

# The Messenger

Crievewood United Methodist Church

March 19, 2014

## Pastor's Pen

### Giving Thanks for Tom McBryde

In the book *Like Shaking Hands with God*, we read the transcript of a conversation about writing with Kurt Vonnegut and Lee Stringer, moderated by Ross Klavan. In his response to the question: Do you think there is a place beyond the text that readers experience when they read you, and if so what is that place beyond the words you write? (pg 45); Vonnegut replies, "I just want to add that virtually every writer I know would rather be a musician." Asked why, Vonnegut goes on to say "Music is the most pleasurable and magical thing we can experience. I'm Honorary President of the American Humanist Association, but I simultaneously say that music is the proof of the existence of God." (pg. 47)

Friends, we have a marvelous opportunity on the horizon. Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> the congregation will give thanks to God for the person and ministry of Tom McBryde and will express appreciation for Tom's faithful service at Crievewood, both as a volunteer and a staff member. You will want to be present in at least one of our worship services that morning, and then stay for a fellowship meal following the late service. Through worship and fellowship it is a distinct privilege to honor Tom.

Before coming to Crievewood, Patti and I knew of Tom McBryde by name because of the many ways he has shared his talents across the Nashville community; his work with the Wishing Chair Productions puppet shows of the Nashville Public Library come to mind. Tom is known far and wide as a talented musician, composer, and arranger.

However, it was not until we joined this church that we came to fully understand the breadth of his artistic abilities and the reach of his vocational gifts. I have seen firsthand how Tom has so beautifully and generously nurtured, inspired, and affirmed folks of every age. Crievewood is blessed to have within the church family one who is such an accomplished musician, but greater yet, one who is such a profound example of grace.

I too think music is a pretty good argument for the existence of God, but what strikes me about Kurt Vonnegut's quote is how he moved to the transcendent power of music when asked about what he hoped readers would experience and be drawn to through his writing. That seems very apropos to our celebration of Tom's ministry among us, for through him we have been drawn into God's holy presence, experienced God's extravagant love, and have been given a glimpse of God's eternal Kingdom. The place beyond the music.

Peter van Eys

## Up-Coming Events

### March Fifth Sunday Pot Luck Dinner

On **Sunday, March 30**, a potluck meal will follow the traditional service. We will also honor Tom McBryde and give thanks to God for his many years of ministry on the Crievewood staff. Please come and share a special memory or story of Tom.

### UMC Nashville District Laity Listening Gathering

Join our district superintendent, Rev. Harriet Bryan, and others in southeast Nashville in a time of sharing, conversation, and questions about our district and the direction of our United Methodist Church. This gathering will occur on **Saturday, March 29, 10:00 a.m.**, at Crievewood. Register for child care at [carol.ruckman@tnumc.org](mailto:carol.ruckman@tnumc.org) or 615-327-3582 by March 24. Please come and welcome our guests and share your thoughts about the organization, mission, and work of our church.

## Church Clean-up Day

Hurray! It's that time of year, and I wanted to extend an invite to any and all who may wish to participate! The Trustees have set a date of **Saturday, March 22**, as our target for some focused attention to a few areas of the grounds. In addition, if you have any designs on sprucing up your classroom, organizing storage areas and the like, this might prove to be an excellent opportunity to do so. As the chipper truck will be running soon, we thought it best to get this out of the way sooner rather than later!

Identified areas where we will be focusing will include, but is not limited to, the following:

Parsonage grounds – a little bit of everything, including trimming, mulching, etc.

Sanctuary entrance – trimming shrubs, pulling weeds, spreading mulch, etc.

CUMC sign at the corner – more of the same

General stuff – open to suggestions

If there are some handy types with woodworking skills, I'd love someone to take a look at the deck/steps leading up to Manley Drive. I believe there may be a loose board or handrail that needs attention prior to pressure washing and sealing (tentatively scheduled for later in the year when it's thoroughly warm and dry).

Please feel free to let your Trustees know of any particular items you'd like to see fixed!

Thanks,  
Bill

## Missions

### TP Sunday

As part of our ongoing support of Community Care Fellowship the Outreach Committee is encouraging participation in **TP Sundays**. Please bring **toilet paper**, any size package, on the **first Sunday of every month**. Packages may be left in the narthex of the church. **The next TP Sunday is April 6.**

### One Great Hour of Sharing

**Sunday, March 30**, is a Sunday of special offering in the United Methodist Church. One Great Hour of Sharing calls Methodists to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. This offering provides administrative support for UMCOR as it responds to disaster survivors and people in need around the world. Please give as you are able.

### Volunteers Needed

The Trustees are looking for volunteers to help with our Recycling Program. Depending on the number of people who sign up, each volunteer would be assigned a maximum of just one turn every two months. The task would involve loading up the recyclable items and depositing them at either Granberry Elementary School or the old Kroger store on Nolensville Road and Elysian Field. A pickup truck is recommended. Interested persons should contact Barry Coggins at [barrycoggins@comcast.net](mailto:barrycoggins@comcast.net) or 481-1050.

### Easter Lilies

If you would like to remember or honor a loved one by purchasing an Easter lily used in decorating the sanctuary, please fill out a flower envelope found in the Narthex and place it in the offering plate or turn it into the office. The cost of each plant is \$12.00. The deadline for ordering a lily is Palm Sunday, April 13.

## Activities

### “Stuck” Bible Study

The class will skip two weeks during spring break, and come back together to conclude the “Stuck” study on March 30. Our next Bible study will begin on April 6.

# Wednesday Night Fellowship

- \*A five-week Lenten study led by Pastor Peter which began on March 12 continues through Lent and meets at 6:00 p.m.
- \*The children will meet at 6:00 p.m. upstairs for children’s music, and the Nursery will be open every week during the program hour.
- \*Gathering musicians will practice at 6:00 p.m., and Chancel Choir will practice at 7:00 p.m.

## WNF Menus:

- Wednesday, March 19—*Mexican Night*: tacos, cheese quesadillas, Mexican rice, refried beans, chips and salsa, and dessert
- Wednesday, March 26—Fish, rice, mixed vegetables, rolls, and dessert
- Wednesday, April 2—Hamburgers with all the trimmings, chips, baked beans, and dessert

## JOY Club

The JOY Club is a group of mainly older adults meeting monthly for an outing that includes a Dutch treat meal and an experience at a location in Middle Tennessee.

**Thursday, March 27**, the Joy Club will take a one hour walking tour of the Music City Center at 1:00 p.m. Lunch will follow. Please note that lunch at the Center requires two more blocks of walking. Make your reservation by March 23. Departure time from CUMC will be promptly at noon.

On **Thursday, April 24**, members will tour and lunch at the Milky Way Farm. The cost is \$24 per person. **Reservations must be made in advance. Please give your check made out to CUMC to Jean McCurdy by March 31.** Gather at the church by 9:00 a.m. on April 24.

## Men’s Breakfast

The United Methodist Men will hold their next monthly meeting on **Saturday, April 5, the first Saturday in April** at 8:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. There is always a great breakfast, fellowship, and program, so make an effort to come. Then reach out and invite a guest to join you.



## Nursery Schedule

	<b>8:00-10:30 a.m. Shift</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.-noon Shift</b>
3/23/14	Kelly Marks and Jani Cate	Jani Cate
3/30/14	Mindy and Hayden Morris	Lisa Sims

## Spring Festival Volunteers Needed

The Crieewood Spring Festival is **April 12 from 9-11:00 a.m.** There will be spring crafts and an Easter egg hunt. I hope that you will consider volunteering so that we can make this a memorable event for the kids! I have created a sign up genius to make it a little easier. Please feel free to contact me directly also at 615-414-4126. Please click on the following link to sign up: [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0F4BACA72AA57-criewood](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0F4BACA72AA57-criewood)  
Kristy Thornton

## Youth

### Youth on March 23

This Sunday the youth will be meeting at Sweet Cece's at Nipper's Corner at 5:00 p.m. If you are in town, join us for some ice cream. We will NOT have a youth dinner on that night.

### Kickball Game!

This Thursday, March 20, we will meet at church at 1:00 p.m. for a kickball game. Bring your friends out. It should be a fun time, and we will have ice cream afterwards.

### Nashville Fast, May 2nd-3rd

This year the youth will be participating in the Nashville Fast on Friday, May 2nd-3rd. We will be fasting for 30 hours with four or five other churches. As part of the fast the youth will be going to Rock the Chains battle of the band event at Brentwood UMC; we will be doing some service learning projects and other fun activities. The kick off for this event is on Sunday, April 13, when we get together with other youth groups. Go ahead and mark your calendars; more information will be sent later.

### Upcoming Dates:

Thursday, March 20	-Kickball at Crieveewood, 1:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 23	- Meet at Sweet Cece's in Nippers Corner for youth, 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 13	-Travel to Immanuel Baptist for Nashville Fast kickoff with other participating churches
May 2-3	- Nashville Fast
Sunday, May 18	- Youth Sunday/Sr. Recognition
June 8-14	- Mountain TOP

## New Monthly Financial Update

### January-February Giving Report

*As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.*

*They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future,*

*so that they may take hold of the life that is life.*

*I Timothy 6:17-19*

**So That....**Paul left Timothy in Ephesus to care for the Christian community so that the newly formed congregation would be under the spiritual leadership and pastoral care of his trusted co-worker.

**So That....**Paul instructs wealthy Christians to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share so that they may experience the life that is life.

**So That....**Crieveewood UMC exists for worship, fellowship, spiritual growth, and witness so that we might become like Christ and God may be glorified.

**So That....**we offer our financial gifts to Crieveewood UMC so that we can be faithful to the mission and ministry to which God has called us as a part of the body of Christ.

Our 2014 Operating Budget	\$461,404.
Giving to date	\$ 89,911.
Expenses to date	\$ 71,740.
Percentage of Year (Jan-Feb)	16.67
Percentage of Budget Received	19.49
Percentage of Budget Spent	15.55

May we continue to be generous and ready to share **so that** we can know the life that is life!

# Spring Festival

Saturday, April 12

9:00 a.m.

