

The Messenger

Crievewood United Methodist Church

May 28, 2014

Pastor's Pen

Living Life Locally

I had occasion to be in Columbia this week and enjoyed the beauty of driving through middle Tennessee in May. As I am wont to do, I tuned into a regional radio station (WLX) and caught up on local news from Maury, Giles, and Lawrence counties. An item of significant interest, when measured by conversation and updates, was the wandering off of a cow in the Red Hill community, which is west of Ethridge. Listeners were urged to be on the lookout and report back to the radio station should we see the cow.

About 45 minutes later, ready to return to Nashville, I tuned back in to WLX and learned that the cow was still missing. Apparently this animal had mad cow hiding skills; okay, maybe that is a poor choice of words for the bovine community, but hide and go seek with this cow seemed to favor the cow. By now additional information was given in hopes of aiding the search; this cow weighed about 1,000 pounds, which I assumed would distinguish it from all the other cows wandering down the highway. Sadly, I drove out of the station's range before any news that the cow had been found and safely returned to home or pasture.

Besides the great cow hunt of Lawrence County, I heard readings of several obituaries, learned of need for volunteers to place flags on veterans' graves in Giles County, was informed of various sales by area merchants...the list goes on. Local news, local information, local concerns are a wonderful window into a community.

And we at Crievewood are a community! One that was extravagantly blessed recently when our youth designed and led the worship services. On that day our local expression and local experience of the worldwide body of Christ was so richly affirmed and embraced, for we were profoundly drawn into the very power of a faith community living well the covenant that raises, nurtures, and empowers. Our youth group includes young folks who have been part of the fellowship since birth as well as some who found home in this congregation at other stages in their life; all beautifully woven into the singular esprit we share at Crievewood.

Moreover, we are a community with news, information, and concerns. We have secured our Building Permit... (I'll pause a moment for you to get back up off the floor) ...and there will be a groundbreaking ceremony following the late service June 1st. Our Church-wide picnic will be that same day, starting at 4:00 pm at Edwin Warner Park Shelter #6. On June 8th our youth and adult Mt. TOP mission team will leave for a week of work in the South Cumberland area of the state, and the Tennessee Annual Conference will gather at Brentwood UMC for a four day meeting. From June 16th-June 19th Crievewood folks will head to Antioch UMC to serve in the reading program of Project Transformation (projecttransformation.org); through this ministry children spend several morning hours working on their reading skills with adults/youth who both read to them and listen to them read. June 20th, staff member Caleb Dinger will host a CD release party in Fellowship Hall from 6-9 pm; a portion of sales that night will go to our Building Fund. And June 23rd through June 26th from 5:45-8:00 pm we welcome children to our annual Vacation Bible School!

Exciting things are happening in our midst thanks to the movement of God's Spirit and the response of faithful followers of Jesus Christ; it is good to be a part of the body of Christ called Crievewood UMC and to know the joy of life locally shared. That we hold each other in prayer and join together in response to concerns is a further means of grace; we regularly place a list before the congregation in bulletins and newsletters.

One final thought, though summer months often include vacation and travel for members, should someone be absent too many Sundays in a row it will be noticed and noted. That is another gift of local fellowship; we will make it a point to find you, even if you weigh less than a thousand pounds.

Peter van Eys

Up-Coming Events

47th Tennessee Annual Conference

Bishop McAlilly will preside over the Tennessee Annual Conference which is scheduled June 8-11 at Brentwood UMC. The theme for the conference is entitled *Expecting Greater Things*. The key note speaker on Monday at 7:00 p.m. is Bishop Gabriel Unda Yemba; Bishop McAlilly will lead the daily Bible studies.

Youth Mountain Top

Please pray for safety and renewal for our youth mission team who will be working in South Cumberland June 8-14.

Summer Meet and Eat

Please join members of Crieewood each Wednesday during the summer at a local restaurant for dinner. Everyone is welcome; participants should arrive at the restaurant at 5:00 p.m. and should arrange their own transportation. We will be eating at **Ruby Tuesday in Brentwood on June 4** and at **Cracker Barrel in Cool Springs on June 11**. Please note that participants will meet at the church on June 11 and car pool to Cracker Barrel.

All-Church Picnic

Make family plans to join us on Sunday, June 1 at 4:00 p.m. at Edwin Warner Park (Shelter 6) for our annual church picnic. Bring enough for your family plus two, and share in a day of fun with our church family. Guests are welcome, and this is a GREAT way to introduce our church family to your friends and neighbors!



Missions

TP Sunday

As part of our ongoing support of Community Care Fellowship 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 this Sunday, June 1.**

Project Transformation

Project Transformation is a summer program that engages young adults and those young at heart in purposeful leadership and ministry, supports underserved children and families, and connects churches to communities in need. Crieewood will be participating in the Summer Reading component of the Project Transformation. We need 10-12 volunteers to read one-on-one with the children June 16-19. The hours will be 9:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. We will be working at the Antioch UMC location. Sign up sheets will be distributed in the Sunday School classes, or you can call Jennifer Bizwell-415-1420 or Blake Leyer -424-7135. Please join us in this great opportunity to work with children in our community.

Imagine NO MALARIA

As you might know, *Imagine No Malaria* is an extraordinary effort by the United Methodist Church in concert with other foundations and the U.S. government to reduce malaria deaths in Africa through prevention, treatment, education, and communication. Our annual conference has elected to make *Imagine No Malaria* its conference mission this year. If you would like to donate, please make your check to CUMC and designate *Imagine No Malaria* in the memo line.

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 for this year's trip are **October 16-19**. Our mission team will work hard fulfilling the physical and spiritual needs of the residents of the Cumberland Mountains, will enjoy good food and Christian fellowship, and will feel the presence of our Lord and Savior as they 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.

South Nashville UMC's Summer VBS Program: Outdoor VBS at Haywood Lane Apt Complex

June 3rd and 4th and June 17th and 18th, 2014

9 am – 12: 00 noon

Schedule:

9:00 am – 9:20 am: leaders' and volunteers' orientation for the morning at SEUMC;
then travel together to Haywood Lane less than 2 miles away.

9:30 – 11: 30 am : lead outdoor VBS

11:30 am – 12 noon: finish up snack; pack up and say good-byes until next time

We need adults and youth who are willing to help. Parents, this is a FUN way to spend a morning with your preschool or elementary kids. They love participating and playing with the children. Everything is provided and planned; we just need willing hands to volunteer for any or all of these four days. Contact Leigh Ann Cate for more information or to volunteer.

Crievewood UMC VBS Volunteers Still Needed



Workshop of Wonders

June 23-26, 2014, from 5:45 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Contact Leigh Ann Cate with questions, and click the link below to volunteer. Youth who wish to volunteer need to sign up as well, as there are six youth slots per evening.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D44A8A82BAB9-crievewood>

Habitat Build

Crievewood is again supporting the Methodist Habitat Build with both service and money, and we are so excited because this year we will be building a home for Kwame Orison and his family. Our money commitment has been met through our Easter offering. There are seven slots left on the building team. Our portion of the build will be on **Saturday, September 6**. If you would like to participate and claim one of those seven spots, please contact Joe Buffler at 615-351-0601.

Activities

JOY Club

On **Thursday, June 26**, JOY Club will travel to an unknown destination for the first *Mystery Lunch* of the summer. The clue for this mystery lunch is “keep a clean face!” This lunch will be in a private room with a capacity for 30 people, and it would be wonderful if we could fill the room. Participants should meet at the church at 11:15 a.m. and will car pool to lunch. Reservations for the mystery lunch should be given to Jean McCurdy by June 22, 2014. If you are willing to drive, please pass along that information as well.

UMW Request

Sunday, **July 13**, the UMW is having a salad luncheon and book sale after the traditional church service. It is too early to make your salads, but as you and your friends do spring cleaning, instead of getting rid of unwanted books, save them for the used book sale. Put them in an out-of-the-way place at home and bring them to the church any time the week before the sale. The UMW will take gently used children's books, cookbooks, fiction and nonfiction books. Make space to buy different books and give us your old ones to sell. Proceeds of the sale go toward UMW mission projects.

Family Retreat 2014!

Make plans now to join us in Beersheba Springs the weekend of August 15, 16, and 17 for fun-filled activities designed to create memories and bonds with our church family. Registration forms are available in the narthex, and payments can be spread out over the summer. Forms and deposits are due **June 22** so we can give Beersheba our final number of rooms needed.

Questions? Contact Leigh Ann Cate.

Ice Cream Social

The annual church ice cream social is scheduled for **Sunday, June 29, at 4:00 p.m.** Come and compete for the "Charlie Award," our top prize for the best homemade ice cream. Perfect your recipes now so you will be ready.

Children's Corner

Nursery Schedule

	8:00-10:30 a.m. Shift	10:30 a.m.-noon Shift
6/01/14	Betsy and Chuck Bean	Josh Cate
6/08/14	Bill and Nina Tucker	Nina Tucker
6/15/14	Kim Boyce and Tracey Lee	Glynnis Boyce