

The Messenger

Crievewood United Methodist Church

April 2, 2014

Pastor's Pen

Lent, Holy Week, Easter, and being Grateful

March 30th was a grand and glorious day at Crievewood, thanks be to God! And to all who helped plan and prepare for the worship services, lunch, and program; what beautiful expressions of Christian love and community. The congregation deserves special notice for the abundance of food; having announced that there would be many guests so bring extra our serving tables overflowed.

It was a joy to celebrate Tom McBryde's ministry among us, and the relationship that binds us together as brothers and sisters in Christ at Crievewood. Christian fellowship is a sublime gift. Too, many of Tom, Anne, and Josh's family circle were able to come, as well as friends across the years; two special expressions of love were given through video. Let me suggest that if you were not able to attend the luncheon you might want to have a taco in Tom's honor. Go ahead and ask.

When Tom took the microphone to express his gratitude, he closed us out with the very grace that has defined his life. He acknowledged how much the day meant to him and how everyone should experience such a day; he suggested we honor someone every week. I was reminded of Wendell Berry's insight that those with grateful hearts are never alone.

So, we have passed the mid-point of the season of Lent. No doubt attention has shifted toward dying Easter eggs, determining Easter attire, and planning Easter dinner. All good. Someone told me Sunday that half my hair looked good; Easter Sunday is one of those days I pay attention to the whole presentation. Easter traditions are a wonderful thing.

However, there is more to consider as I write on the 24th day of a 40 day season. How are we doing in our commitment to observe a holy Lent? What insights have we gained from tending to the spiritual disciplines? Have we made new space for the holy in our lives? Indeed there are many ways to examine how we are growing in our faith, our likeness of Christ, our commitment to the covenant.

Now is also an appropriate time to make attending Holy Week services a priority.

April 13 th	Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday 8:15 and 10:45 am Worship Services
April 17 th	Holy Thursday 6:30 pm Worship Service
April 18 th	Good Friday Noon Service @ Glenclyff UMC or 6:30 pm Service @ South End UMC
April 20 th	Easter Sunday 6:30 am Sunrise Service or 8:15 and 10:45 am Worship Services

You should further note that from April 6th through April 18th you may come to the church narthex/sanctuary and experience the Stations of the Cross, as depicted by our many Sunday school classes. This is a meaningful way to reflect on the passion narrative that tells of Jesus' arrest, trial, and crucifixion.

The proclamation of Easter Sunday will be much more meaningful if we have entered into the story of how Jesus suffered and died for our sake, for all. Because Jesus is the Savior of all and the Word of God's love for all, it is an especially opportune time to invite friends and family to church. I am blessed to be part of this worshipping community, this Christian fellowship; I am grateful for each of you and look forward to our movement through Holy Week together. As you plan your Easter dinner, consider tacos.

Peter van Eys

Up-Coming Events

Spring Festival

Our annual spring festival will be on **Saturday, April 12**, starting at 9:00 a.m. The egg hunt will begin at 10:00 a.m. Please bring a bag or basket.

Stations of the Cross

A Roman Catholic tradition across the centuries, the stations of the cross are also referred to as “the way of the cross” and serve as artistic meditations on the Passion Week. The last actions of Jesus are retraced through this project and are presented as an invitation to experience religion through art. Each station will include the scripture, a brief reflection on the station, and the work of art. You may view the stations of the cross in the narthex and sanctuary April 7 through April 18.

Called Church Conference

April 6th at 4:00 pm

A Church Conference has been called to hear a report from the Building Committee outlining the action steps that have been taken regarding our Renovation and Expansion Project. There will be a financial update on our Capital Campaign and discussion concerning next steps for living into Crieewood’s future. Please be in prayer as we continue to celebrate what God is doing in our midst and to discern how to faithfully respond to God’s will for us. Should there be any matter upon which we vote, every member of the church may vote. However, everyone is invited and encouraged to be part of the conversation.

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.**

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.

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. A pickup truck is recommended. Interested persons should contact Barry Coggins at barrycoggins@comcast.net or 481-1050.

Spring Festival Volunteers

Come join us at Crieewood's Annual Spring Festival on Saturday, April 12, beginning at 9 a.m. Want to help? Great! We need you, and here are the ways you can assist:

1. Bring bags of wrapped pre-packaged candy, preferably NOT chocolate, to the Education office on Wednesday night, April 2, or by next Sunday, April 6.
2. Come help us set up on Friday night, April 11, beginning at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
3. Help stuff eggs on Wednesday nights April 2 and April 9 from 6:00-6:45 p.m., if you are not participating in a WNF activity. Let Kristy know if you can help.
4. Volunteer to work a booth, greet guests, and have fun with our neighborhood families on Festival Day, April 12. Sign up to volunteer at www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0F4BACA72AA57-criewood

Contact Kristy Thornton at 615-414-4126 or thornton_kristy@yahoo.com.

Activities

WNF

Wednesday Night Fellowship

*On April 2, Marjana Luist from Estonia will join us and give an update on the Children's Center Lighthouse in Tallinn, Estonia. On April 9, Pastor Peter will conclude his Lenten study.

*There is no WNF dinner or program during Holy Week (April 16).

*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, April 2— Hamburgers with all the trimmings, chips, fruit salad, and dessert

Wednesday, April 9— Chicken, green beans, potatoes, corn, rolls, and dessert

Wednesday, April 16—No WNF dinner

Prayer Shawl

If you have knitted or crocheted a prayer shawl for the prayer shawl ministry, please bring it (or them) to the church office or call Susan Cortner for pick-up. If you would like to know more about the prayer shawl ministry, call or email Susan at 832-0889 or sscortner@comcast.net. Thanks so much for your support!

Sunday Evening Bible Study

Are you a woman interested in evening Bible Study? Join us for a casual chat time as we select our new study this coming Sunday, April 6 at 5:30 p.m. in the Searchers classroom. Bring your favorite appetizer or snack to share, and check out the possibilities! Contact Leigh Ann Cate with questions.

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.

On **Thursday, April 24**, members will tour and lunch at the Milky Way Farm. The cost is \$24 per person and \$3 for the van. Prior reservations are required. 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.

Dorothy Cortner Boone 2014 Scholarship Fund

It's time once again for the annual Dorothy Cortner Boone Scholarship. The scholarship's purpose is to reward financial assistance to selected students who (1) demonstrate involvement in and service to his/her school and/or community, (2) are motivated toward educational excellence.

Amount of scholarship for 2014: up to \$1,500.00. The scholarship may be awarded to more than one recipient.

If you have been awarded this scholarship in the past or if you have applied for this scholarship before, you may re-apply. You may receive the scholarship more than once. There is no age requirement.

Any student who is a member of Crievewood United Methodist Church may apply for this scholarship. An application form may be obtained in the church office. Completed applications **MUST** be received in the church office no later than **Friday, May 9, 2014.**

This scholarship is available to part time as well as full time students. We are fortunate to have this scholarship available at our church. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity!!

Please consult the scholarship form for further details.

Scholarship Selection Committee

Children's Corner

Nursery Schedule

	8:00-10:30 a.m. Shift	10:30 a.m.-noon Shift
4/06/14	Randy and Susan Cortner	Elise Warren
4/13/14	Chris and Kelly Cates	Chris and Kelly Cates

In Appreciation

Special thanks go to Leigh Coppella for sharing her organizational talent in the maintenance of our Children's Supply Closet. We appreciate you, Leigh.

Thank You

Thank you to Tracey Lee for serving as our Family Life Coordinator and planning our wonderful 5th Sunday church-wide events, as well as our annual picnic and the ice cream social. We all benefit from your gift of hospitality.