

Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 5, 2017

Communion / Food Pantry Sunday

- 9:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 10:45 a.m. Fellowship & Sunday School
- 12:00 p.m. Chili Feed

Monday, February 6, 2017

- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Pack/Troop 47

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

Church Council Reports Due

- 9:30 a.m. Coffee with Pastor Nicole - Utopia
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, February 12, 2017

- 8:10 a.m. Worship Service
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School & Coffee - Fellowship Hall
- 10:50 a.m. Worship Service
- 3:00 p.m. District Youth (DCYM) - Neodeshea UMC

Monday, February 13, 2017

- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Pack/Troop 47

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Valentine's Day

Wednesday, February 15, 2017

- 9:30 a.m. Coffee with Pastor Nicole - Utopia

Saturday, February 18, 2017

- 9:00 a.m. Bible Study - Parsonage

Sunday, February 19, 2017

- 8:10 a.m. Worship Service
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School & Coffee - Fellowship Hall
- 10:50 a.m. Worship Service

Life in the Church

Notes from the pastor.

Change

I once heard it said that the only people who like change are wet babies. There may be some truth to that. We live in a world that is constantly changing. Some changes are good. Some are not.

Even our faith, as Christians, changes over time. In Paul's letters, he reminds us that there is a difference between "spiritual milk" for those who are infants, or new to the faith, and spiritual meat for those who have grown in their faith. It is a good that that we grow in faith.

However, in the midst of all of these changes, there are some things that never change-the presence of God in our lives, the grace and love of God, and the call on the lives of Christians to love all of God's creation including the people and the natural world.

It seems that the last one has become a "hot topic" lately. So, I come back to scripture as I reflect upon it. Scriptures such as Leviticus 19:33-34 which says, "When immigrants live in your land with you, you must not cheat them. Any immigrant who lives with you must be treated as if they were one of your citizens. You must love them as yourself, because you were immigrants in the land of Egypt; I am the Lord your God." Another scripture is like it. Matthew 22:37-40 (which also references Leviticus) says "[Jesus] replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You must love your neighbor as you love yourself. All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands.'"

These scriptures do not change as time passes, or as social constructs change, or political parties or affiliations shift. They do not change as our needs, desires, or situations change. These are the call of God and the teaching of Christ to be lived out by all who call themselves Christians.

NOTES:

Children's Sunday School

Julie Thompson is organizing teachers for the children's Sunday School class. Please contact her if you are available to teach a Sunday.

Feb. 05 - Julie Thompson Feb. 12 - Cathy Thompson
Feb. 19 - Becky Dobbins Feb. 26 - Julie Thompson

All Church Movie Night

On February 26th, FUMC will have all church movie night in Fellowship Hall at 4:00. We will watch Veggie Tales *The League of Incredible Vegetables* (CVLI licensed). The plot: When Dr. Flurry wants to freeze the town of Bumblyburg in fear the problem's too big for LarryBoy alone, so he turns to The League of Incredible Vegetables for help! Thingamabob (master of gadgetry), S-Cape (becoming anything to escape), Vogue (transformable suit) and Ricochet (super-bouncing ability) are up for the task!. It explores faith themes including: Heroes, Justice, Stealing, Unity, Teamwork, Confidence, Fear, Trust, Helping Others, Weakness, and Gifting. We will also enjoy pizza and popcorn. All are welcome!

Church Council Meeting

At our January 25th Church Council meeting, items discussed included the worship time, Sunday School, need for focusing on youth, and stained glass window repair.

Our next meeting is scheduled for February 25th (weather permitting, 3rd Wednesday) at 5:15. Reports due to Pastor Nicole by February 8th.

Sunday School Study

The Aldersgate Experience Sunday School class is going through Adam Hamilton's study, *Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say*. We will begin the study on February 12. The books are available through Cokesbury, Amazon, and others.

Bible Study

The Saturday Bible Study will begin *liturgy of the ordinary: sacred practices in everyday life* by Tina Harrison Warren on February 18. The books are available through Cokesbury, Amazon, and others.

Liturgists

The upcoming liturgists are:

Feb. 05 - Pat McCoy Feb. 12 - Irene Crandall
Feb. 19 - Florene Carnes Feb. 26 - Carmen Winston

If you have a conflict with a date as they are added, please let Pastor Nicole know so a change can be made. Thank you for adding more voices to the ministry and worship at FUMC!

CFUMC Radio Broadcasts

Worship services at CFUMC will be on the radio on KQQF Star 98.9 each Sunday (live broadcast during 10:50 service [9:30 service on 1st Sundays]). This is a great outreach opportunity for our shut-ins as well as folks who don't currently have a church home. KQQF will also air weekly devotionals (Fridays around 10:30), promotions for the church, and announcements of inclement weather/church cancellations when necessary. We are asking that we celebrate this ministry, as well as things happening in our lives and those things we remember, together. Each week, we will have an opportunity to sponsor the week's broadcast in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone (i.e. anniversary, birthday, wedding, graduation, etc.). The broadcast is \$70 per week and Barbara has a list of dates available in the church office.

First Sunday Worship

Our worship service on the first Sunday of each month will be at 9:30 a.m. This decision was made by church council in an effort to bring the Body of Christ together around the communion table, to worship God, and to fellowship as an entire body. Normally, these first Sunday worship services will be followed by a potluck meal and time of fellowship. On February 5th, we will have the PAWS Chili Feed at 12:00 p.m. There will be opportunity for fellowship and Sunday School after the worship service.

Church Directory and Pictures

Mark your calendars: LifeTouch will be taking professional photographs for a new and updated First UMC directory. LifeTouch will be here March 10th and 11th. We will begin scheduling photo sessions soon. Look for more information to come.