

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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JUNE 2022

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MESSAGE FROM PASTOR

We all need to be in prayer for the United Methodist Church. The WNC Annual Conference will begin its annual meeting at Lake Junaluska on June 16th. The struggle between the UMC and the new Global Methodist Church is escalating. This separation will certainly bring some strong feelings from all directions. It is always sad when brothers and sisters disagree so strongly that separation seems to be the only answer, the only way to peace. A church discussion to review all the issues might be productive. Talk about this with one another. Most people will take a stand on these issues, but we must always remember to treat one another with respect and kindness no matter where we stand theologically. Terry

MESSAGE FROM LAY LEADER

“Follow the Father”

As I write this article, I'm sitting on the deck of a camper at Lake Chatuge. At a distance I can see movement in the water. As the object comes closer, I realize it is a family of Canadian geese, a father, mother, and three goslings. I watch them navigate the glasslike water until they reach the edge of the bank. Once there, they gathered in a grassy area and began searching for their morning meal. The parents are extremely protective of the little ones. A large boxer tried to invade their territory and the honking began. The parents immediately pushed the goslings into the water to safety. As the family swam away, I noticed one of the goslings lagging behind. He made it wrong turn and went out on his own. He felled to follow the father!

This made me think of how we as humans, sometimes take a wrong turn. Or how easy it is to be sidetracked. How we sometimes take the easy road instead of the “right” road.

Matthew 16: 24-25 gives us these instructions from Jesus:

24 Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come to me, let him decide, deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me.

25 For whoever would save his life [a] will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”

Following the Father is not easy. It is a commit. It is a lifestyle change where we lose the old and become new. It is a journey not arrived at instantly. It is work. Join me on this journey. Let us commit to work and walk together following the Father.

Susan



RICK'S REFRAIN

A phrase I remember from my youth is “get your mind out of the gutter.” Today, it has not been my mind in the gutter, but a scoop and my hands removing detritus that caused the recent rains to drain improperly. As I reflect on this menial and somewhat unpleasant task, I am drawn to thoughts of the process of filling those gutters.

Many of the items lying lazily in the trenches were leaves. They had once adorned the trees with splendor, but their cycle was completed, and they became gutter fodder. Possibly there are things in my life, though once useful, are now just clutter. As a physical example, there is a chainsaw in our storage room. Since we have no trees on our lot, that has become superfluous. On a more practical level, engineering principles learned through education and experience should slide away to make memory room for something with a more reasonable application, such as Bible study.

Other items found in the gutter were walnut tree blooms. As I mentioned before, we have no trees on our lot, but many of

our neighbors' trees share their branches and foliage with us. These blooms portend food for neighborhood squirrels and chipmunks in the fall after the growing season has completed. Our small, secondary refrigerator just gave its last after about 35 years of use. We replaced it with a new, improved version. Isaiah 1:25 says “I will turn my hand against you; I will thoroughly purge away your dross and remove all your impurities.” I'm looking to the day when God will remove the cross of this life and welcome me into His eternal kingdom.

Still other items found in the overflowing gutters were thousands of sand-like particles that were formerly part of the roofing material. That is a

reminder that someday in the not-too-distant future, the roof will need replacing. My personal “roof” has already turned gray and almost white and will eventually wither away when this mortal body reaches the end of its life cycle.

Hopefully, our gutters won't need cleaning out again for a while, but life offers a continual challenge to rout out the old and make way for the new. II Corinthians 5:17 states, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” What a joyful realization that Christ has made and is making us new in Him.



SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10

Smokey has Sunday School lessons for children ages 4 to 12 each week and Mark has adult lessons.



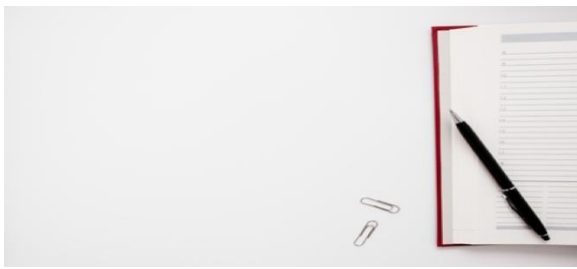
BETH'S MISSION MESSAGE

Our June food collection theme is non-canned food. Bring in non-perishable food that comes in bags, pouches, boxes, or bottles.

In case you were wondering about the postal carrier's food drive, Haywood Christian Ministry reports receiving about 7,000 pounds of food. In past years they have received around 30,000 pounds but they are grateful, saying that's 7,000 pounds' more than we had before..

Please take a few minutes and think about what our mission program should look like. Is collecting food enough or should I be looking for projects for us to do? Or would you like a list of missions the UMC is collecting funds for? Please be in prayer about the future of our missions' program.

Thanks for all you do in the name of Jesus, Beth



BETH'S PPRC MESSAGE

As you all know, Rev. Terry Rowland has been a great blessing to us but his time as our preacher is drawing to an end. His last Sunday will be June 26. There is a special ceremony, an order of farewell, that the United Methodist Church follows for these transitional Sundays.

Rev. Jed Tate will begin his time with us on Sunday, July 10th. On the 3rd we will be having

a singing service. Rick says he can play any songs in our hymn books; if you want to sing something not in our books, get him the music.



Stewardship News as of May 26, 2022

“I will be loyal to the United Methodist Church and uphold it with my Prayers, my Presence, my Gifts, my Service, and my Witness.”

2022 Budget \$58,453.00

Needed thru 5/22/22 for budget \$24,550.26

Received to date for budget \$18,591.00

Behind budget \$ 5,959.26

Paid out to date for budget \$22,632.72

We thank you for your faithfulness!

JUNE 2022 DATES TO REMEMBER

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM**

June 5 – Pentecost

The festival of Pentecost is still important to Christians today because it represents the beginning of the Christian Church. It reminds them how Jesus' promise that God would send the Holy Spirit was fulfilled.

Pentecost is celebrated Fifty days after Easter. (Pentecost literally means “50”) Celebrates: The day the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles, causing them to speak in tongues.

June 6 – Whit Monday

Whit Monday, or Pentecost Monday, is a Christian holiday. It is the day after Pentecost, also known as Whit Sunday or Whitsunday, which commemorates the descent of the Holy Ghost upon the disciples of Jesus Christ, according to the New Testament of the Bible.

Also known as Monday of the Holy Spirit is a moveable feast in the Christian liturgical calendar. It is moveable because it is determined by the date of Easter.

June 12 – Trinity Sunday

Feast of the Holy Trinity, also called Trinity Sunday, Christian feast in honor of the Trinity, celebrated in Western liturgical churches on the Sunday following Pentecost (the 50th day after Easter). It is known that the feast was celebrated on this day from as early as the 10th century. The day honors the descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus' apostles and followers.

June 13 – Holy Spirit Monday

Holy Spirit Monday celebrates the emergence of the Holy Spirit in the form of flames.

June 15 – Senior Luncheon at Faith

Details to be announced.

June 16 – Corpus Christi

On the **Thursday after Trinity Sunday**, Christians celebrate the feast day of Corpus Christi, which literally translates to "body of Christ". The day celebrates the presence of Jesus Christ's body and blood in the Eucharist or the Communion.

June 24 – Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day

Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day originated from celebrations of the summer solstice, an ancient pagan tradition in which fires were lit to celebrate light on the longest day of the year. In

France, the Roman Catholic Church adapted this holiday and associated it with John the Baptist, cousin of Jesus.

A national holiday in the Canadian province of Quebec and celebrated by French Canadians worldwide, especially in Canada and the United States, Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day, June 24, honors the traditional feast day of the Nativity — or birth — of St. John the Baptist. The religious nature of the holiday has been de-emphasized for civic events, and "la St-Jean" is now mainly a celebration of French speaking culture and history filled with public events, parades, barbecues, picnics and fireworks.



2 – Donna Mc Donald
16 – Lynn Mintz
18 – Charles Taylor
26 – Donna Wheeler
30 - Lynn Scarborough



8 – Steve & Lynn Scarborough
23 – Thurman & Trudy Blaine



Thank you for your prayers, cards, well wishes during my recovery. Judy