

# The Messenger

Crievewood United Methodist Church

April 24, 2013

## Pastor's Pen

### Turning the World Upside Down

I acknowledged in worship yesterday how thankful I was for the lectionary readings last week. I needed the comfort of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, the assurance of Jesus the Good Shepherd, and the vision of a peace filled future in the Revelation of John. There was so much to absorb and process in local, national, and international news; a challenge complicated by incessant coverage and immediate access. Holding the Bible and reading slowly, walking Ellington and praying quietly, were correctives not only for thought and impulse but pace and spirit.

Humanity has long known forces of nature that are out of our control. Floods, tornados, hurricanes, tsunamis, and once again a significant and deadly earthquake, happen; our hearts go out to the people of southwestern China's Sichuan province. Also, the human experience knows accidents that cause death. From the unintended consequence of texting and driving to the unexpected collapse of a wall under construction, death comes too soon for many. Even so, the destruction of property and the number of dead and injured from the fertilizer plant explosion in West, Texas caused us pause; our thoughts are with a devastated community.

What strikes at the core are senseless acts of violence. Our own city was recently rocked when a teenager was killed near his home while walking to the school bus stop, and this week the husband of a Brentwood orthodontist was charged with killing his wife in their home. By all accounts these were not random shootings, but that offers no consolation; rather the circumstances, known and unknown, shape our corporate sense of safety in particular ways. Do we let our children play outside? Are gangs taking over neighborhoods? With whom do our youth spend their time? How do we stem a culture of domestic violence? The lists of questions and concerns are long. Our love goes out to the family and friends of Jonathan Johnson and Rachael Maidens.

Yet, there are tragedies that signally challenge our equilibrium with regard to core values of life, faith, and community; the bombings at the finish line of the Boston Marathon are such an atrocity. I imagine you followed the news and know how this drama unfolded, but so many questions remain and so much damage was done. Acts of terror have their own half-life. Our prayers are with the city of Boston, and especially with families who lost loved ones and those who were injured.

As I said, the lectionary readings were helpful to my soul and spirit as I lived through the week. For one thing, the reminders of God's constant care and our hope in Christ enabled me to see the beautiful acts of kindness, the noble acts of service, and the heroic acts of sacrifice that were woven into each storyline, from Nashville to China to Texas to Boston.

In my Sunday school class we are studying the Acts of the Apostles and the lesson included the press coverage about Paul and Silas when they arrived in Thessalonica: "These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also" (17:6). Yes, it feels at times that the world is turning upside down, usually when something upsets our sense of safety or when things seem out of control. However, scripture testifies to, and the power of kindness, service, and sacrifice give witness to, another upside down turning of the world: the power of life over death, of peace over chaos, of love over violence as proclaimed in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Let's be these people, for we are the body of Christ.

Peter van Eys

## Up-Coming Events

### 40 Day Walk with God

Members of both the Tennessee and Memphis Conferences are being asked to join hands and hearts in a 40 day season of intentional prayer together and with God as we approach Annual Conference in June. Starting on Wednesday, April 24, you are invited to share in daily meditation. Please pray for congregational excellence, pastoral excellence, missional excellence, and God's transforming presence. A prayer guide can be downloaded at [www.bishopbillmcalilly.com/40-day-walk](http://www.bishopbillmcalilly.com/40-day-walk) or you may simply visit the bishop's blog each day at [www.BishopBillMcAilily.com](http://www.BishopBillMcAilily.com) or use the QR code above. A prayer guide for children is also available.



### Bake for Boston

The young adult Sunday School class is hosting a bake sale this Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. Stop by the table to pick up a baked good and leave a donation. All proceeds will go to the Boston One Fund ([onefundboston.org](http://onefundboston.org)) to help the people most affected by the tragic events that occurred in Boston on April 15, 2013.



### UMM Hamburger Supper and UMW Bake Sale

The annual hamburger supper is the largest single event of the year for the United Methodist Men, and the bake sale is a significant fundraiser for the United Methodist Women. Both events support many church and community activities. Please plan on attending and invite your friends and neighbors.

\$15.00 / Family of 3



**When:**

**Saturday, May 11 , 5:30-7:00 pm**

**How Much:**

**\$5.00 / Person**

**\$15.00 / Family of three or more**

**FREE / Children under five**

## Missions

### 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 be done. 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.

### UMW Request

Please save your used books to add to our UMW book sale in July. We want gently used books, CDs, 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.

### Community Care Fellowship

Community Care Fellowship is in need of all sizes of men's undershirts and is grateful to those persons who have 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.

## Habitat Build

Crievewood is supporting the Methodist Habitat Build again this year with both service and money. Our money commitment has been largely met through our Easter offering. If you would like to participate in the actual build, please contact either Don Proctor at 615-832-5135 or Joe Buffler at 615-351-0601. The build will be one day only and will be either on Saturday, September 28th or Sunday, September 29th.

## AIM Fall Trip to Mountain T.O.P.

Make your plans now to be part of the CUMC adult fall mission trip to Mountain Top. The dates are October 10th through October 13th. We will work hard fulfilling the physical and spiritual needs of the residents of the Cumberland Mountains, enjoy good food and Christian fellowship, and feel the real presence of our Lord and Savior as we serve and praise Him. This is often an experience that transforms the volunteer as well as the beneficiary. Don't miss out. For more information call Joe Buffler at 615-351-0601.

## Activities

### Wednesday Night Fellowship

# Wednesday Night Fellowship

\*The adult program for April 24 is *Internet Safety*.

\*All children's choir rehearsals and preschool activities will meet in their usual spots on April 24.

\*The children will present their spring musical on Wednesday, May 1. This is always a favorite. Please come and enjoy the performance and our children.

Crievewood Children's Choir  
Presents

## "I Can Only Imagine"

a musical about the reality and joys of heaven

Wednesday May 1<sup>st</sup>  
6:15 pm

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

\*Wednesday, May 1, is the last WNF program in the spring session. Wednesday Nights will resume in the fall on September 4, 2013, unless construction on the building prevents meeting in Fellowship Hall. If that happens, WNF programs will resume as soon as possible after September 4. Check the newsletter and bulletins for updates.

## Wednesday Night Menus

Wednesday, April 24 — Pork, cook's choice of sides, and peach cobbler

Wednesday, May 1 — Poppy seed chicken, rice, carrots, broccoli, and chocolate cobbler

## JOY Club Meetings—Don't Miss These Deadlines!!!!

### April

The April Joy Club meeting is a mystery lunch on **Thursday, April 25**. We will meet at the church at 9:15 a.m.

### May

The JOY Club May outing is a tour of the Amish farm land with lunch at the restaurant in Davy Crockett State Park. Participants will leave the church at **9:00 a.m. on May 23rd** and arrive at the farm for a 10:30 a.m. tour. The cost of the trip is \$10 to go on the wagon ride, \$3 for the van, and the cost of your lunch. **The wagon ride must be paid in advance no later than May 19th**. Please make out your \$10 check to Crieewood UMC and give it to Jean McCurdy.

### June

#### Urgent Notice for the June Meeting!!!!!!

Please note that this meeting is on a Sunday and that tickets must be purchased in advance.

On Sunday, June 9, 2013, the Joy Club will travel to the Larry Keeton Theater to see the *Sound of Music*. Members will leave after the traditional service, travel by car, have lunch, and see the play. **Tickets must be purchased in advance by May 5th**. Again, please make out your check (\$28/ticket) to Crieewood UMC and give it to Jean McCurdy.

## UMW General Meeting

The May General Meeting of the UMW will be Saturday, May 4, at 10:00 a.m. at the church in the Builders classroom. The program will be on Prayer and Self-Denial. It will focus on personal prayer and grace. Light refreshments will be served. All women are invited! Please come and join us.

## Other News

### Keeping Our Children Safe

We will begin holding Safe Sanctuary Info sessions quarterly for any church members who have not been through training or just want to know more about how we keep our children and vulnerable adults safe at Crieewood. Please join us upstairs during the Sunday school hour on Sunday, April 28 (room TBA). Attending one of these sessions is required for those working with children or youth. Contact Leigh Ann Cate for more information.

### Crieve Hall Neighborhood Training

Once every month the Crieve Hall Neighborhood Association offers preparedness training in our church building. Because of recent events they have adjusted the program schedule and will present information on **terrorist awareness on Thursday, May 2, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall**. Please make an effort to attend this valuable training program.

## Dorothy Cortner Boone 2013 Scholarship Fund

It's time once again for the annual Dorothy Cortner Boone Scholarship. The scholarship's purpose is to award 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 2013: 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 Crieewood 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 10, 2013**.

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

## March 2013 Finance Committee Report

| <u>Budget</u>   | <u>% of Budget</u>   |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| \$140,837.      | Pledges Received 28% |
| <u>107,016.</u> | Expenses 21%         |
| \$ 33,821.      | Balance              |

### Capital Campaign

|                 |                                      |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| \$243,134.      | March 31, 2013, Balance              |
| <u>285,885.</u> | Net Proceeds from the Sale of Manley |
| \$530,019.      | Balance                              |

The Trustees closed the sale of the Manley property on April 11, 2013. The Manley property was acquired in 2001 for \$217,000 and sold for the net price shown above. Much appreciation is due the Trustees for all their work in preparing the property to be sold.

We ask everyone to congratulate and express appreciation to Bill Tucker, chair of the Trustees, the Trustee Committee members, and to all those that worked at the house preparing it for sale.

## Please Mark Your Calendar

Carter Ellis will graduate from Vanderbilt Divinity School on May 10, 2013. Sunday, May 19th, will be her last day with us. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend a vegetarian luncheon given in honor of Carter after the traditional service on May 19.

## Gathering Volunteers Needed

We would love to have more volunteers to prepare the Gathering treats for Sunday morning. If you are able to help, please contact Eileen Vaughan at 615-373-2723.



## Children's Corner

## Nursery Schedule

|         | <b>Toddler Nursery</b>  | <b>Infant Nursery</b>            |
|---------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 4/28/13 | Kate and Blake Cortner  | Chuck and Betsy Bean             |
| 5/05/13 | Susan and Randy Cortner | Carol Yarnell and Brenda Wheeler |

## Fun with Children

Criewood's Children's Ministries depend on volunteers to facilitate the fantastic programs we offer. Our current volunteer needs are below. Please prayerfully consider where you might plug in with the Criewood Kids, and contact Kristy Thornton (414-4126) to help.

**\*VBS Volunteers**—We need adults and youth for crafts, games, drama, music, registration, and celebration. Dates for VBS are July 8-11, and adults are needed each evening from 5:30-8:15 p.m. Loving kids and participating in dynamic activities are the only two requirements for these positions! Co-chairs are Kelly Marks and Mindy Morris.

**\*Fall Festival Co-Chairs**—Two people are needed to help organize and coordinate volunteers for our annual Fall Festival on October 26. Jump in with our seasoned veterans, and help plan one of Crieve Hall's most anticipated events.

**\*Preschool Choir Leaders for Fall 2013**—We need at least two fun, energetic leaders to sing and play with our preschool choir each Wednesday night, beginning September 2013. Enthusiasm and loving little ones are more important than singing ability!

## Youth and Young Adults

### Recognizing Our Seniors

On May 12th, we will be recognizing our graduating seniors Allie Cate, Jayce Arnette, and Patricia Gaietto. We will be preparing notebooks for each of them with letters from the church. We would love to include a letter from you. Please return your letter by May 5th to the envelope outside of Steph's office.

