words of praise, healing, hope, kindness, love, encouragement, caution, forgiveness, wisdom, persuasion, discernment, knowledge, and faith.

 We are now the physical manifestation of Christ in our homes, schools, businesses, and committees, until Christ comes again.

 The Holy Spirit was given to us by God, The Father, when we confessed faith in His Son Jesus. The Spirit can empower us to live a life of righteousness.

 Speaking Words of Life is a huge part of our mission. Let us continue to use the following words in our daily life: please, thank you, excuse me, I am sorry, forgive me, maybe I can be of some help, etc.

 There is no law against kindness. Let us practice “life ling” others every day with our words and thank God for the desire and power to do so.

 “Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.”

 (Proverbs 23:18)

Children News: July heat was enjoyed in the swimming pool of Lynn and John Wiggers by several children on July 7. Thank you to the adults who participated and made this day special.

 Promotion Sunday will be August 27 when all children will go to their new classes. Bibles to third graders will be given during worship.

Youth: Several youth and chaperones attended workshops and services at Lake Junaluska July 6-9. Greg Cooper, youth leader, has many other events planned for the group.

Nursery: Thank you to the many volunteers helping in the nurseries on Sunday morning. It is so exciting to announce that more are needed for we have many new babies. If you are interested, please let Terry know. There is a place for you.

After School: **After school has a few openings for 2017-18 year. We are excited to welcome Mary Spears as our pre-k teacher. Volunteers are needed Friday August 4 from 3-5 and Monday and Tuesday August 7 & 8   Please contact Mary Al if available. Thank you.**

Boy Scouts: A special thank you to Terry and Faye Culpepper for opening their home and lake to cub scouts and families for a fishing event to kick off the scouting season on July 22. Kevin Gibson, scout coordinator, says the church is in for an exciting year as the eager voices of Pack 44, again are part of this church ministry.

WOW: under the direction of Kay Dawson, Lynn Wiggers, and Denise Wright is ready to start with meals on August 9 at 5:30. If you would like to help with food preparation, team leader, or clean up, please call one of the team. Many hands make light work.

Book studies, prayer meeting, children and youth activities will start back at 6:00.

Have you remembered the Endowment Fund in your financial plans?

 Financial Report thru June 30, 2017

2017 Budget for KFUMC 393,460.08

Total Receipts thru June 30, 2017 144,442.08

Budget Tithes and Offerings 20,544.33

Budget Expenses 25,282.34

Mission Shares thru June 2017 22,260.99

**Designated Funds received for June, 2017**

General Memorials 465.60

Passion Play 18.00

Youth 1305.45

Youth Scholarship 4,290.00

Commercial Range 120.00

A/C & Boiler 51,175.00

**Calling all involved with the new School year from students, teachers, bus drivers etc. Bring backpacks and planners to place on altar August 13, for a special Blessing.**

 The Congregation is Cordially Invited

To the Reception honoring Bethany Johnson

Bride-Elect of David Patterson

August 20, 2017

2-3 in the Church Parlor

Thank You!

**Church Family:**

 **I am humble by the love and support that you have shown me in the recent death of my Sister. My Sister, Carol, is in a much better place with our Heavenly Father.**

 **Linda Milner**

 **Thank You to June Stokes as Prayer Meeting coordinator for July, and all who have graciously agreed to devotions and food preparation. This group is continuing to grow into a loving caring family.**

This year for Holiday Happening (November 4)

A place for everyone.

Food Pantry, Jewelry booth, One of a kind specialty items, Country Store, Holiday decorations to share, and silent auction of “Potpourri of Talents.” This last item is where everyone can be involved as all have a talent to share. Already expressed, “3 time Directed Target Practice,” “A Bream Fishing Trip,” “A specialty cake,” and an “Italian Meal for 4.” Your talent may be letter writing, organizing a closet, or running errands. Start thinking and planning to have fun with this.

 Collection center for the
Country store is the college classroom outside the Sanctuary.

 You will be contacted to contribute for the more involved, the more fun to be had.

**Don’t forget to bring staples as dried beans, rice, peanut butter, pasta etc. for Helping Hands. Collection center is the green wagon in the hall.**

**“As your Sunday school Superintendent: Note from Nancy:**

 **I am taking the summer off of During the hot days of July,**

**Collecting the roll, but Joanne Fiedler work must go on whether it be**

**Is helping out. I will resume my duties inside or out. While pressure
in the fall.” washing the courtyard, my**

 **John Robert Hillman teammate brought a cool ice**

 **tea to revive me. Friends and**

 **helpers like that are always**

 **needed at FUMC.**

**Did you know that our church hosts many events? Each month, there is a computer class, book study, exercise group. Crochet and knitting group, morning prayers, and Bible study, just to list a few. There is a place for you to be involved.**



