

# The Messenger

Crievewood United Methodist Church

March 27, 2013

## Pastor's Pen

### Holy Week and Easter

I walked past blooming Bradford pear trees, all bundled up with scarf and hooded jacket against spitting snow. Ah Holy Week. Liturgically we are in the midst of the passion narrative and the cold hard realities that unfolded for Jesus; betrayal, arrest, beating, and death to name a few. Even the image of the disciple Peter warming by a charcoal fire in the courtyard of the high priest's house (*Luke 22:55*) only teases the need for interlude in the midst of a drama seemingly out of control. Too soon the chill of thrice denial ripples forth, and Peter weeps bitterly.

If you have not had a chance to come by the church to walk through the Stations of the Cross, I encourage you to do so. A project of the Nurture Committee through the leadership of Carter Ellis, each Sunday school class was given a scripture passage recounting an event in the passion of Jesus. The classes were asked to prepare an image that would convey the event/moment, as well as guided thoughts and questions for reflection. The 14 stations flow from the narthex through the sanctuary and back to the narthex; they offer a profound means for meditating on the pain and agony of the crucifixion, and invite a look into our own hearts. I am humbly grateful to our Sunday school classes for participating in this ministry and offering this Holy week experience.

I would also encourage you to be in worship on Easter Sunday morning; we will gather for a Sunrise Service at 6:30 in addition to our 8:15 Gathering and 10:45 Traditional services. I understand that Christians observe Lent and move through Holy Week 2,000 plus years beyond the resurrection, knowing the "rest of the story" that follows the passion. I also ascribe to the belief that every Sunday is a little Easter, praising God for what God has done for us through Christ Jesus. Indeed, our very existence as a community of faith, the body of Christ, is a witness to the resurrection. Yet, Laurence Hull Stookey (Professor Emeritus of Preaching and Worship at Wesley Theological Seminary) is on point when he says: "every Easter is a Great Sunday".

It is our privilege as a people of faith to come together this Great Sunday and joyfully declare God's victory over sin and death; to proclaim again the Lord is Risen, Alleluia! So, visit the Stations of the Cross, attend the Holy Thursday Service (6:30 pm at Crievewood) and Good Friday Service (6:30pm at South End), and come to worship Easter morning. Think blooming trees and bracing cold; God's amazing grace and our need for a Savior.

Peter van Eys

## Up-Coming Events

### Stations of the Cross

"Great Job" to everyone who contributed to the Stations of the Cross, and thanks to Carter Ellis for the idea. In order for everyone to get a chance to walk through and experience the journey, we will be leaving the church open until 7:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday nights this week. That way, if you want to stop by on your way home from work, or come as a family following dinner, you have the flexibility to do so. Of course, you may also tour the stations while the church office is open during the day (office hours are 8-4:30).

## Lenten Prayer

You are invited to meet with Peter and/or Stephanie at 7:00 a.m. on Friday morning for a time of guided prayer using the book *The Awkward Season*, by Rev. Pam Hawkins. We will meet at the Panera by Target on Old Hickory Blvd. on March 29 for the last of the Lenten sessions.

## Holy Week Schedule

Holy Thursday, March 28	Combined worship with South End UMC at CUMC at 6:30 p.m.
Good Friday, March 29	Combined worship with South End UMC at South End at 6:30 p.m. <b>OR</b> Combined worship with South Nashville UMC churches at noon at Arlington UMC
Easter Sunday, March 31	Easter sunrise service at 6:30 a.m. Gathering service at 8:15 a.m. Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Traditional Easter worship at 10:45 a.m.

## 30 Hour Famine

This event from World Vision challenges students in the United States and throughout the world to participate in a 30 hour fast to learn what it is like to experience hunger. Students also work in local service projects during this period and help to raise money to combat hunger around the world. Our youth will be participating in this fast on April 5-6. Please pray for our youth and give them your support.

## Missions

### Community Care Fellowship

Community Care Fellowship is in need of all sizes of men's undershirts and is grateful to those persons who donated items. We will continue to collect garments, so if you have any donation, please leave it on the table at the top of the stairwell off the narthex.

### Shoes for Estonia

We have accepted a mission to provide shoes for some of the children of Estonia. Look for more information on this project in the next few weeks.

### Imagine NO MALARIA

As you might know, Imagine No Malaria is an extraordinary effort by the United Methodist Church to reduce preventable malaria deaths in Africa. When the campaign started in 2010, a child died every 30 seconds from this mosquito-transmitted disease. Now deaths have been cut in half, but much remains to do. Young children who have not yet developed partial immunity to malaria and pregnant women whose immunity is decreased by pregnancy are some of the most at risk for contracting the disease.

Because of this the United Methodist Church has established a Mother's Day campaign as an opportunity for members to honor their mothers or other women who have nurtured them while helping those most vulnerable in Africa. If you would like to donate to this special effort to wipe out malaria, please text MOM to 27722 or mail donations to UMC-Imagine No Malaria, Mother's Day, P.O. Box 440544, Nashville, TN 37244.

### Spring Cleaning?

Please save your used books to add to our UMW book sale in July. We want gently used books, CD's, and DVDs. Books for all ages (children included) are needed. We cannot use encyclopedias, video cassettes, or magazines. Start now to collect and put your items in piles in a corner at home or in a closet, then bring them to the church in July where we will store them in the youth room downstairs. Thank you in advance for your help.

## Building Renovation and Construction Update

Since our January Church Conference, several developments have occurred to move our project forward.

- The Nashville District Board of Church Location and Building approved our project
- The Finance Committee has secured a line of credit with SunTrust Bank
- The Trustees have prepared the Manley property for sale and it is under contract
- The architect sent documents to bidders and bids are due April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Continue to pray for our renovation and construction project. We are blessed to be a blessing!

## Office Hours

The Child Care and the Office will be closed on Good Friday, March 29. However, the church itself will be open during the day so that visitors may view the stations of the cross.

## Activities

### Wednesday Night Fellowship

# Wednesday Night Fellowship

\*PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE ARE NO DINNER OR WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES DURING HOLY WEEK.

\*The adult program for Wednesday, April 3, will be announced soon. Watch the bulletins and newsletter for updates.

\*All children's choir rehearsals and preschool activities will meet in their usual spots resuming on April 3.

\*The nursery will be available for those with children two and under.

### Wednesday Night Menus

Wednesday, March 27— **NO** Wednesday Night Dinner

Wednesday, April 3 — Potato bar, salad bar, and ice cream bar

Wednesday, April 10 — Chicken and dressing casserole, mixed vegetables, cranberries, and dessert

## Joy Club

The April Joy Club meeting is a mystery lunch on **Thursday, April 25**. Please register for the mystery lunch early so that preparations for a second van can be made if they are necessary. We will meet at the church at 9:15 a.m. on April 25th.

There are now forms available to allow you to list your emergency information. This form must be on file for each participant and must be signed before you will be allowed to travel on JOY Club trips.

## Men's Breakfast

The United Methodist Men will meet on **Saturday, April 13, at 8:00 a.m.** in Fellowship Hall. All men of the church are invited to attend the program and breakfast which features Charlie Bennett's country cooking.



## Children's Corner

### Nursery Schedule

	<b>Toddler Nursery</b>	<b>Infant Nursery</b>
3/31/13	Craig and Blake Leyers	Dolly Garay and Sue Bean
4/7/13	Bill and Nina Tucker	Joe and Chris Carter
4/14/13	Peggy Cates and Jani Cate	Tracey and Andrew Lee

### KFC



If you are in grades 4-6 and want to get connected to God's power through powerful music and fun large group experiences, join us!

When: Saturday, April 27, 2013 from 10:00-2:30

Where: Springfield First UMC in Springfield, TN (511 Oak Street)

Cost: FREE, but our goal is for each child to donate a jar of peanut butter or jelly for a hands-on service project

Lunch: INCLUDED

This will serve as our KFC activity for the month of April, so please contact Brandy Tickle or Leigh Ann Cate for details and to RSVP.

### VBS 2013 is headed our way...

Mark your calendars now for our Everywhere Fun Fair: Where God's World Comes Together **VBS**. **Dates: July 8-11 from 5:45-8:00**. Volunteers are the heart of this valuable outreach program, and we need you! To assist with dinners, drama team, recreation team, craft team, music team, or registration, please contact one of our VBS Coordinators, Kelly Marks or Mindy Morris.

### Youth

#### Youth Yard Sale

The youth will be having their annual yard sale on **Saturday, April 20**. This is a great way for you to start your spring cleaning! You may start bringing donations for the sale to the church on Sunday, April 14.

