**PASTOR’S PEN**

**The Messenger**

First United Methodist Church

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 *“Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for bread, will give a stone?  Or if the child asks for a fish, will give a snake? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!” (Matthew 7:9-11).*

     Last month, in honor of Mother’s Day, I wrote about feminine descriptions of God in the Bible.  This month, in honor of Father’s Day, I want to feature a masculine image of God.

     As these verses point out, providing for children is an important role of fathers.  Providing food, clothing, shelter, education, and medical care are all requirements of fatherhood.  Of course, a child’s needs aren’t only material and physical. A child also needs attention and love, so a father’s role necessarily includes the provision of tenderness and engagement.

     As I remember my dad, I think about how he tried to teach my brothers and me some traditionally masculine things like how to build a house and how to catch a fish.  He also taught us things like how to draw, good penmanship, and how to have proper manners at the dinner table. One time when I needed to get my bike repaired at a repair shop and I thought the price was too high, my dad taught me that it’s important to pay a laborer a fair wage.  Regularly, I learned from my dad’s example that it was important to be honest in business dealings and always to be true to your word.

     On Father’s Day, I’ll be in Billings, Montana, for the Mountain Sky Annual Conference.  While I’m away, various laity of the congregation will be leading the “Singspiration” worship service here at First UMC.  I hope you dads will be in church with your kids and grandkids. Maybe you can choose to sing songs like “This is My Father’s World” and “Faith of Our Fathers” or other favorite hymns.  Fathers of the church, I take this opportunity now to wish you “Happy Father’s Day” and thank you for all you have done and still do for your families, your congregation, and your community.  Thank you for *providing* us important examples of the characteristics and nature of God.

     God’s paternal blessings be upon you all!

     Rev. Kim

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2019**

 Join the fun at Roar! Life is wild…God is good VBS! It will be held June 3-7 from 5:00-8 p.m. each evening. At Roar!, kids will explore God’s goodness and celebrate a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life. The week will be filled with wild music, fascinating gizmos, high-energy games and amazing Bible stories. Thank you to everyone that has volunteered to help at VBS and all those that have donated items. It takes a village! Please contact Brenda Boren, VBS Director, at b.boren34@gmail.com if you have questions or need more information.

 VBS will be featured in the June 9th Worship service.

**JUNE MISSION EMPHASIS**

 The Monthly Mission project for June is the William H. & LaDean Stobaugh Scholarship fund, which helps FUMC students pay part of their cost of going to college or technical school. The UMM administers this fund by raising funds (a spaghetti dinner this summer), reviewing applications, and presenting the awards. Donations designated for the Scholarship can be placed in the offering plate or in the box near the doors. The application form is available on the church’s website under the UMM menu and must be delivered to the church office or UMM President Tim Stenner by June 30th.

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS**

 We will have no regular meetings in June and July. We will have two activities in August and all FUMC women are invited to participate.

   10 August - Mission U.  This is an FUMC Mission Team sponsored event and  UMW will provide the continental breakfast. Please also register for a class.
    23 August - Craftmaking Day at 1:00

**PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY**

On June 16, we will participate in the annual United Methodist Peace with Justice Sunday.  That includes a denomination-wide special offering. Half of the offering will stay in the Mountain Sky Conference, and the other half will be sent farther away to help somewhere else.  Here are some examples of how Peace with Justice Offerings are used:

* In Liberia (Africa), where human rights are being violated, the United Methodist Church is standing up against injustice.
* In Arizona border towns, offerings are used to help assist immigrants with legal issues.
* In Pennsylvania, United Methodists are working to reduce sex-trafficking.

Moved by Christ’s love to pursue reconciliation and peace, honoring the dignity of every individual made in God’s image, the United Methodist Church is unwilling to turn a blind eye to injustice.  Although one UM congregation alone might not be able to change a broken world, our collective giving makes a big difference. Please plan to put something extra in the June 16 special offering for Peace with Justice.

**BEEKEEPING MINISTRY NEWS**

**** Our beekeepers have been “busy as bees” this last few weeks. The new hives are installed and we visit often to make sure the queen is doing her job of egg laying, no pests are in the hive, and that honey and pollen are being collected. So far so good, although two hives are keeping us on our toes, with some queen bee mysteries. Ask a beekeeper for more details!

 Now we are into our season of honey sweetened jam making. We always appreciate the 8 oz. or half-pint jar donations everyone provides for us. Also, we need lids and rings for the regular mouth jars. Keep them coming! There is a donation box in the narthex near the kitchen, where you can put your gifts.

 The beekeepers will provide the Monday night meal for VBS on June 3rd. We can use extra help from others. Please contact the Queen Bee, Kristen at: bellf4m@comcast.net. We are making Spaghetti Casserole and need others to help with this.

 Our next Business Meeting is on Monday, June 3rd from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm. We will meet right after we are finished with the VBS meal, in the church yard, as we do not want to conflict with VBS. Come out and learn what we are up to. New members are always welcome and there are many ways to help without going to the hives. Thank you current beekeepers, for your commitment to this ministry.

**COMMUNITY GARDEN HAPPENINGS**

 Many thanks to those who were able to join us in the Community Garden in May for planting and irrigating. Also thank you to everyone who donated plants or seeds to the garden. We hope for success as the days warm and the plants grow.

 Every Tuesday in June from 8:00 am to 9:30 am we are looking for volunteers to help weed and maintain the Community Garden. Email Kristen at: bellf4m@comcast.net with questions. You are also free to come to the garden anytime it suits your schedule to pull weeds—thanks!

 There are openings to help irrigate the garden, too. You will always be paired with two others and an experienced person will lead the team. Contact Kristen at the above email if you can water on June 9th, June 17th or June 24th. This is a critical need.

 We continue to work with the city of Marriott- Slaterville on our secondary water plan for Project S.W.I.F.T.S. Currently, the city is conducting an engineering study to get a cost estimate. More to come!

**PROJECT S.W.I.F.T.S**

**Sustainable Water Initiative--Food to Share**

We continue to make progress on this project. No new updates at this time. Our June monthly meeting will be on Thursday, June 20th at 7:00 p.m.

Questions? Steve & Kristen Bell: bellf4m@comcast.net

 **UMCOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS TRAINING**

 On Saturday, June 22, Community UMC will host a Disaster Preparedness Training by the United Methodist Committee on Relief. The UMCOR training will have three parts: 1) for individual residents and homeowners, 2) for Trustees & Finance Committee members and others who need to be concerned about their church building, and 3) for those who are interested in serving in a post-disaster relief mission team. Part 1 will be 9:00-10:00 a.m. Part 2 will be 10:00-12:00. Part 3 will be 12:00-1:00 p.m. You can attend all of the event or just the session that is most relevant to you.

**FUMC YOUTH NEWS**

**Youth Schedule**

June 2nd –  VBS Training

June 9th –  Final Mission Trip Mtg

June 16th – No Group

June 22-29 – Mission Trip

June 30th – No Group

**THOSE GOING ON THE YOUTH MISSION TRIP**

Steve & Kristen Bell

Chris Hicks

Lori Maki

Victoria & Jonathan Hair

Chloe, Megan & Trystan Egbert

Michael & Marc Erling

Gabriel & Ian GiVogue

Damien Rich

Kevin Hicks

Michelle Perry

**BOOK TALK**

 The Book Talk book of the month is Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman. Join us on Monday, June 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Cheryl Thompson for our book discussion. Contact Cheryl at 801-389-9864 for further information.

**WHAT’S THE LATEST ON THE UMC?**

 The U.M. Judicial Council met April 23-25 to rule on the constitutionality of “Traditional Plan” petitions that passed through General Conference in February.  About half of the “Traditional Plan” petitions were deemed constitutional and will be in effect beginning January 1, 2020. However, the Western Jurisdiction and other regions and entities of the denomination have declared that they will resist implementation of the restrictive and punitive measures.

 At this time, it doesn’t appear that any large groups of United Methodists are planning to leave the denomination. Various groups have been meeting around the U.S. to discuss strategies, mostly pertaining how to stay together, as a potential division of the denomination would be fraught with practical difficulties (not unlike Brexit).

 More informal meetings and conversations will be on-going over the next months, as well as formal annual conference meetings, like our own Mountain Sky Conference, June 13-16, in Billings, MT. The next General Conference (world-wide UMs) will be held in Minneapolis in May 2020.

**UNITED METHODIST MEN NEWS**

 The UMM are meeting Monday, **June 10th** at 6:30PM. For more information contact Tim Stenner or Mitch Boren.

 The UMM will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, July 13th with a free will offering for their scholarship fund. Mark your calendars for a fun evening of great food and fellowship. A clipboard will be circulated to sign up.

**SUMMER CAMPS AT PINECLIFF**



Pinecliff Camp is located 18 miles east of Coalville, UT, about a one hour drive from Ogden. Costs are listed below. Camperships (scholarships) are available. Contact Brenda Boren for more information and registration forms.

Elementary Camp: (Grade K-6) July 15 to 19, 2019

 Fee before July 1st $180.00

 After July 1st $215.00

Jr & High School Camp: (Grade 7-12) July 22 to 26, 2019

 Fee before July 1st $180.00.

 After July 1st $215.00

(Please note date change for Jr High students)

 

Dear First United Methodist Church,

We thank you so much for your two donations totaling $1,408.57. We were able to buy 4 Chromebook computers so our junior & high schoolers can do homework. We invite you to come in and see the impact you are making. Your generosity makes our mission possible!

Thank you again,

Jay Stretch, Former Executive Director, Lantern House

Dear First United Methodist Church,

 On behalf of the Pinecliff Board of Directors, I want to thank you for your donation of $1,128.50 towards the camping ministry.

 We are currently in the process of planting trees around the RV parking area. We hopefully will be able to raise the funds for a small bath house located near the ball field. We invite all of you to come visit the camp this summer. Blessings, Susan Wagner